



Sunshine State Mustang Show

January 9th - 11th 2026

Alachua County Agriculture and Equestrian Center 23100 W Newberry Rd
Newberry, FL, 32669

Divisions

- **WALK/TROT:** English Division. Open to all riders of all ages. May not cross-enter into Walk/Trot/Canter, Walk/Jog/Lope or Ultimate American Mustang.
- **WALK/TROT/CANTER:** English Division. Open to all riders of all ages. May not cross-enter into Walk/Trot or Walk/Jog.
- **WALK/JOG:** Western Division. Open to all riders of all ages. May not cross-enter into Walk/Trot/Canter or Walk/Jog/Lope.
- **WALK/JOG/LOPE:** Western Division. Open to all riders of all ages. May not cross-enter into Walk/Trot or Walk/Jog.
- **GAMES:** Open to all riders of all ages. Cross entry between divisions allowed.
- **IN-HAND:** Open to all riders of all ages. Cross entry between divisions allowed.
- **ULTIMATE AMERICAN MUSTANG:** Versatility Division. Open to all riders of all ages showing WTC or WJL. Classes are increased in difficulty and vary in discipline. This showcases the ultimate all around mustang and their capabilities. MUST DO ALL QUALIFYING CLASSES.

Incentives

- **FRESHLY GENTLED:** Mustangs showing in-hand that have been gentled for less than a year.
- **GREEN MUSTANG:** Mustangs showing under saddle that have been under saddle for less than six months.
- **GREEN RIDER:** Riders that have been riding for three years or less.
- **YOUTH:** Riders under the age of 18.
- **ADULT:** Riders ages 18 or older.
- **BURRO:** All burros.
- **EARLY SIGN UP:** First 15 to sign up receive a gift at check-in.

Pricing

Office and class fees will be paid through online payment (PayPal or Venmo) for deposits, and online payment, cash, or checks at check-in. (Please note online payments have an electronic service fee of 3.5%).

- **OFFICE FEE:** \$20/horse or burro
- **CLASSES:** \$15/each (Post entry January 2nd-6th is \$20/class. Entries close January 6th.)
- **JACKPOT CLASSES:** \$40/each (70% payback)

- **STALLS:** \$60/Fri-Sun (includes 2 bags of shavings)
- **SHAVINGS:** \$7/bag
- **TACK STALL:** \$45/Fri-Sun
- **SHIP-IN FEE:** \$15/day (no ship in fee if you have a stall)
- **RV SPOT:** \$30/night

Class Descriptions

- **KEYHOLE:** Timed event. Exhibitors will run into the keyhole, turn around, and run back to the finish line.
- **POLES:** Timed event. Standard pattern.
- **BATON RACE:** Timed event. Team event (2 riders, 2 horses). One rider rides down with a baton, circles the barrel in the arena, and hands it off to the second rider to do the same. Time ends when the second rider returns to the start line.
- **FLAG RACE:** Timed event. Riders will run to the barrel, pick up a flag, complete a pattern, and then return the flag to the barrel. Time ends when the rider returns to the start line.
- **FAUX ROPING:** Timed event. Riders run down and rope a fake cow (or barrel), recoil, then rope the second object, recoil, then race back to the start line.
- **\$\$\$ JACKPOT BARREL RACE \$\$\$:** Timed event. Standard cloverleaf pattern. 70% of the entries will be paid to the top 3.
- **TIMED TRAIL:** Timed event. Short trail pattern set up where riders have to accurately complete obstacles while racing through to get a fast time. Horsemanship is still considered. 6-8 obstacles.
- **SHOWMANSHIP:** Competitors lead their horses through a pattern showcasing movements like walking, trotting, stopping, backing, pivots, and turning. The horse's grooming, fitting of tack and attire, and overall presentation are evaluated, while also evaluating the handler's posture, confidence, and ability to communicate with their horse.
- **GROUND HANDLING:** In-hand pattern emphasizing practical ground skills in a more natural, ranch style approach. This class may include a variety of maneuvers like backing, side-passing, turning on the forehand and hindquarters, sending the horse on a circle, and lowering the horse's head.
- **\$\$\$ JACKPOT GROUND HANDLING \$\$\$:** **Open to all competitors,** In-hand pattern emphasizing practical ground skills in a more natural, ranch style approach. This class may include a variety of maneuvers like backing, side-passing, turning on the forehand and hindquarters, sending the horse on a circle, and lowering the horse's head. Pattern will be more complex than regular Ground Handling class. 70% payout to top 3 placings.
- **COMMAND CLASS:** Similar to "Simon Says," this is an in-hand class on the rail, demonstrating the horses transitions, ease of handling, and communication with their handler.
- **LEADLINE:** An adult or older child leads the horse while the young rider under the age of 13 years old sits on the horse, usually holding the reins for show only, as the handler controls the horse. This can be exhibited in English or Western tack/attire. WALK ONLY.
- **RANCH RAIL:** All competitors in this class will be in the arena at the same time, showcasing walk, trot, lope, extension through gaits along the rail. Judges look for horses that demonstrate athleticism and a willingness to work while maintaining a relaxed and cadenced movement.
- **RANCH RIDING:** Exhibitors will navigate a pattern that may include, but not be limited to, walk, trot, extended trot, stop, pivot, back, lope, lope extension, and lead changes. Patterns may

also include navigation of small obstacles such as poles. Animals will be judged on consistency and accuracy from the time they begin the set pattern. Animals should demonstrate smooth, easy transitions in a quiet, pleasant manner without resistance.

- **HORSEMANSHIP:** Riders perform a pattern of required movements, which may include transitions between gaits, circles, figure eights, backing, and lead changes. The goal is to demonstrate a harmonious partnership between horse and rider, showcasing effective communication and precision in executing maneuvers.
- **REINING:** Showcasing a horse's athleticism and precision through executing a pattern of changes of gait, circles, spins, stops, rollbacks, and lead changes, all while demonstrating control, accuracy, and smoothness.
- **TRAIL CLASSES:** Obstacles and maneuvers may include but are not limited to walk, trot, stop and back, navigate logs/poles, walk/trot between obstacles or cones, maneuver forward and/or reverse through a backup chute, turns/pivots/circles to the left and right, navigate bridges and/or small jumps, pick up and carry an object, dragging items, various obstacles, and navigating exposure to brush, foliage, slickers, etc.
- **IN-HAND TRAIL:** Exhibitors will be asked to lead their horse or burro through a course of generic obstacles and maneuvers.
- **IN-HAND JUMPING:** Small jump course at 18" for horses to be led through in-hand, judging their confidence, form, and execution over jumps and through the pattern.
- **BAREBACK EQUITATION:** Flat class judging the rider's overall equitation while riding without a saddle. Bareback pads WITHOUT stirrups are permitted.
- **IN-HAND LIBERTY:** Pattern showcased at liberty at the shoulder of handler, with maneuvers including but not limited to trotting at the shoulder, stopping, backing, switching sides and directions.
- **OPEN LIBERTY PATTERN:** Pattern showcased at liberty, showcasing the horses ability to be sent away from the handler while maintaining connection with increased speed; including maneuvers such as circles, changes of direction, stopping, backing, ground tying, and more.
- **\$\$\$ JACKPOT OPEN FREESTYLE \$\$\$:** In-hand or ridden. Competitors will have 4 minutes to perform a freestyle to (family-friendly) music to represent their horse's versatility. Judged on difficulty, creativity, connection, and entertainment value. 70% payout to top 3 placings.
- **WESTERN DRESSAGE:** WDAA tests. WJ - Intro Level 2 Test. WJL - Basic Level 2 Test. UAM - Level 1 Test 1. Test of Choice - Up to Level 2 Tests.
- **DRESSAGE:** USDF tests. WJ - Intro Test B. WTC - Training Test 1. UAM - First Test 1. Test of Choice - Up to Third Level Tests.
- **ENGLISH EQUITATION:** Flat class on the rail judging the rider's overall equitation and appearance while riding in English attire.
- **ENGLISH PLEASURE:** Flat class on the rail judging the horse's overall demeanor, willingness, and suitability as a pleasure riding mount. The ideal horse displays good manners, responsiveness, and a confident, yet relaxed attitude, while maintaining a light contact with the rider.
- **ENGLISH PATTERN:** Rider's perform a pattern of required movements, demonstrating the horse's responsiveness and ability to transition between gaits and perform maneuvers such as halt, back up, pivot, lead changes, and more. Horses should exhibit a balanced, cadenced motion and pleasant demeanor.
- **JUMPERS:** Set course judged on optimum time. Ground poles, 18", 60cm, and 70cm.
- **\$\$\$ JACKPOT JUMPERS \$\$\$:** Judged on speed. 80cm class. 70% payout to top 3 placings.

Contact for any questions or concerns: sunshinestatemustangshow@gmail.com