

## OVTPA Rating system

The purpose of rating each member is to provide a fair and level playing field for all members. No one should be riding with an advantage or be disadvantaged when competing with other members.

It is stressed that at any time, when determining the rating of an individual, rating committees must not consider the effect on the individual member but the effect on the membership as a whole.

If the member pens like a 3 then they are a 3. If they pen like a 2 then they are a 2. The individual's age, length of time penning, existing teams or the fact they may skip a rating level altogether, simply do not enter into the equation. The penner's ability dictates what their rating should be.

When rating a penner, rating committees cannot consider personal relationships, emotions or conflicts of interest. The decision must be based solely on the individual's ability. The rate of improvement the individual has shown and the likelihood of significant improvement by the end of the year should also be considered. It is the responsibility of the rating committee to ensure that all riders are rated on a level playing field.

## Ratings

#7 - A number 7 penner is a top notch penner who has exceptional skills and excels in all areas of penning.

#6 - A number 6 penner has elite skills, is highly proficient in all areas of penning and is highly competitive.

#5 - This penner is proficient in all areas of penning.

#4 - This penner is above average in most areas of penning.

#3 - This penner is average in most areas of penning.

#2 - This penner is developing hir/her skills where they are no longer a beginner yet are not achieving overall average penning skills.

#1 - This penner is well below average in penning skills and is most likely a new rider or a new penner or a penner who needs to develop in most areas of penning.

A #1 penner might also be a former seasoned penner who can no longer be competitive riding above this rating because of age, health or physical ability.

## Criteria

This is a list of criteria that should be used when evaluating a penner's rating:

1. Riding ability
2. Ability to read a cow
3. Ability to react to a situation
4. Ability to play different positions
5. Communications skills
6. Coaching ability

A seasoned rider may be lowered if the Rating committee determines their ability has declined due to other circumstances.

The Rating Committee members should be members with an assigned rating of at least a #4 level. In the event #4 or higher rated members are not available the Chairperson may approve the use of lower rated members.

## New Rider Rating

During the first 3 shows the rider competes at, the rider will be reviewed. The rating committee will ensure representatives are available to review and rate members. Returning members shall be assigned their previous rating until such time as the returning member has been re-evaluated.

### Mid Year Review

The Rating Chairperson and/or rating committee may request that a rider's rating be raised or lowered prior to the rider completing half of the association's shows.

Since the rating will be done in the fall prior to the upcoming year, there may be circumstances where a rider may show marked improvement or a decline in penning skills that were not expected.

If riders are moved before they have finished half of their local association shows, their number is changed immediately.

If a rider changes their horse the rating committee will have the right to adjust their rating accordingly.

## APPEALS

There are 2 types of Appeals.

1. At any time , but not more than once per calendar year, a penner may appeal his or her own rating.

2. At any time , any penner may appeal another penner's rating. The same penner's rating may not be appealed more than once per calendar year.

1. If a penner wishes to appeal his or her rating:

They must send in a letter to OVTPA with the appeal. The appeal must only speak to the rider's rating with regards to the Ratings Criteria.

The appeal must be accompanied by \$250.00

Once the OVTPA Rating Committee receives the appeal ,they will set up an appeal date.

The Rating committee will hear the evidence provided by the Appellant.

The Appeal chair will then ask the Appellant to leave the room/phone and the committee will deliberate on the appeal

The appeal committee can only review evidence as it pertains to the rating criteria. Under no circumstances can it give any substance to

1. Age
2. Effect on teams/high point calculations
3. Petitions
4. Personal reasons
5. Political reasons(i.e. sponsorship, the penner will quit, etc.)

The appeal committee will give its decision which can only be

1. Accept the appeal
2. Deny the appeal

If the appeal is successful , the Appellant will receive \$200.00 back and \$50.00 will be retained by the OVTPA as an administration fee.

2.If a penner wishes to appeal another penners rating:

They must send in a letter to OVTPA with the appeal.

The appeal must be accompanied with \$250.00

Once the OVTPA rating committee receives the appeal ,they will set up an appeal date.

The rating committee will hear the evidence provided by the appellant.

The appeal chair will then ask the appellant to leave the room /phone and the committee will deliberate on the appeal.

The appeal committee can only review evidence as it pertains to the ratings criteria. Under no circumstances can it give any substance to:

1. Age
2. Effect on teams/high point calculations
3. Petitions
4. Personal reasons
5. Political reasons(i.e. sponsorship. the penner will quit,etc.)

The appeal committee will give its decision which can only be :

1. Accept the appeal
2. Deny the appeal

If the appeal is successful , the appellant will receive \$200.00 back and \$50.00 will be retained by the OVTPA as an administration fee.