

BRDS SADDLE CLUB (BRDS) –Rules And Regulations

SHOW RULES

Revised 2019

BRDS shall have official direction over the management of the show and have the authority to enforce all rules governing the show.

1. **Class Age Groups are as follows:** 8 and under, 9-12, 13-15, Open, Vintage, Novice.
 - A contestant's age on or before August 1st of each year will determine the age group for competition.
 - Adult classes - It is the rider's personal choice regarding their choice of age group: Vintage 40+ or Open any age.
 - A contestant must stay in the chosen age group for the entire year.
 - No contestant can ride for points in more than one age group
 - The Novice 10 & under class and the Adult Novice is for **NOVICE RIDERS ONLY**. Please do not enter these classes if you do not belong there. Year-end **CHAMPIONS** and **RESERVE CHAMPIONS** are not eligible to repeat the same class the following year this means you must move up into age classes.
 - **NOVICE MEANS:** walk, trot and **SLOW** lope is permitted **BUT** if the lope is too fast the rider will be disqualified for the cloverleaf barrels and an average time will be set for additional patterns at every gymkhana. If at any point the rider decides to move into an Age Group, the rider's Novice points will not transfer. Once the rider transfers out of Novice, the rider can't transfer back.
 - Must ride in 7 of the 9 Gymkhanas to qualify for Year End Awards.
 - Novice classes are not eligible for the Year End Saddle but will be eligible for champion and reserve champion buckles Only.

2. **REFUNDS** No refunds once entries are paid. Refunds will not be given due to poor weather, dropped patterns, DQ's or lameness.

3. **No re-rides** for broken equipment, you or your horse falling

4. **Entering more than one horse** A rider may enter more than one horse for the day but will only collect points, ribbons and high point or reserve on the designated point horse. **POINT** horse must qualify according to rule #5.

5. **QUALIFYING FOR YEAR END AWARDS:** You must be a BRDS Saddle Club Member in Good Standing to Qualify for year end awards
 - Novice & Adult Novice: **MUST** ride in 3 of the 4 events at each show for it to be a qualifying show.
 - Age Classes, Open, & Vintage: **MUST** ride in 3 of the 4 events at each show for it to be a qualifying show.
 - **ALL:** You must attend all but 2 shows so If there are 9 shows you must have 7 qualified shows.

6. **No personal timing or coaching** to speed up and slow down throughout the pattern will be allowed in the Novice and Adult Novice classes. If we find that someone (inside or outside of the arena) is timing and coaching the rider to go faster or slower they will be disqualified from the class. This does not include if a rider is out of control and the trainer/parents/friends, etc. are telling the rider to slow down for safety reasons. Coaching for safety reasons only will be permitted.

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7. **Points:** 1st place = 11 points, 2nd place = 10 points, 3rd place = 9 points, 4th place = 8 points, 5th place = 7 points 6th place = 6 points 7th place= 5 points 8th place= 4 points 9th place= 3 points 10th place=2points Each rider will be awarded 1 point for participation even if no time or placing is awarded
8. **Required Minimum Attire:** For safety reasons, all contestants must wear boots or shoes with western type heels, pants must be below the calves.
9. **Behavior and Animal Welfare:** BRDS has the power to disqualify any contestant or club member acting on behalf of the contestant for the following:
- Not following the rules of the event. Anyone refusing to follow the rules of the BRDS will be asked to leave the grounds.
 - Intentionally hitting a horse with a property.
 - Poor sportsmanship, intoxication, or unruly conduct.
 - Use of a hot stick or other electrical devices.
 - At the discretion of the BRDS, any suspicion of animal abuse may warrant action by the BRDS. Disqualification shall result if after entering the arena the rider spurs, strikes, or beats the horse IN ANY MANNER DEEMED EXCESSIVE forward of the cinch, however, the judge may allow humane hand cues and a rewarding pat. Human hand cue or touching is allowed. No reaching out to slap, strike, or whip will be allowed. Judicious use of an over & under quirt will be allowed at the judges' discretion.
 - Excessive punishment of a horse at any time shall result in disqualification for the duration of the gymkhana.
 - During any event, an unruly or out-of-control horse will be disqualified.
 - A horse may be escorted by another horse or person for safety reasons.
 - If a contestant or club member is suspended or disqualified, the suspension or disqualification period can range from single day/single event to permanent suspension from current or future shows.
 - Any act of discourtesy or disobedience to any Gymkhana Official in or out of the arena will result in disqualification.
 - Running horses through the entry/exit gate will not be allowed. Violators may or may not be given a warning before being disqualified depending on the severity of the violation.
 - At the judge's discretion, a rider may be disqualified and/or excused from the arena for abusing their horse, unsportsmanlike conduct, lack of control or unsafe situations.
10. **Timer and Records:** A contestant shall get one accurate time on the clock and that will be the recorded time, qualified or disqualified. (Secretaries from BRDS are responsible for recording times.) If a timer failure occurs, the rider has the option of up to two re-rides. If during the first re-ride an obstacle is knocked over, the rider may take a second re-ride. If the second re-ride is taken, it voids the first re-ride and the rider must take the time given during the second re-ride. When the first re-ride is successful (no obstacles were knocked over) the rider is required to take that time and a second re-ride is not allowed.
11. **Any grievance:** must be submitted in writing before the end of the Gymkhana and may **not** be discussed at the announcers stand.
12. **It is the responsibility of the rider** to understand the pattern of each event ridden

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12. **A BROKEN PATTERN:** (being defined as any illegal crossover) constitutes a **NO TIME**
Explanation of broken pattern:A broken pattern occurs if the rider fails to complete the designated pattern or if the rider commits any cross over (completed circle) which is not in the specified pattern. Broken patterns often occur during the pole bending patterns when the rider's horse goes past one of the poles in the middle part of the pattern. Therefore, we have used this pattern as an example to explain the right way and the wrong way to correct the pattern, and to illustrate what determines an "illegal crossover." Also, please note that in patterns where there are no circles in the pattern, such as the "streaking poles" or "flag race", (which is run in a horse shoe shape), if the rider goes past an obstacle they must again correct the pattern in a manner which does not allow the horse to complete a full circle.....once an illegal turn is completed, a no time will be given. We want to make sure that everyone is able to understand the broken pattern rule, so please feel free to contact a gymkhana committee member if you have any questions.
13. **Once a rider breaks a timer,** the pattern is considered a no time. The rider may correct their horse to finish the pattern, but may not run it again after the timer is broken
14. **If a rider falls off their horse** it is considered a no time and they must vacate the arena.
15. **A five-second penalty** will be taken for each prop that is knocked down in all events except the flag race. Props knocked down in the flag race will result in a no time.
16. **Contestant Ties:** In the case of a contestant tie, the contestants will be given the option to have a run off .
17. **Contestant Timeliness:** Each contestant will have 30 seconds to get his horse in the arena and mounted after his name is called. Riders will not be disqualified as long as an honest effort is being made.
18. **Show Curfew: 9PM** or one hour after the last event which ever comes first, there will be no running the roads, cruising on horses or vehicles. Everyone is to be at their campsite or gone from the show grounds. This will be enforced by BRDS and Welcome Home Ranch
19. **Arena lights:** Lights will be turned on before the start of the show each day and must be turned off by 9pm.
20. **Working the Arena:** During events the arena drag will occur after every 5th rider each event starts new.
21. **Closing Classes:** A class will be closed when the first rider for that class is called.
22. **Horses may not be tied to fences** anywhere on the premises, including the arena fence.

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23. **Pets:** No pets will be allowed off leash.

24. **A BRDS Gymkhana judge or designated person/s decision is final.** This INCLUDES “standard operating procedures”.

25. **NO ALCOHOLIC** beverages allowed at any BRDS events.

26. **If a rider chooses to participate in Just the time-onlys,** then a signed release form must be completed and any arena fees must be paid in addition to the time only fee. In addition, Time only tickets can be redeemed at any Gymkhana during the same season and are the responsibility of the rider. BRDS is not responsible for lost tickets.

27. **Emergency Services and Bad Weather:** The BRDS will make arrangements for police and ambulance services. In the event of severe weather the show may be delayed for safety. If the show is delayed, contestants will have 30 minutes to return to the arena once the announcement is made that the severe weather has passed and all is clear.

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