

SIDESADDLE DIVISION

SIDESADDLE (ENGLISH SADDLE SEAT)

APPOINTMENTS OF HORSE – The use of a modern English sidesaddle with or without a balance strap (see fig. 1) is recommended, but antique Victorian sidesaddles are allowed if they are serviceable. Full bridles are preferred, but breed custom may dictate otherwise (such as for Tennessee walking horses or gaited horses). Saddle pads are permitted but must be cut to the shape of the saddle. Martingales, tiedowns, breast collars and sandwich cases are prohibited.

APPOINTMENTS OF RIDER – A complete sidesaddle habit is preferred but a conservatively colored saddle coat worn with a matching or contrasting apron is acceptable. Hunt-style breeches must match the color of the apron as closely as possible. Hunt boots are correct, but Kentucky jodhpurs and jodhpur boots are allowed. The apron must always cover the right foot but should never cover the left foot. The apron should fall from 1 to 3 inches above the left ankle and hang level from front to back. Any standard-style saddle seat shirt and tie are acceptable. Gloves and a derby, soft hat or protective headgear that complements or contrasts with the outfit are required. Veils and vest are optional. A whip is optional but it must be of the saddle seat style – never a hunt crop. A spur without a rowel is permitted on the left boot.

SIDESADDLE (ENGLISH HUNTER SEAT)

APPOINTMENTS OF HORSE – A modern English sidesaddle with a balance strap is required. A full bridle is preferred, but a pelham or snaffle may be used. Saddle pads and stirrup pads are not permitted. A hunting breastplate without a martingale and a sandwich case are optional.

APPOINTMENTS OF RIDER – A sidesaddle habit is preferred but a conservatively colored hunt coat with a matching or contrasting apron is acceptable. Breeches must match the color of the apron as closely as possible, and hunt or field boots must be worn. The apron should fit and hang as described in the requirements for Sidesaddle (English Saddle Seat). The shirt may have a ratcatcher with a band or stock tie, or a wing tip collar as described in the requirements for Sidesaddle (English Saddle Seat), with a man's tie. Gloves must be worn and must be made of brown leather, even if the habit is black. Riders must wear protective headgear (see General Rule 3). Veils are optional. A spur without a rowel is permitted on the left boot.

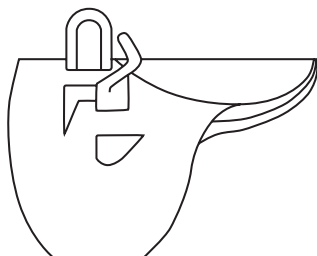


Figure 1. Modern English side saddle.

SIDESADDLE (WESTERN)

APPOINTMENTS OF HORSE – A western sidesaddle or Victorian sidesaddle must be used. Any standard western bit and bridle may be used. A western saddle blanket or pad should be used and does not need to be cut to fit the saddle. Optional equipment includes a breast collar, hobbles and slicker.

APPOINTMENTS OF RIDER – Rider must wear a long sleeved western shirt, long pants tucked into boots, and an apron that matches or contrast with the shirt. A western hat or protective headgear must be worn without an attached veil or flowing band of any sort. Decorative hat bands that do not extend past the brim of the hat are nice, but are not necessary. A vest is optional. A tie is required, and should be as small and tidy as possible. The apron should fit and hang as for Sidesaddle (English Saddle Seat) classes. A western quirt is permitted for riders not using romal reins. A spur, rowelled or unrowelled, may be worn on the left boot.

⊕ SIDESADDLE EQUITATION

| Sidesaddle Equitation Criteria | Points |
|---|------------|
| Rider's position & horse's performance..... | 90 |
| Appointments of horse & rider..... | 10 |
| Total | 100 |

CRITERIA EXPLANATION

RIDER'S POSITION – Establish and maintain a secure seat that is thoroughly comfortable for riding the type of horse at any gait for any length of time. The rider should appear squarely in the middle of the horse's back. The spine of the rider should be directly over the spine of the horse. The back must be straight; leaning to the right is not allowed. The rider's weight is carried on the right thigh, and the rider must not sit heavily on the left seat bone. From the waist up the rider should appear as if astride, with shoulders square to the front. The rider should have a hand's thickness (½ inch to 1 inch) between the left thigh and the leaping head. Gripping up under the leaping head should be done only in an emergency. The left heel should be level or slightly down. The right toe should hang down and turn into the horse's shoulder, as this is the rider's true safety grip. The method of holding the reins should be consistent with the type of equipment being used. With English equipment, the bight of the reins is carried on the right side. The elbows must be over the hips and the hands should be in a line from the bit to the elbow. Sidesaddle extends the line by about eight inches, but does not change it. See figure 2 for the correct rider position.

HORSE'S PERFORMANCE – The rider should have the horse walk, trot or jog (or second gait) and canter or lope (or third gait) both ways of the ring. English riders may be asked to extend the trot. Riders may sit or post the trot, but sitting is preferred.

In open equitation classes, sidesaddle riders must post as do the other riders in the class. English or western riders may be

asked to gallop. Sidesaddle riders may be asked for any test that astride riders are asked to perform.

APPOINTMENTS OF HORSE AND RIDER – See the “Appointments” section in this division.

SIDESADDLE PLEASURE

| Sidesaddle Pleasure Criteria | Points |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Horse’s performance & manners..... | 90 |
| Appointments of horse & rider..... | 10 |
| Total | 100 |

CRITERIA EXPLANATION

HORSE’S PERFORMANCE AND MANNERS – The horse is to be shown at a walk, trot or jog (or second gait), extended trot (English only), and canter or lope (or third gait) both ways of the ring. A hand gallop is permissible, but no more than eight horses at a time should be asked to hand gallop. Horses should stand quietly and back readily. Horses are judged on manners, quality, performance and suitability of horse to rider. Horses should be severely penalized for traveling with their quarters off the rail. Horses must be serviceably sound. See figure 2 for the correct rider position.

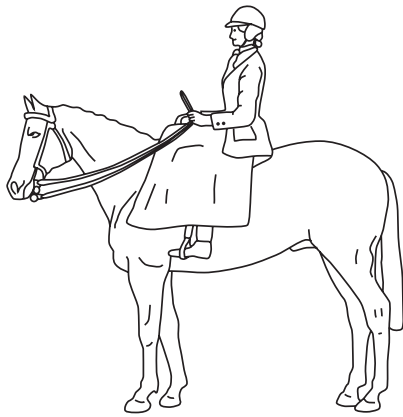


Figure 2. Correct seat & hands for sidesaddle equitation.