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## Thinking Outside the Box: A Look Into Virtual Horse Shows

by Karly Morgan

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Efforts to contain COVID-19 have left equestrians in a bind – we have horses ready to show, and nowhere to show them. We must practice social distancing to protect ourselves and vulnerable populations from the virus, but how can we engage in those safe practices while still showing our horses?

Introducing – The Virtual Horse Show.

Danielle Dubay De Navarro, Karly Morgan, and the team at Misfit Toys Horse Rescue, 501(c)(3), developed this creative idea to allow equestrians to stay healthy, have fun, and raise tax-deductible money for rescue horses!

The entry fee is \$25 per class, or \$100 for 5 classes. There will be traditional classes, such as Three Gaited, Five Gaited, and Pleasure classes, as well as some fun classes, like Pasture Ornament, Costume, and Stick Horse! All you have to do is donate your entry fee to Misfit Toys Horse Rescue, and email your video and entry form to [thevirtualhorseshow@gmail.com](mailto:thevirtualhorseshow@gmail.com) . We take care of the rest, and our licensed judge will place you and mail your ribbon directly to you!

The virtual show will take place on The Virtual Horse Show's Facebook page, at <http://www.facebook.com/virtualhorseshow> . There will be classes, just like a regular horse show. For each class, there will be an album on the page. The album will contain a video submitted by each entry for that division. Once all entries are uploaded, our licensed judge, Nicole Foster Beck, will place the entries. Then, we will mail each entry their ribbon!

Here's an example of how it would work: You decide to enter the Three Gaited Country Pleasure class. You submit your \$25 entry fee to the Misfit Toys PayPal. Next, you take a video of you and your horse that meets the rule specifications, and email the video to [thevirtualhorseshow@gmail.com](mailto:thevirtualhorseshow@gmail.com) . Then your work is done, we take care of the rest! We upload your video to the appropriate class album, where you can share it with family and friends, and virtual horse show spectators can view it. Our judge will place you, and we mail your ribbon directly to you!

Entries for the first Virtual Horse Show close on March 30!

Please visit our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/virtualhorseshow> for video rules, class lists and more helpful instructions. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to message the Facebook page!