Horsemanship - the purpose of this division is to select the young lady who rates highest in:

Horsemanship--to include control of mount and the way any situation which may occur is handled. Balance-ability to sit a saddle. Positions of hands, feet and seat. Mounting and dismounting. The understanding and skill of the contestant will be judged and not the horse or the equipment.

There will be two go-rounds of horsemanship competition. Patterns to be used will be selected at the time of competition from the ones provided on the website. At the discretion of the Judges, patterns may be altered due to arena conditions. Contestants may also be required to dismount and remount, carry a flag and/or perform additional maneuvers on horseback. Contestants may or may not be asked to do a presentation ride following completion of one of their patterns. Any changes and/or alterations to the horsemanship patterns will be announced to the contestants before the horsemanship competition begins. The patterns will be demonstrated by the reigning Miss Rodeo Missouri.

Dress for horsemanship, is a pant product, preferably Wrangler; formfitting blouse or shirt with long-sleeves-any color-with shirt tail tucked in, and boots. No vests, no jackets. Any color accessories (hat, boots, belt) may be used. Gloves are optional, chaps and spurs are not allowed in the National Pageant. All riding attire should be neat and fit properly. Showmanship should be considered, since a contestants personality does project from horseback to the audience and judges.

First, contestants will ride the set pattern followed by small group rail work.

**Rail Work**

Each contestant will be given instructions from the announcer.

The MRA Pageant Judges reserve the right to make alterations and/or additions to these instructions