



Equine Affaire's Breed Bonanza

November 9, 2025
Eastern States Exposition | West Springfield, MA

RULES AND JUDGING

1. The Breed Bonanza is a unique under saddle rail class that showcases horses and riders from a wide variety of breeds and disciplines. Contestants will be required to demonstrate a walk, jog/trot, and lope/canter (or equivalent for gaited horses) in both directions at the command of the announcer. The winner will be the standout horse and rider combination who epitomize the cream of the crop based on quality of gaits, horsemanship, and turnout.
2. The Breed Bonanza will consist of two divisions: an Adult division for competitors 18 years and older, and a Youth Division for competitors ages 12-17 years as of the date of competition. All competitors must apply by the application deadline and be accepted by the management of Equine Affaire in order to compete. Up to 10 competitors in each division will be selected to compete. Each breed organization with a booth in the Breed Pavilion receives one complimentary entry, but competitors representing a breed organization for its complimentary entry must still apply and be accepted to compete.
3. Each division may be divided into two classes. Contestants within each division will compete in the class in which their names are drawn; failure to compete in their respective class will result in disqualification.
4. A carefully curated panel of judges consisting of a breeder, a horse show judge, and a professional trainer, will bring their unique backgrounds and perspectives to the ring as they select and crown the adult and youth Breed Bonanza winners.
5. Any competitor who falls off his/her horse will be disqualified, will not be permitted to remount, and will be excused from the arena.
6. The crowd at the event is considered to be part of the competition. Each contestant acknowledges that the crowd may be a distraction to his/her horse and the volume of people in the audience may fluctuate throughout the competition.
7. Contestants may utilize any English or western tack that is standard in the industry and in recognized competitions. Any bit, spur, or other piece of equipment deemed to be severe or inappropriate by the judges will not be allowed. The judges will evaluate the tack on the horses as they enter the arena. For their safety, riders are encouraged to wear approved riding helmets. All youth under 18 years must wear approved riding helmets. Riders should be neatly dressed in discipline appropriate show attire. Horses should be well groomed and turned out in clean, discipline appropriate show tack. Horses must be ridden with a bridle and saddle; no bridleless or bareback competitors.
8. Neither horse nor rider may be substituted for any reason during the competition.
9. There will be no refund of competition fees for any reason after horse and rider have been notified of acceptance to compete.
10. Any dispute or complaint by a contestant must be brought to the attention of the ring steward prior to the contestant leaving the arena. All contestants agree to abide by the rulings of the judges; the decisions of the judges will be final and not subject to appeal for any reason.

11. The judge and/or the management of Equine Affaire, Inc. may disqualify a contestant for abuse of any animal or violation of any contest rule. No drugs may be administered to any contestant's horse to enhance the horse's ability to compete. The administration of drugs will be grounds for disqualification. By participating in the competition, each contestant understands that his or her horse may be selected randomly for drug testing at the discretion of the management of Equine Affaire, Inc. and grants permission to have the show veterinarian draw samples to test for the administration of drugs. Such testing may be conducted at any time from November 6-9, 2025, and will be paid for by Equine Affaire, Inc. Equine Affaire, Inc. shall comply with the United States Equestrian Federation standard of Rules and Regulations for drugs and medications.
12. Awards will be presented at the conclusion of the competition. First place will receive a cooler and trophy. Rosettes and other prizes will be awarded to the top ten in each class.

I have read the Breed Bonanza Rules listed above and agree to comply with these Rules. I understand that if I fail to comply with these Rules, the judge and/or the staff of Equine Affaire may withdraw me from the Breed Bonanza, and I will forfeit all entry fees.

Name of Applicant (please print): _____

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date of Signature: _____