

Sunset Ranch Obstacle Challenges

Competition Rules

Each Obstacle Challenge Course is unique and will include 8-12 numbered Obstacles. Obstacles are to be completed in numerical order. Detailed Obstacle Instructions will be made available to competitors no later than 24 hours before a Competition. Rider/Horse combinations may enter a class for a second round for schooling but the score for the first round will stand for the SROC 2024 Year End Awards.

30 minutes prior to competition there will be an unmounted "Course Walk". This time is set aside for competitors to walk through the course on foot without their horses and ask questions of the judge. There will be a separate course walk for the Mounted Division when the In-Hand Division is complete.

You may enter more than one horse. Horses may have multiple riders/handlers. All disciplines are welcome! Tack must be consistent with the discipline you represent. Dress Code: Extra effort and flair is encouraged - **not** required BUT there is a score for Presentation - It's a Horse Show-Have some fun with it!! Shoes or boots with a heel are mandatory for the Mounted Classes. If the judge determines a piece of tack to be unsafe or not humane, you will have an opportunity to make an equipment change and return to the competition. No fixed Tie downs or martingales allowed. Bitless bridles are ok if horse and rider exhibit good control. **Helmets are REQUIRED for riders under 18 years of age and are encouraged for adults.** -Known kickers **MUST** wear a red ribbon in their tail. Judge has the right to determine a horse/rider combination is unsafe to compete.

Scoring:

Scores from 1-10 are given for each obstacle. Each obstacle has a set of start and end markers; some obstacles may use one set of markers for both entry and

exit -it will be clearly outlined in the obstacle instructions. The markers designate the judging area for each obstacle. In addition to the numbered obstacle scores there are three supplemental scores of 1-10 on the judges score card: a score for Course Navigation, a score for Partnership and a score for Presentation. Scoring Matrix: 0-missed obstacle, 1- went through one set of cones only, 2- obstacle not attempted BUT went through start AND end cones, 3- Poor Attempt, Not Completed 4- Almost Complete, 5- Completed-Not Pretty, 6- Adequate, 7- Reasonably Good, 8-Good, 9-Very Good, 10-Excellent-Olympic Quality. Scores are totaled- highest score wins. In the event of a tie the 3 three supplemental scores will serve as the tie breaker. Score Cards with judges notes will be available for competitor review at the completion of the competition. Original score sheets must remain with the show office for year-end calculations.

SROC offers an In-Hand and Mounted Division. Classes offered are as follows:

In-Hand Classes: L-1, L-2 and L-3 Precision & Open Freestyle

Mounted Classes: L-1, L-2 and L-3 Precision, Junior L-1 and L-2, L-2 & L-3 Speed & Open Freestyle

In-Hand Precision Round-Level Descriptions:

In-Hand L-1: This class is open to any horse or pony and their handler. The tasks in this class are designed to build confidence in the Equine and the Handler.

L-1 is reserved for those horses not yet ready to compete under saddle.

In-Hand L-2: This class will have more challenging tasks than L-1 and may be used as a warm up for the mounted division. L-2 is for those who have a horse in need of show ring exposure or those wanting to challenge their in-hand skills.

In-Hand L-3: This class is for those horse owners who have a passion for ground work at a higher level. This level is intended to be a challenge- L-3 may be used as a warm up for the mounted division.

In-Hand Freestyle Class Description: This class is open to all horses and handlers. Handlers are to pick 5 of the obstacles on course and engage with them

in any way they wish. Judge will be considering the level of difficulty, the choices of the handler/suitability to their horse and the quality of execution.

Mounted Precision Round Levels Description:

L-1 Intro- This level is for green horses and/or riders new to obstacles. L-1 may walk or trot between obstacles, though trotting is encouraged. L-1 riders may have a "Caller" to call out the obstacle order. L-1 riders are excluded in participation in the Speed Class, though they may compete in the Freestyle class.

L-2 Intermediate- Horses and Riders in level two are expected to have a level of detail in their communication. Acceptance of the bit, subtly of rider ques, and willingness from the horse are the expectation. L-2 must trot but may opt to canter/lope between obstacles and should not be demonstrating any extreme resistance or disobedience. A pleasant demeanor, obedience from the horse and tact from the rider are expected at L-2.

L-3 Advanced- Riders at this level are expected to be precise in their horsemanship, presentation and execution of the course. Collection/flexion, precision of movement and attention to detail are required to compete successfully at this level. L-3 will canter between obstacles as space allows. Changes of canter lead through the walk or trot will be required in courses and obstacle execution instructions will require a high level of communication between horse and rider.

Junior Divisions:

L-1 Juniors- Intro- This level is for beginner youth riders. L-1 may walk or trot between obstacles, though trotting is encouraged. L-1 riders may have a "Caller" to call out the obstacle order. L-1 riders are excluded in participation in the Speed and Freestyle Class. The L-1 Junior Division will have a different/easier set of instructions for some obstacles than the Open L-1 Precision Round.

L-2 Juniors- Intermediate- Horses and Riders in level two are expected to have a level of detail in their communication. Acceptance of the bit, subtly of rider ques, and willingness from the horse are the expectation. L-2 must trot but may opt to canter/lope between obstacles and should not be demonstrating any extreme

resistance or disobedience. A pleasant demeanor, obedience from the horse and tact from the rider are expected at L-2. The L-2 Junior division will have the same obstacle instructions as the Open L-2 riders.

The Speed Round:

The Speed Round is only available for L-2 and L-3 horses & riders. Obstacles will be completed in the same order and according to the same instructions as the precision round. An obstacle will only be considered completed if all components of the obstacle are standing BEFORE a rider moves on to the next obstacle. Riders *MAY* dismount and right a downed obstacle if needed. Fastest time wins! Don't forget those start and end cones!

Mounted Freestyle:

This class is open to all horses and riders. Riders will pick five of the obstacles on course to play with in any way they choose. Judge will be considering the level of difficulty, the choices of the rider/suitability to their horse, and the quality of execution.