

2019 - 2020
SOUTHEAST MOUNTED DRILL TEAM ASSOCIATION
National High Point Series

We at Southeast Mounted Drill Team Association are dedicated to the growth of both the rider and team as a whole by providing a fair and competitive environment.



Show year runs September 1 through August 31

2019 - 2020 SEMDTA High Point Series Show Dates

September 6-8, 2019 - Unadilla, GA - Southeastern Arena
(2 day show: Saturday & Sunday)

November 15-17, 2019 - Tiger, GA - Rabun Arena
(2 day show: Saturday & Sunday)

February 21-23 , 2020 - Unadilla, GA - Southeastern Arena
(2 day show: Saturday & Sunday ***State Championship***)

April 17-19, 2020 - Tiger, GA - Rabun Arena
(2 day show: Saturday & Sunday ***Regional Championship***)

June 26-28, 2020 - Jacksonville, FL - Jacksonville Equestrian Center
(2 day show: Saturday & Sunday ***National Championship***)

2020 - 2021 SEMDTA High Point Series Show Dates

September 25-27, 2020 - Tiger, GA - Rabun Arena
(2 day show: Saturday & Sunday)

November 20-22, 2020 - Unadilla, GA - Southeastern Arena
(2 day show: Saturday & Sunday)

Updated June 2019

**SOUTHEAST MOUNTED DRILL TEAM ASSOCIATION
OPEN AND 4-H MOUNTED DRILL TEAM RULES**

CLASSES

No rider is allowed to ride on more than one team per class.

Quads: Four (4) minutes minimum and six (6) maximum. Music of choice. It will be Judges discretion as to emphasis of the drill, music, theme and any costumes used. Each group of four must have a separate name and separate riders. Must submit a separate entry form and release form for each team.

Freestyle: A minimum of six (6) riders allowed. A minimum of six (6) minutes and a maximum of eight (8) minutes are allowed. Music of choice. Points may be scored on how appropriate the music was to the maneuvers performed and the pace the horses set to the music used. Primary emphasis shall be placed on the drill, uniforms, tack, equitation and music.

Theme: A minimum of six (6) riders allowed. A minimum of six (6) minutes and a maximum of eight (8) minutes is allowed. Music of choice. Points may be scored on how appropriate the music was to the maneuvers performed and the pace the horses set to the music used and the appropriateness of the music to the theme of the drill.

PATRIOT: Any number of riders allowed. A minimum of four (4) minutes and a maximum of six (6) minutes are allowed. Team must utilize patriotic content/music. Flags are not mandatory; however, if flags are not utilized, this will affect the team's degree of difficulty and patriotic content scores.

Rodeo: Any number of riders allowed. A minimum of four (4) minutes and a maximum of six (6) minutes is allowed. The team must be active as a rodeo team performing in at least (2) recognized rodeos in the previous 12 months prior to competition. Supply names of rodeo and contact person and phone numbers. These will be verified. Music of choice. Points may be scored on how appropriate the music was to the maneuvers performed and the pace the horses set to the music used.

A minimum of two (2) teams are required per class. If only one team registers for a class, that class will be combined with another class with the exception of Green and Novice. Show Manager will be in contact with the Coach to make these arrangements. (NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE)

DIVISIONS

New means first competition you have ever competed in

Green Division: *Walk Trot Only.* No restriction on ages of riders. No limit on years of riding until 8 years of age. If 8 years or older, may only ride in Green two (2) years. Must have only one (1) experienced rider in the Green Quad Classes and at least one (1) but no more than two (2) experienced riders in the other Green Classes. No flags or props. ***There will be a 15 point deduction for carrying flags or props.*** If a Green team rider rides in any other Division, they are no longer eligible to ride in the Green Division, including classes within the same show. Adult and Youth will all be judged together.

Novice Division: *No gait restrictions.* A new rider that has not competed in drill before (excluding Green Division). Rider is considered Novice for one competition year. Novice team must consist of at least 60% or more new riders. If a Novice team rider rides in any other Division, they are no longer eligible to ride in the Novice Division, including classes within the same show. *This does not pertain to the 40% that are not true Novice.* Adult and Youth will all be judged together.

Here is the breakdown for number of riders at 60% (20 = 12, 19 = 11, 18 = 11, 17 = 10, 16 = 10, 15 = 9, 14 = 8, 13 = 8, 12 = 7, 11 = 7, 10 = 6, 9 = 6, 8 = 5, 7 = 4, 6 = 4, 5 = 3, 4 = 3).

Youth/4-H Division: All riders in this division will be under the age of nineteen (19) years old on January 1 of current fiscal year. One rider may be over the age of 18.

Adult Division: All riders in this division will be over the age of eighteen (18) years old on January 1 of current fiscal year. Two may be 18 or under.

Open Division: No restriction on ages of riders. Adult and Youth will all be judged together.

RULES AND INFORMATION

Show Manager has complete control over all rules

1. **Order of Go:** once all entries are received the Order of Go will be emailed to the Coach within 5 days to all teams. You will have 48 hours to respond with any changes (number of riders, team name or your position in the Order of Go). After that time, no changes will be made to the Order of Go and we will give no extra time for tack changes, etc. at the competition.

2. **Arena Time:** Arena time will be on a first come, first served basis and is limited to 20 minutes per head Coach. Additional 20 minute practice times can be used if there is not a team waiting for arena use. A sign up sheet will be available at the show office. Please be courteous and respectful of your fellow Coaches by exiting at the end of your arena time if someone is waiting. **Show Management will not be playing music during arena time and the announcer booth will not be open.**

3. **General Scoring:** SEMDTA uses the ranking system to determine placings for all classes.

| RANKING POINT | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| For Example: there are 3 teams in a class | | | | | | | | |
| | Judge 1 Score | Judge 1 Placing | Ranking Pts | Judge 2 Score | Judge 2 Placing | Ranking Pts | Overall Total Ranking Pts | Overall Placing |
| Theme | | | | | | | | |
| Team A | 585 | 1 | 3 | 530 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1st |
| Team B | 581 | 3 | 1 | 550 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2nd |
| Team C | 583 | 2 | 2 | 510 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3rd |

Ties will be broken based off the Judges scoring starting with Execution of Drill, Degree of Difficulty and then Horsemanship.

4. **State Placings:** this is an accumulation of ranking points from the September, November, and February shows. The team with the overall highest accumulated ranking points in ALL OPEN classes (Quad Open, Quad Theme Open, Theme Open and Freestyle Open) and having missed only one show will be named the SEMDTA State Champion. ***You do not have to be from Georgia to win the Georgia State Championship.***

5. **Regional Placings:** SEMDTA will use the ranking system to determine placings for all classes. The team with the highest accumulation of ranking points in ALL OPEN classes (Quad Open, Quad Theme Open, Theme Open and Freestyle Open) for the competition will be announced as our SEMDTA Regional Champion.

6. **National Placings:** SEMDTA will use the ranking system to determine placings for all classes. The team with the highest accumulation of ranking points in ALL OPEN classes (Quad Open, Quad Theme Open, Theme Open and Freestyle Open) for the competition will be announced as our SEMDTA National Champion.

7. **Overall High Point Placings:** this is an accumulation of ranking points in each Division for all five SEMDTA shows (September, November, State, Regional and National). The Overall High Point team per Division will be the SEMDTA Overall Division Champion (Green, Novice, Youth/4-H, Adult, and Open). To be eligible for the SEMDTA Overall Division Champion a team can only miss one show and must compete in Nationals. *In order to receive points for the Overall Division High Point placings Coaches must enter the same team name consistently throughout the year.*

NEW! At the end of the 2019-2020 Season we will be having CASH PRIZES for the Overall High Ranking Division Champions. This means we will run a tally of ALL classes each team enters in their respective Divisions and at seasons-end, the team with the highest ranking points in their Division will be that Division's Overall Champion. The winning teams will receive CASH AWARDS totaling \$4,000 as follows:

OVERALL DIVISION CHAMPIONS

(minimum of three teams in a Division for CASH pay-out)

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Open Division | \$1,000 |
| Youth/4-H Division | 750 |
| Adult Division | 750 |
| Novice Division | 500 |
| Green Division | 500 |

NEW! At the end of the 2019-2020 Season we will select one team's Coach to be the SEMDTA Coach of the Year. Throughout the show season we will take note of how well Coaches interact and communicate with their teams, their leadership skills, integrity, timely submission of entry fees and forms, their good sportsmanship, being a good role model, among other attributes.

8. **Ribbons:** Ribbons will be given out for first through third placings only. Other placings will be announced but will not receive a ribbon.
9. **Horses:** all horses must be at a forward moving gait. No stopping during the drill routine. Team will be disqualified.
10. **Flag Protocol:** proper flag protocol and flag carriage must be maintained at all times during competition. Flag tops must be balls or caps (no eagles, pikes, or spears due to safety concerns and insurance) during competition. Teams will be disqualified using any flag top other than ball or cap during regular competition.
11. **No pyrotechnics** are allowed at any competition anywhere on the property.
12. **A rider** may not leave the arena and return during a performance. Team will be disqualified.
13. **Whistle:** Use of the whistle for maneuver changes during competition is at the discretion of each Head Coach; however, each class will require two riders on the team to wear a whistle for safety and emergency use to be used as notification for all riders to stop their horses.
14. **Inside or Outside coaching/giving direction** from outside of the arena will be an automatic disqualification. This includes, but is not limited to gestures, technology of any kind, props, posting of people around the arena, or anything that the Judge deems as coaching.

15. **No person** on foot allowed in the arena at any time except for an Emergency. Only people allowed in arena for an Emergency is Coach, parents of rider and appointed medical personnel. The other exceptions are show officials when necessary. Anyone else entering the arena except for the above mentioned will be cause for the team to be disqualified.
16. **Re-ride:** should be requested by the Coach and will be at the discretion of Show Management and the Judges based upon uncontrollable circumstances (equipment failure related to the venue where competition is being held, severe storm, dog inadvertently running into arena, etc.).
17. **Arena:** you should look over the riding surface for dropped items before you enter for competition. Any item in the arena at the end of your ride will receive the proper deductions. Courtesy laps are a good time to inspect the arena floor.
18. **Reins:** ALL riders on each team are to ride one of three choices: all left handed, all right handed or all two handed. It will be scored the same by all Judges in a fair and impartial manner. If one rider or more is different, deductions may apply.
19. **Courtesy lap:** each team must take a courtesy lap around the arena before your drill. The Judges will use this time to inspect your team.
20. **Gate:** each team must have your own person to work the gates. For safety reasons gates must be closed during all classes.
21. **Pets:** Absolutely no pets (except venue owned pets) will be allowed in the competition arena **or stands** at any time regardless if they are on a leash or just someone holding their pet. In barn area, pets must be secured at all times. If pets are seen in the arena or stands area, the show will be stopped until they are removed. **No Exceptions!**
22. **Children and Spectators: SAFETY!** Everyone must stay in or behind seating areas. Absolutely no one allowed on or beside arena railing! The show will be stopped until safety is resumed.
23. **Barn Aisles: SAFETY!** Aisles must be kept clean and clear. Each team must assign a responsible adult to maintain cleanliness and organization of their stall area at all times. Tables, food, and empty chairs must be in a tack stall. Aisles must be swept and free of trash, hay, and empty chairs. **Any items found making an area unsafe will be removed. NO RIDING IN THE BARN OR AISLES - this includes horses, bicycles, scooters, skateboards, roller blades, or any other transportation device. If a team rider(s) is caught riding in the barn, there will be a 25 point deduction per Judge per ride (this will be strictly enforced)!**
24. **Judges Meeting:** There will be a Judges Meeting before each competition begins in a designated area (time will be announced). Either the Head Coach or Assistant Coach must be in attendance at each meeting. If your team has anything **MEDICAL** (horse or rider) to declare, this will be the time to do it.
25. **Entry Forms:** Each team with a different name **must** have separate entry and release form. Do not combine multiple teams onto one form. Example: Floyd County JV and Floyd County Varsity each must have their own entry form and their own release form. Any team without all of the proper signatures will not be allowed to compete, and no refunds will be given. **All forms and full payment must be received by the entry deadline. Absolutely NO EXCEPTIONS! Late penalties will be enforced. Any entries or payments received after the deadline will receive a 25 point deduction per Judge and per class entered (see score sheet).**

26. **Coggins and Health Certificate:** Negative Coggins is required for all horses. If you are coming from another State, you will need to have a Health Certificate plus your Negative Coggins for the competition. All Coggins and Health Certificates must be posted on the stall door in a plastic sleeve (not provided).
27. **Absolutely no smoking within 20 feet of exterior of building/structures on property (including barns, arenas, bathrooms, etc.)** There will be no exceptions to this rule.
28. Time will be announced after each team's drill. Official Time Keeper's announced ride time is final.
29. **JUDGES DECISION IS FINAL!**

RULES FOR PROTESTS

A Grievance Committee will be designated by the show management before the drill team competition begins. This committee will act upon protests arising out of matters pertaining to rules and eligibility. A grievance or protest must be made in writing and presented by the Coach only, accompanied by a \$100 cash fee during or immediately upon conclusion of the drill in question. Protests made by anyone other than a Coach will be considered invalid. The rider and/or riders and the reasons for the protest being filed must be designated (division, team name, riders). *Protestor's name will not be made public.* If the protest is upheld by the Grievance Committee, the deposit will be refunded to the Coach. If the protest is overruled, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Competition fund. The decision of the Committee is final. The Grievance Committee will not reverse the placing of the class if the protest is found to be invalid. If protest is found to be valid, placements will be adjusted accordingly. **No protests, questions, or discussions regarding decisions of the show will be accepted or held after the awards ceremony.**

MUSIC RULES

- All music must be on separate cd's for each class (*see rule number 5*). No cassettes or thumb drives may be used. It is recommended to have 2 copies of each cd: one to be used during competition, and one for the Head Coach as a back-up.
 - Each cd must be in a paper sleeve (not hard case).
 - The cd cannot have a sticker or paper label on the actual cd. These have resulted in music not working properly at different venues.
 - It is highly recommended that iTunes is not used for your music due to various codes being imbedded into the music and not allowing them to be recognized at the venue.
- Music and introduction must be turned in at registration. **Failure to turn in your music and introduction in proper format at this time will result in a 10 point penalty for each class for which music and introduction (where used) are not submitted at this time.**
- Introductions (if you have one) not included in the music track must be typed and double spaced in a 12 point font to avoid a 10 point deduction per Judge.
- Each class should have a separate typed introduction (where used) and a separate music cd. The introduction and music for a single class must be recorded on the same cd and they must be combined into a single track. Example: If a team rides to the same music in class 5 and class 15, two separate cds and envelopes are required.
- Music and introductions for each class must be separated into separate 8 ½" x 11" envelopes (not 5 x 7 or 11 x 13). Music and introductions cannot be shared between classes. Each envelope must be labeled with the following information in this order:
 - Team Name
 - Class Number (can be found on Order of Go)
 - Class Name (can be found on Order of Go)
 - Day and Date

Example

