

Execution of Drill

Spacing: Maintaining an even distance between horses, vertically and horizontally

Common faults:

- * Irregular spacing between horses in lines
- * Irregular spacing between horses side to side (company front)
- * Oblique not all spaced the same distance back
- * Not closing up the gap between lead riders in a circle and the last riders

Alignment: Keeping riders bodies lined up, side to side. Also in “tracking”— following directly behind or in the same track as the rider in front.

Common faults:

- * Irregular side to side alignment in fours, full team lines, etc.
- * Not “tracking” or following directly in line with the horses in front
- * Irregular alignment of the maneuver in the arena
 - Circles not centered
 - Circle not round
 - Wedding rings not the same size/not even in spacing in arena
 - Figure “8” circles not the same size

Timing & Coordination: Riders alert and watching to be in the right place, at the right time, AND looking good!

Common Faults:

- * Missed holes in a thread maneuver
- * Collisions because of faulty spacing, etc.
- * Awkward connections of maneuvers - jerky, not smooth

Performance and Manners of Horses:

Performance:

Broken Gaits – Trotting when the rest of the team is loping

- * Dropping to trot to turn a corner
- * Trotting in circle when all others are loping

Way of Going – The way the horse travels

- * Should be the same style as the rest of the team, if possible
- * Easy controlled gates
- * No excessive pulling on reins or frequent unnecessary lead changes

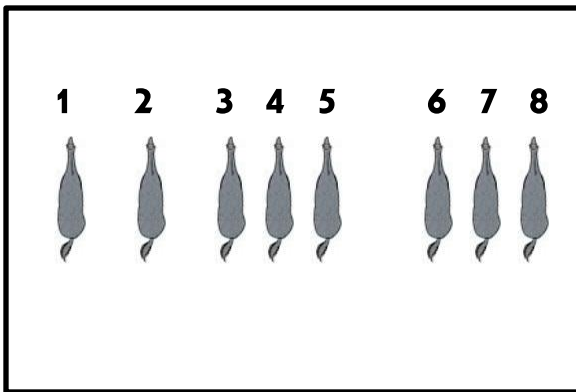
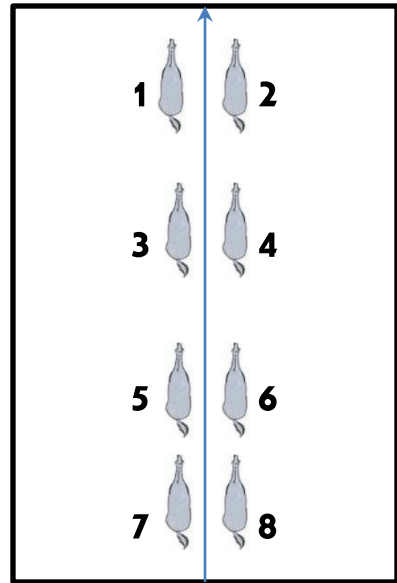
Manners:

No biting or kicking, bucking, etc.

Easy to control and responsive to riders commands

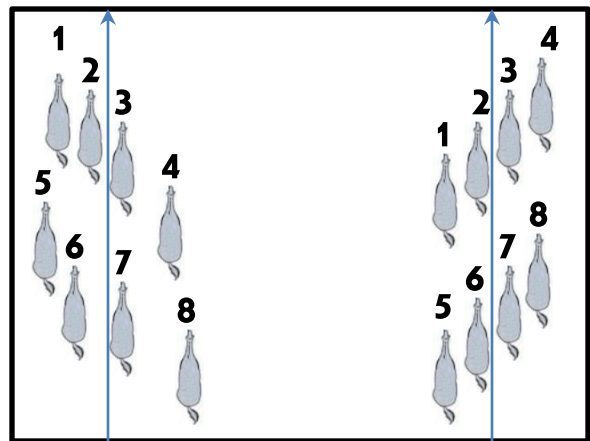
Execution of the Drill: Common Faults

Spacing: Irregular spacing between horses in a line or column.

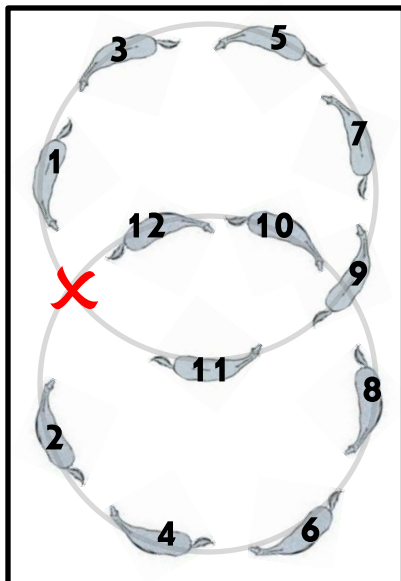


Irregular spacing between horses side to side—anything from pairs to suicide charges.

Obliques not all spaced the same, left side bad—right side good.



Larger Gap

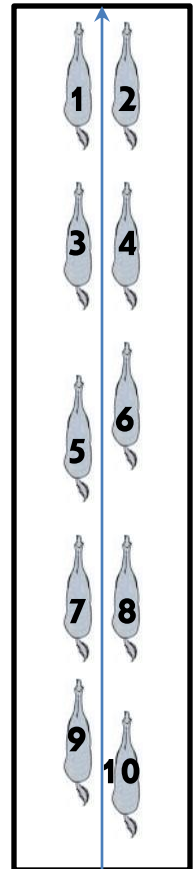
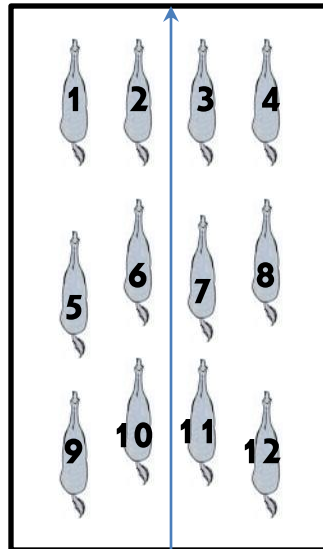
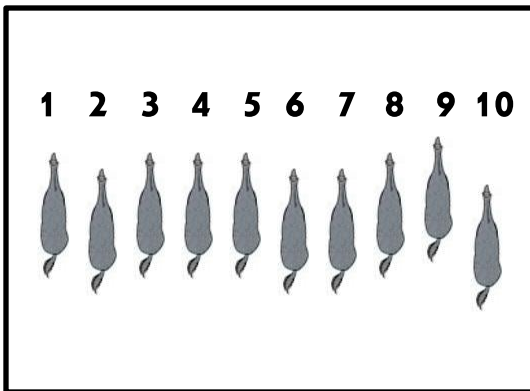


Not closing up the gap between lead riders in a circle and the last riders in line.

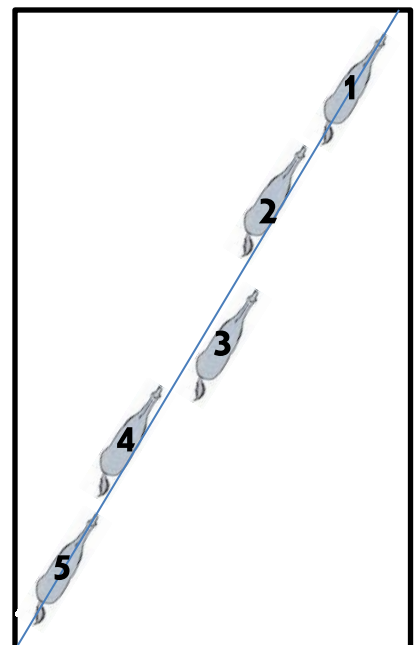
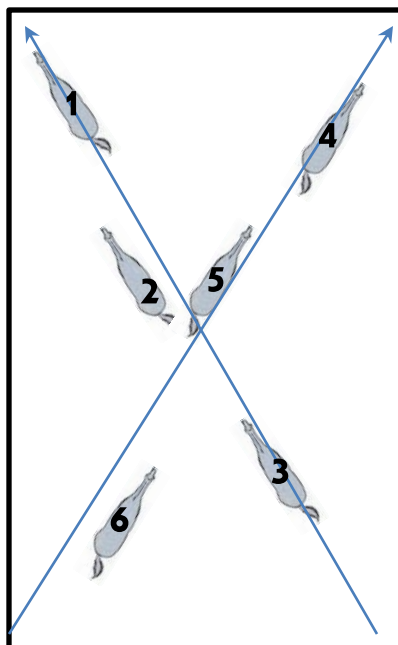
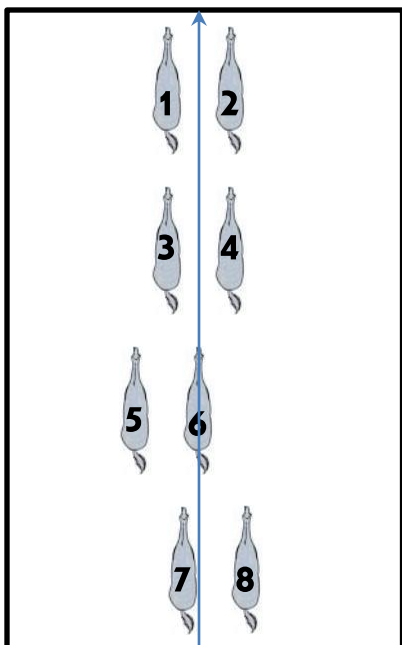
Execution of the Drill: Common Faults

Alignment: Horizontal alignment (side-by-side), keeping the rider's bodies lined up. Vertical alignment (nose to tail), following directly behind or in the same "track" as another rider, hence the term "tracking."

Irregular alignment side to side in pairs, fours, full team lines.



Poor "tracking", not following directly in line with the horses in front.



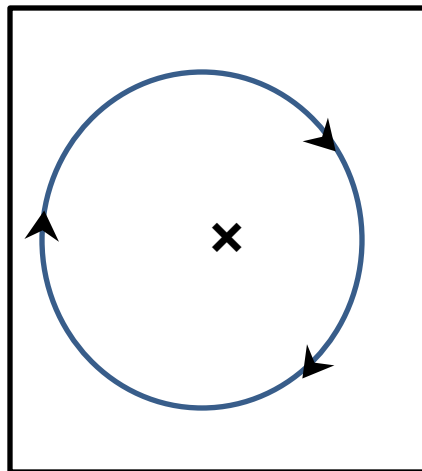
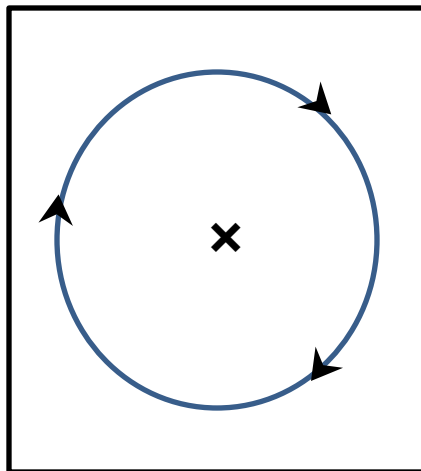
Execution of the Drill: Common Faults

Irregular alignment of maneuver in the arena:

Circles not centered in the arena:

Left circle—centered

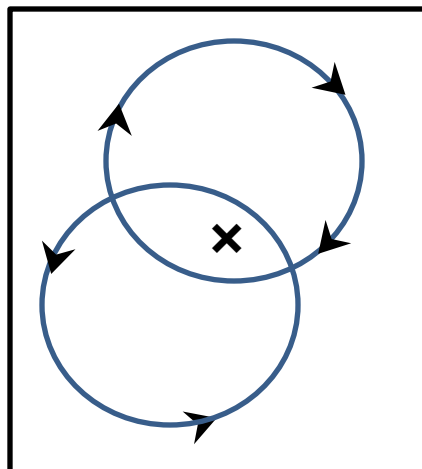
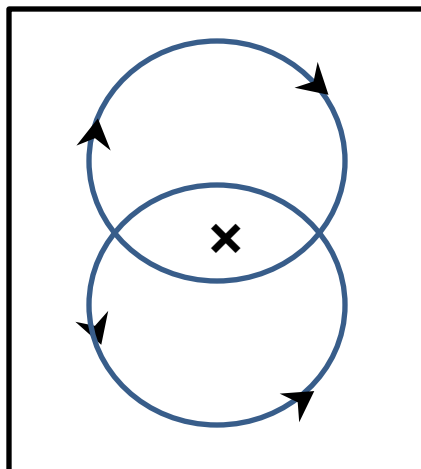
Right circle—off center



Wedding rings not centered:

Left—centered

Right—alignment skewed sideways



Wedding ring circles not same size

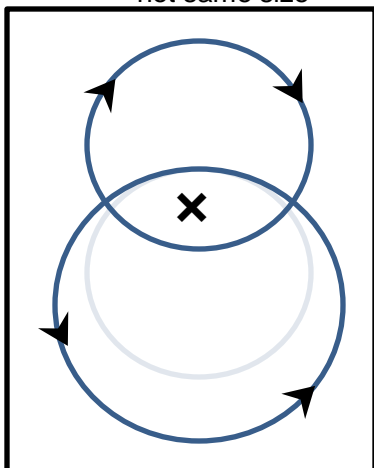
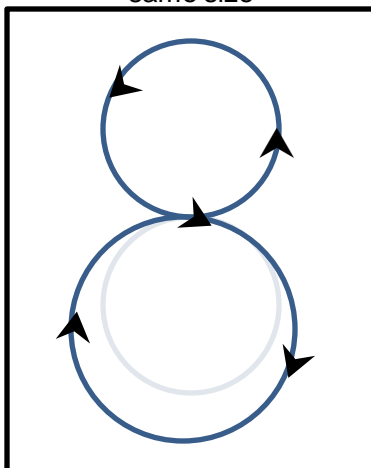


Figure "8" circles not same size



Circle not round

