# A Guide to Entering the BreyerFest Open Show For the First Time: What Should I Expect?

Whether you are moving up because you have "aged out" of the Youth show or are an adult showing at the Open Show for the first time or returning after a hiatus, you will quickly find that the BreyerFest Open Show is a unique experience that requires information and preparation to get the most of. I have put this packet together so that you will feel well-advised and ready for a day of fun!

The BreyerFest Open Show is the largest model horse show in the world, with entry numbers just under 200 showers! There are nine divisions: Original Finish Regular Run, Original Finish Special Run (which has two subdivisions), Collectibility (for unrealistic-color models, non-equines, and vintage models), Customized, Foals, Minis, and Original Finish/Customized/Novice Performance. When you enter the show, you choose Halter, Performance, or Both. If you choose Halter, you are entitled to enter any or all of the Halter divisions. If you also choose Performance, you can show in Original Finish Performance, Customized Performance, or both. Novice Performance is intended for inexperienced performance showers and is recommended for showers of all ages that are new to the Open Show. There are complete eligibility guidelines in the show's General Rules. If you choose to show in Halter and Performance, be prepared for a hectic day!

All divisions run in their own rings simultaneously, so the Open Show is actually nine shows within a show. The rings are color-coded and there is a tracking board over the stage in the middle of the hall and on the short ends of the hall to help you keep up with the divisions. Each ring also has a sign with the name of the current class and a sign that tells you if the class is open to put entries in or closed to be judged. The best way to keep from being overwhelmed is to limit your show string the first time you show at the open level; I would recommend no more than 25-30 horses. The class lists are broken up into sections and have more classes than you may be used to; the divisions range from 38 to 66 classes, and there are 360 classes altogether!

When you decide to enter the Open Show, you will need to access some very important documents. The most important document is the General Information and Rules, which you should read very carefully. Because of the size of this show, there are many guidelines and rules addressed in that document and it can answer a lot of your questions. The documents are available on the Breyer website and on the homepage of the BreyerFest Open Show Facebook group. Once you have registered for the show, you will receive an invitation to join the group, and I highly recommend that you do join. There, you will have access to all of the important documents; you will also receive updates/announcements/reminders from me and you can get your questions answered.

The other documents that you will need are the **Breed Classification List** (which will tell you exactly what halter breed class to put your horses in), and the **Run Classification List** (which will tell you the class number for many traditional models that are not regular runs). The BreyerFest Open Show uses an online platform for registration of all models. The system requires every horse to be assigned a unique ID number that will be used on their tag in the ring. You will need to follow these directions carefully and be ready to register your horses before the show. It's not a complicated system, but it is an important one. Instructions will be sent to all registered showers when the window to register horses opens, which is usually in late May.

Planning and preparation are key to having a successful Open Show experience. There are several articles (written by me as a guide to help people with model horse showing in general) attached to this that should help you, but the best teacher is experience. Your first Open Show experience may be overwhelming or even disappointing, but I will tell you to hang in there. Walk around and observe as much as you can and ask questions. The show staff are always willing to help in between their duties, and other showers (unless they are busy with their own entries) are usually happy to chat with you and answer questions. And you can always contact me - I work on the show all year round! I have been the BreyerFest Open Show Manager since 2006, and I've been showing model horses and hosting shows since the early 1980's. You can reach me at <a href="mailto:breyerfestopenshow@gmail.com">breyerfestopenshow@gmail.com</a>, and I will get back to you within a few days. In the meantime, I hope this packet is helpful to you and I welcome you to open level competition. There is an additional packet that focuses on showing performance; you can email me for it or pick up a printed copy at the show.

The BreyerFest Open Show is an amazing experience for model horse collectors and showers, and I know you will love it!

Michelle Masters, BreyerFest Open Show Manager

## **A Glossary of Model Horse Show Terms**

#### **Common Abbreviations:**

OF = original finish

CM = customized

RR = regular run

SR = special run

LR = limited run

VLR = very limited run

OOAK = one of a kind

Trad = traditional (size)

SM = Stablemate

LB = Little Bit

PP = Paddock Pals

Conn = Connoisseur

COA = Certificate of Authenticity

ID = identification

HM = Honorable Mention

A/O = Amateur Owner

S or St = stallion

M = mare

G = gelding

F = filly

C = colt

PAS/PAM/PAF = Proud Arabian Stallion/Mare/Foal

FAS/FAM/FAF = Family Arabian Stallion/Mare/Foal

CAS/CAM/CAF = Classic Arabian Stallion/Mare/Foal

SHS/SHM/SHF = Stock Horse Stallion/Mare/Foal

NAMHSA = North American Model Horse Show Association

JAH = Just About Horses (Breyer's print and online magazine)

NAN = North American Nationals (championship show)

KHP = Kentucky Horse Park

#### **Common Breed Abbreviations**

QH = Quarter Horse

TB = Thoroughbred

WB = Warmblood

ASB = American Saddlebred

NSH = National Show Horse

TWH = Tennessee Walking Horse

RMH = Rocky Mountain Horse

MFT = Missouri Fox Trotter

App/Appy = Appaloosa

Arab = Arabian

### "Pony Pound"

The Open Show has a designated area where judges, stewards and show staff can take models that are left in the ring after a class change. You may not have heard the announcement that the class was pinned or you may have been too busy to pick up your model right away, but horses must be cleared once their class is over. The show staff will carefully move your model to the Pony Pound so that the judge will not consider it as an entry for the next class. If you realize that you forgot to pick up a horse and it is no longer in the ring, the first thing you should do is check the Pony Pound. To be on the safe side, it is a good idea to check the Pony Pound at the end of the day as you are packing up to make sure you aren't leaving a model behind. The Open Show's Pony Pound is located to the left of the stage.

#### "First Call"

This announcement means that a class is being called up to the judging table(s). You should be ready to take your entries to the designated table and set them up. You will probably have around four minutes (ten for performance) from the time of this announcement to get your horse into the ring. This announcement will sound something like: "This is a first call for class number 115, regular run Appaloosa Mares, in Purple Ring Ten".

#### "Last Call"

This announcement means that time is running out to get your horse into the ring for that class. The staff is trying to close the class so that it can be judged and you should get your horse to the ring as quickly as possible. This announcement will sound something like: "This is the last call for class number 115, regular run Appaloosa Mares, in Purple Ring Ten." The announcer may even say, "You have one minute/thirty seconds/etc."

#### "Class Closed"

This announcement means that no more entries are allowed in the class, and that the judge is getting started. This announcement will sound something like: "Class #115, regular run Appaloosa Mares class is now closed". Once a class is closed, you cannot put your horse in the ring. **Note** that the Open Show does not make a "Class Closed" announcement; the steward of the division will close the class by turning the ring sign over to CLOSED when they see that all entries are in the ring.

### "The Class Has Been Pinned"

This announcement means that the judge has finished judging the class and that ribbons have been placed. You may come up to the judging table and retrieve your entries and ribbons. This announcement will sound something like: "The regular run Appaloosa Mares class has been pinned. You can come get your horses." You should pick up your horses out of the showring as quickly as possible. The next class will be called at the same time. If you are unable to pick up your models quickly, they may be moved to the Pony Pound.

# "Splitting" Classes

Occasionally, a class will be so large or diverse that a judge will decide to split up the entries. This is usually left to her preference, so she may split them any way she likes. For example, an Arabian class may be split into Arabian Stallions and Arabian Mares/Geldings. Or they could split it into Standing Arabians and Action Posed Arabians, for another example. You are not allowed to put more models in the class just because it was split; the limits still apply.

When the split is announced, listen carefully to how the class is being split and where the horses are to be moved. For example, one group may stay in the original ring and the other group moved to another table, or they may do the split classes one at a time, so one group would need to be removed. Follow the directions and make sure your entries are in the proper place. While models are being shifted around for the split, you are allowed to move your model to a better spot if it was originally in an overcrowded ring.

## "Cutting" Classes

Another common practice in large classes is to "cut" the class, which results in a smaller class for the judge to consider. The judge will look at all the horses, placing a blue colored chip next to the horses that she wants to keep in the ring (the ones that have "made the cut"). An announcement will be made that the class has been cut and you will be instructed to remove any horse that does not have an object next to it.

While horses are being removed from the ring, if your horse has made the cut, you may move him for the final judging. Since the class was so large originally, the table would have been crowded and you may not have gotten the best spot for your horse. Now that several horses are gone, a better spot may have opened up. Once the cut horses have been removed, the judge will proceed with final judging of the class.

### "Callbacks"

The most common way of determining championships is calling back into the ring any horse that has received a 1st or 2nd place ribbon in a class that qualifies for that championship. When the callback is announced, you will need to bring the ribbon that the horse won back to the ring too, so be sure to keep track of ribbons your horses win. You do not need to bring NAN cards back up, just ribbons.

For example, you will hear, "We will now have the callback for the Stock Breed Foal championship. Please bring up all horses that won first or second place in classes 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, and 514, with the ribbon they won, into Brown Ring Fourteen." Once all of the horses are there, then the judge will pick her champion and reserve champion, and they will be announced immediately.

For performance championships, there are several classes that qualify for a championship and a horse may have entered more than one or all of them. You will need to bring up all ribbons won in any class in those classes.

# **Planning and Preparation for a Show**

- The best place to start is to read the rules and information in the Show Packet thoroughly. It's very important that you follow the rules and procedures for the show. If you have a question about something, email Show Manager Michelle Masters well in advance. The email is <a href="mailto:breyerfestopenshow@gmail.com">breyerfestopenshow@gmail.com</a>.
- Do not plan to show more horses than you can handle. You must stay within the show's entry limits and set a reasonable limit for yourself. I would advise you to not try to enter every division for your first show unless you are very organized!
- Don't bring horses that are scuffed, scratched, or have broken ear tips, etc. Keep in mind that
  some of Breyer's older models do not have the best conformation make sure you choose
  models that best represent real horses and have realistic colors and markings. Judges will be
  considering every model's condition and finish. Choose your best horses and remember that
  quality wins, not quantity!
- You will need to decide what breed to assign to each of your horses, based on the model's conformation and characteristics. Choosing the right breed for a model can be challenging, but it can be a learning experience as well. Entrants are expected to do their own research before the show and choose the breed or mix of breeds that they feel the model best represents.
- You will also need to name your horses; you do not need to show them using the name that Breyer gives them. Try to keep names at a reasonable length and remember that BreyerFest is a very family-friendly event; there should be nothing inappropriate about the name of your horse.
- Once you have chosen the horses you want to take, print the show's class lists and write the names of the horses you are showing in each class (or type up a roster). You may want to highlight the classes you have an entry in so they stand out on the page.
- Be sure to clean your horses before you pack them to take to the show. Dust them thoroughly or give them a bath in warm, mild soapy water if they are very dusty (dishwashing soap works well, but just use a small amount diluted in lukewarm water). Make sure you clean between their ears and in the crevices of manes and tails.
- You can touch up minor rubs (such as the edges of nostrils or hooves) if the repair is not noticeable. A little swipe of black non-shiny marker on a hoof or ear tip is fine but remember that a judge might disqualify a horse is a repair is extensive or obvious.
- Have your horses' ID tags on their legs when you pack them up at home. The Open Show's registration information will tell you what to put on the tags; be sure to follow the instructions and write neatly. You can use basic white hang tags that can be found at office supply stores and are approximately 1" x 1 1/4" in size. Attach the tag to one of the horse's hind legs, down around the fetlock.
- There are many ways to pack up horses and whatever works for you and gets them there safely is just fine. "Pony Pouches" are popular (hand-sewn fleece or quilted pouches with a flap), but most people just wrap their models individually in something soft like a large piece of towel, blanket, or fleece. I do not recommend that you put bubble-wrap directly against a plastic model (I've seen disastrous results), but bubble-wrap over fabric is fine.

- Large plastic tubs are preferable to cardboard boxes as they provide more protection when the horses are being moved around. Breyer models are pretty sturdy as long as you are relatively careful and use common sense when packing and handling, they should be fine. I recommend padding the bottom of the tub and don't pack it so full that you have to force the lid on.
- If you are showing quite a few horses, you might want to consider packing them in the order that they are showing. You can pack the horses that are in the first couple of sections in one tub, horses in sections 3-4 in another and so on, so that you can pack up horses that are finished showing and unpack horses as their sections come up. That way, you won't be trying to make room on your table in the morning for horses that don't show until the afternoon. Be sure to label the tubs so you know who's in each one!
- At the Open Show, you are allowed to cover your table at the show with a cloth or drape. I recommend that you bring a table cover, as the tables we rent are very well used. This can be anything from a store-bought tablecloth to a hand-made banner. Be sure it's not too thick or bulky your horses are going to have to stand on it. The tables are 8' x 3'. If you purchase a half table option, you will have a 4' x 3' space. You need to plan carefully for setting up your models and other supplies, as well as managing your tubs so that you are only in the half table space, including the space under the table.
- You may choose to have a sign for your space with your name. Something creative that can be taped to the edge of your table or stood up in a simple frame works fine. It's nice to see a shower's name, with maybe a stable name and the city/state they're from.
- Please remember that the Open Show does not allow sales in the hall. That includes flyers, lists, or signs advertising sales items.
- Be sure to have the directions to the show hall handy if it's your first time. I will send out detailed directions a week before the show, and there should be signage once you get there.
- At the BreyerFest Open Show, we only take a 20–25-minute lunch break. There are concession stands in the Alltech Arena, but the lines get long quickly, and the service can be slow. Also, the selection is limited and some items are quite pricey. I absolutely recommend that you bring your own lunch and several snacks to have throughout the day, as well as water and other beverages. That way, you won't be stressed out about being out of the hall too long to get food.
- To be sure you are comfortable all day, dress in layers. We try very hard to keep the temperature of the hall comfortable all day, but I recommend that you plan ahead for the space to possibly be too warm or too cool for your liking. Never hurts to have a sweatshirt! The chairs in the Open Show hall are very, basic folding chairs, so you might be glad to have a seat cushion. You are allowed to bring your own chair as long as it does not take up an unreasonable amount of space. I also recommend that you wear durable, comfortable shoes. It is a long day with a lot of walking (the hall is very large), and you are required to wear shoes at all times.
- On the morning of the show, plan to be at the show hall when the doors open for showers (you can get there early, but don't expect the doors to open early). You will need the time before the show starts to unpack, set up, and get ready. Do not plan to arrive at the time the show starts. Once the show starts, the pace is usually pretty quick. The Open Show hall opens at 6:00. You can park at the curb long enough to unload, but then you will need to move your vehicle to the main parking lot, located in from of the building, opposite the road you drove in on.
- As you unpack, keep your packing materials neat and return them to your boxes or tubs. Fold any towels, blankets, or bubble wrap. This will save you time and trouble at the end of the day. When your boxes or tubs are empty, store them under your table or take them back out to your vehicle. You must keep the aisles around your table clear.

- Plan out how you can set up your table to best suit your needs. Most people line their models up across the front edge of the table, making two rows if necessary. Be sure to leave space near your chair for cleaning horses, checking classlists, etc.
- Remember that some models are "tippy" (they fall over easily). Plan for space to lay these models down, or you can lay them on cloth on top of your tubs under your table.
- When one of your horses wins a ribbon, immediately write down the horse's name and the class name on the back of the ribbon. You can write directly on the ribbon, or you can bring some labels for this. It is important that you keep track of your horse's placings. You can also write them down on the classlist roster that you made.
- Keep a notepad handy to write down things that you need to get or want to do for next time, names of people you meet, etc. It will be a busy day and you probably won't remember all of the things you want to!
- If you're managing your entries well, take time to walk around and look at all of the different divisions of competition. You may also get ideas about your table space from looking at how other showers set up their areas.
- As the show is wrapping up and you are packing, make sure that you have everything and check the Pony Pound for any models you might have accidentally left in the ring. Even though you're tired, pack as neatly to go home as you did to get there so that your models get home safely.
- Be sure to clean up your area, throw away all trash, leave your table just the way you found it. Your show manager will be very grateful!

#### **Article Three**

### **A Supply Box for the Model Horse Shower**

I recommend that you purchase a plastic bin with a snapping lid from Walmart, Target or a Dollar store for a few bucks and load it up with an assortment of things you might need. My supply box is about the size of an extra-large shoe box with a flip-up lid and a handle on top. Below is a list of things you might want to consider putting in your supply box. Some are model horse related and most are simply things that I have needed at some point in time and have been glad to have handy.

- Soft, clean dustcloth for cleaning models' bodies, especially glossies
- Soft, clean, fat make-up brush for cleaning faces and crevices in manes/tails
- Matte black felt-tip marker for touching up eyes, ear tips, and hooves
- Pastels or art markers in assorted browns and "horse colors" for touching up tiny rubs
- Clean toothbrush for grooming hair manes & tails on CMs (also works for stubborn dust)
- extra hang tags for ID tags
- Scissors, glue stick, small bottle of glue, scotch tape and masking tape
- pens, pencils, sticky notes, notepad, index cards, highlighter
- ruler or mini tape measure, small magnifying glass
- gum, mints, candy, money for vending machines, nail file/clippers, Tylenol, tums, anti-bacterial hand gel, band-aids

#### For Performance showers, add:

- Tweezers for small buckles, etc. on tack have at least two pair, one of them preferably needlenosed
- Sticky Wax is a must for performance showers to keep bits and things in place. It's sold in small tubs in dollhouse shops or online, or you can use dental wax
- Prop repair kit: small bottle of white craft paint & small craft paintbrush and colored markers for touch-ups on props, sewing kit for doll clothes; invisible thread for help with dolls' hands

# **General Live Show Rules and Etiquette**

- Do not touch, pick up or move someone else's model(s) or any part of a set-up without the person's expressed permission.
- Be responsible for friends and family members that come with you to the show. Explain the "do not touch" rule to them and try to find a place for them that is out of the way of other showers. If they sit at your table, they must stay out of the aisles and out of the way of other showers in your area.
- It is not recommended that you bring young children to the Open Show, no matter how well-behaved they normally are, unless you have someone with you that is in charge of them. It is a very long day, and you will be preoccupied with showing.
- There should be no running, rough play, throwing things, yelling, raucous behavior, or inappropriate language in the show hall.
- Remember that you are responsible for any damage caused by you or anyone with you. For example, if you have a young child with you that is running in the hall and knocks over a horse that is worth \$200, you will be expected to pay the owner of the horse the \$200. The KHP, Breyer, and the Open Show staff are not liable for damages.
- Laptops, handheld games, iPhones, iPads, etc. should have sound turned off or be used with headphones as a courtesy to other showers. Cell phones alerts should be set to vibrate or at a very low volume.
- Smoking and/or vaping is strictly forbidden inside the show hall. Be sure to smoke only in a designated smoking area and dispose of butts properly. I ask that you not smoke immediately near the entrance doors, as they are open often and smoke can drift in.
- Eating is allowed in the show hall, but be sure clean up any mess you make, dispose of all trash in proper waste receptacles and recycle whenever possible.
- No alcoholic beverages should be brought into the show hall, or illegal substances (including tobacco products by a minor).
- Shoes and shirts must be worn in the show hall at all times. No exceptions.
- Pets/animals are not allowed in the show hall, except service animals. Let the show manager know ahead of time if you have a service animal so that she can assign you to a table that will have a little extra space for your animal. All service animals must have documentation and must be on a leash no longer than 6'.
- Do not tape, glue or thumbtack anything to the walls or any property (tables, etc.) of the show hall. Show respect to the property of the hall and any personnel who work there.
- Do not block aisles or walkways around your table. Keep your belongings in the space allotted to you and be considerate of those around you.
- Listen carefully to all announcements so you don't miss any class calls or important information. Keep noise to a minimum and conversation volume at a low level when announcements are being made so that everyone can hear.
- Be considerate of others when setting up your entries on the show tables. Just a couple of inches between models is fine; many classes will be full and the show staff will ask you to make room for as many horses as possible. Do not ever deliberately block the judge's view of another person's horse.

- As soon as your entries are in the ring, step out of the way so that others can get their models set up. After a class has been closed, you are not allowed to move or adjust your entries.
- Once the judge has started looking at models, you must move away from the table and stay away from the table until the announcement is made that the class has been pinned. It is very important that you do not get in the judge's way or try to talk to her while she is judging a class.
- If you need to ask a judge a question, do so in between classes when she is not actually judging or attending to other show duties. Be polite and have a positive attitude about her suggestions. **Do not ever challenge a judge's decisions or expect her to justify her placings.**
- If you want to take a picture of an entry, try to do so before the class is closed or right after it has been pinned, while showers are picking up their horses. If you would like a picture of something on someone's table, it is polite to ask first. Photos of entries in the ring can be taken without asking.

### **A Few Words About Sportsmanship**

- Displays of poor sportsmanship are totally inappropriate at a model horse show. This may include complaining about how a class was placed or how your horses are doing, questioning a judge's ability, claiming that a shower has broken a show rule or is engaging in behavior that suggests "cheating", etc. If you have an issue such as this, you should go directly to the show manager and discuss it with her privately and in a calm manner. You should not make comments to other showers or to staff; it is disruptive and disrespectful to cause a scene at the show because of something that is bothering you personally. If something is going on at the show that you feel needs to be dealt with, let the show manager know. It is her place to deal with it, not yours.
- With regards to how the classes are placed, please remember that judging is opinion-based. Every judge is different and has her own opinions and preferences. The show manager has chosen judges that she believes will deliver an educated, experienced, unbiased opinion when placing the classes at her show. If you set up a class with the exact same entries and had them judged by three different judges, you would probably have some similar placings, but you would not have three sets of exactly the same results. That is the nature of a judged competition. Every horse in a class has an equal chance of winning and the focus of showing should be to enjoy the competition, celebrate accomplishments, and show good sportsmanship, whether you win the blue ribbon or not.

# **Tips for Successful Showing**

- Keep your table neat and organized. Have your class list and horse roster handy (cross off the
  classes as they are judged so you can keep track of what classes are up next) and have your
  horses for the next class ready.
- Pay attention to all announcements. The last thing you want to do is miss a class, and the only
  way to avoid that is to listen carefully to classes being called and pay attention to what's going
  on.
- Take your horse(s) to the judging table/ring as soon as the class is called (first call). Sometimes, rings fill up quickly and it's best to go ahead and get a spot for your horse. Choose an open spot for your horse that is well-lit and (preferably) not next to a model just like it (same mold in the same color).
- Place your horse on the table with his best side facing the edge of the table. The judge will look at both sides, but she will see the side facing the edge more close-up. If the model's head is turned (like Strapless), face the model so that they are looking off the table so the judge can see the model's face. If the model does have a small rub or flaw, you will probably want to put the side of the model with the flaw facing away from the edge of the table.
- A judge can see your horse just fine if it's lined up in the middle of the table; so, if a ring starts filling up, you can put your horse there. If the ring is really full and you can't find a spot, be patient; chances are you are not the only one and the show staff will open up another table for the rest of the entries for that class. If it doesn't look like they're going to open up another table and you cannot find a spot for your horse, find the ring steward or other show staff and politely point out the problem.
- Remember that every horse in the ring must have an ID tag, neatly laid out next to the horse on the judging table. Be sure you have followed the show's directions for making your tags and write neatly. At the Open Show, your tags will be number-side down.
- Be absolutely certain that your horse is 100% clean! All dust should have been removed don't forget between the ears and in the creases of the mane and tail. Take a dustcloth or soft brush with you to the table for last minute dust-offs. Do not use any type of polish or oil on your models. This is considered altering the original finish and will be counted against you by the judge, possibly resulting in disqualification of the model. Some products will eventually destroy the model's finish.
- The Open Show does not allow actual halters to be worn by horses in halter classes. Models in a halter class should not have on any type of blanket, leg wraps, decorations or any other tack (unless molded on, like the halter on the Pacer).
- Be ready to pick your horse up as soon as the class has been pinned. If you win a ribbon, write the horse's name and the name of the class on the back. If it's a 1st or 2nd place ribbon, make sure that you keep that model close by and listen for the announcement of a callback for that section since that horse is eligible for a championship.
- You might find that it's helpful to pull one of your tubs out every few classes and pack up some of your horses that are finished showing. It will save time and the end of the day and give you more room at your table. Or you may need to pack up horses that show in the morning to make room for horses showing in the afternoon.

- Spend your time while classes are being judged meeting fellow showers, seeing their models/set-ups, discussing the hobby, etc. Try to walk around the show hall several times; you'll see different things every time and catch different people at their tables since folks are always on the move at a show.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions! When someone's not in the middle of something, they are usually more than happy to answer a question or just chat. Experienced showers are usually very willing to help we were all newbies once too!
- As long as you stay out of the way of judges while they are judging, you are welcome to check out the classes in the rings. Walk around and see what's on the tables while people are setting up. See if you can pick who the top three or four horses in a class will be. Once ribbons are placed, you can go see if you are right!
- Don't get discouraged if you don't win a blue ribbon your first time out. Every show is different next time, it could be your turn to bring home the championship!
- If you do win a ribbon, especially at the BreyerFest Open Show, remember that this is a HUGE show and you should be proud! You are competing with the best showers and the best models from around the country and beyond!
- Keep in mind that model horse showing is challenging and can be overwhelming but, above all else, it's supposed to be FUN! So, make sure you take time to breathe, relax, and enjoy the day!

This guide was written by Michelle E. Masters, BreyerFest Open Show Manager. It is not copyrighted and is available for reproduction and use to anyone associated with the model horse hobby. I ask only that I am given credit for having written it. If you have something to add or a comment or suggestion, please feel free to contact me: breyerfestopenshow@gmail.com
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