

PREMIER

Mount N Trail

2026-2027 Standards, Guidelines, Rules, and Regulations

Welcome all Parks, Competitors, and Trail Riders!

We are so very excited that you have decided to join us on this journey of promoting, competing, and trail riding your way into Mountain Trail, one of the fastest growing sports in the equine industry! Here at Premier Mount N Trail, we are dedicated to and pride ourselves in offering the highest of standards in obstacle competitions. This, along with some of the best parks and courses, phenomenal awards programs, and a trail riding awards program available for everyone at all levels of experience, truly make this a fun and encouraging environment for all equine enthusiasts.

Mission Statement for Premier Mount N Trail:

Premier Mount N Trail exists to strengthen the partnership between equines and horsemen. We provide sanctioned mountain trail competitions, a trail riding program, and educational opportunities. We are a welcoming, family-centered community that builds confidence, promotes exceptional horsemanship, and inspires lifelong connections.

In order to preserve and maintain structure and consistency throughout Premier Mount N Trail (PMT) for our park owners, competitors, trail riders, and judges we have put together the standards, guidelines, rules, and regulations for all to peruse. This allows everyone involved, from park owners to competitors, to uphold the given standards and therefore provide consistency amongst the parks, judging and competitions. All of the parks and competitions, along with their judging, while being promoted under Premier Mount N Trail will be expected to uphold the following standards and rules as outlined throughout the handbook to allow the best opportunity for our competitors to be judged and scored fairly and consistently to earn awards and prizes.

It is the pleasure of PMT to bring together and offer these programs to encourage Mountain Trail competitions along with trail riding to riders of all levels and disciplines. These standards and guidelines have been put together to encourage safe and fun opportunities to grow your equine partnership and skills. It is the responsibility of competitors and members to be knowledgeable in and honor all of the rules and regulations in the handbook, as well as follow the specific rules at individual parks to allow for a great experience for all.

Premier Mount N Trail is both honored and privileged to be a part of the journey in the growth of your equine partnership, the enjoyment of equine related activities with your family, and the development of lifelong friendships. We look forward to seeing everyone’s success, accomplishments, and growth throughout the year!

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*****ANY CHANGES MADE TO THE RULEBOOK FOR THE YEAR WILL BE MARKED RED*****

Park Guide Lines

1. Each Park must offer a minimum of six mountain trail obstacles to hold a certified PMT competition.
2. All obstacles whether in a stationary park or a traveling park must be made in a natural looking manner as if you were on a trail ride. No "trail trash" permitted (ex. Pool noodles, inflatables, kiddy pools, etc.). See a list of potential obstacles on the Obstacle List.
3. The Course layout must allow for competitors to compete at different levels (i.e., Rookie, Green, and Levels 1, 2, 3 and 4) and must allow for all gaits walk, trot, and canter.
4. All obstacles must offer the opportunity to show at all six levels of difficulty, with different maneuvers in or on the obstacle to accommodate for the Rookie to Advanced level.
5. Each individual park can offer their own seasonal High Point awards, along with being a part of the yearly High Point Class awards and the Overall High Point awards for in-hand and riding offered by PMT.
6. The PMT logo is required to be advertised on any park flyers, show-bills, or promotion of any PMT sanctioned event. It is also suggested that the PMT logo also be placed on ribbons and awards given at any PMT sanctioned event.
7. All listed Divisions and Classes in the handbook must be offered and awarded by a PMT certified park. Parks may also offer a variety of extra divisions or classes as they see fit to compliment the dynamics of the competitors at their particular park. Examples of such classes would include but are not limited to: Gambler's Choice, Age 55-years-and-over classes, Junior equine classes, Lead-line, any Fun classes, etc. Any class that a park chooses to add beyond the PMT required Divisions and Classes listed in the handbook will be determined, run, and awarded by the individual park.
8. Parks must use certified PMT judges for PMT competitions, as these will be awarded by PMT for year-end High Point Class awards and All-Around Division awards. Parks must also supply pencils, clipboards, etc. to judges and scribes.
9. Each PMT park will be given and should use the PMT Computer Scoring Program. Parks should also use the PMT judging score sheets for each competition.
10. Each PMT park has the authority under their own insurance and liability to require helmets and implement COVID-19 standards and precautions that they deem necessary. (See each park for helmets and COVID-19 requirements.)
11. PMT parks will abide by tack, equipment and bit standards as outlined in the handbook during competition.
12. Park patterns are to be made by park show officials/owners or judges. Competitors are not to make patterns for any PMT sanctioned show.
13. Trail Patterns must be released to competitors at a minimum of at least one hour before the start of the competition and no earlier than 72 hours before the day of the show.

14. Each PMT park may have their own separate park rules (non-judged rules) included along with that of PMT. Competitors must read and familiarize themselves with each individual park's rules and requirements as they may differ from park to park.

15. A park owner reserves the right to disqualify and/or excuse from the course or facility any competitor who is being abusive or aggressive to any equine, or who is being disrespectful, argumentative or showing unsportsmanlike conduct to the judge or any other competitor.

Memberships

1. Memberships are renewed annually and are due by the year end PMT banquet.
2. A full Premier Mount N Trail membership includes the following:
    a) 2 equines with each membership
    b) Premier Mount N Trail Compete Program
    c) Premier Mount N Trail Ride Program
    d) The Horseman's Corral Magazine
3. Annual membership costs are as follows:
    a) Full membership Adult: $40 Youth: $30
    b) Each additional equine is $15
    c) Ride Program only Adult: $30 Youth: $25

Judging Standards and Expectations

1. Each certified and carded PMT judge will go through a training course to be certified. They must pass a written test. (For more information on becoming a judge, certification requirements, and maintenance of a judge's card please contact PMT board members.)

2. After becoming certified, a judge is required to either judge and/or scribe once annually at a PMT sanctioned show to maintain a current judge's card. If a judge fails to meet the minimum requirement, they will be required to take the certification course again at full cost to re-certify.

3. Judges must attend a mandatory judges meeting annually. It is at the discretion of the Head Judge or President whether this meeting is held in person or by electronic methods.

4. All judges must hold a current full $40.00 membership card with PMT.

5. Judges should arrive at the PMT park a minimum of one hour prior to the start of the competition to inspect obstacles for safety, verify patterns, or address any weather or footing issues that may arise on the day of the competition.

6. A judge has the right to pull and/or change the pattern, maneuver, or obstacle that they deem unsafe for any reason.

7. A judge may prohibit the use of any equipment or bits that he/she considers dangerous, severe, or inhumane.

8. Certified PMT judges should be dressed in professional attire that represents PMT in an honorable fashion. A cowboy hat or sun hat is acceptable (no ball-caps or visors). Long or short-sleeve button-up shirts or blouses are acceptable, as well as polo shirts with a PMT logo, depending on the weather. Long-sleeve jackets and overcoats are preferred but are not required in exceptional weather. Jeans and/or dress pants are acceptable (they must be free of any tears or fraying). Standard boots for horse shows are acceptable; they must be clean and/or polished.

9. Judges should be prepared for inclement weather. Judges may bring umbrellas, chairs, raincoats, etc.

10. A rerun may be offered to a competitor if a judge feels that this is necessary due to an interruption while on the course or if there is an equipment failure.

11. If a judge notices a tack or equipment discrepancy, the judge will address the competitor either before or after the pattern. At no time will a competitor be stopped during their pattern while on the course to address an issue unless it is deemed unsafe or dangerous. The competitor will be scored through their pattern completely and the tack issue may be addressed after being scored. If a judge has a concern with a bit, they may ask the rider to drop their bridle before the pattern begins or after the competitor completes their pattern.

12. A judge has the right to disqualify and or excuse from the course any competitor who is being abusive or aggressive to any equine. Competitors may also be disqualified or excused from the competition if they are being disrespectful, argumentative, or showing unsportsmanlike conduct to the judge or any other competitor.

13. Judges should minimize any conversations with competitors on the day of the competition. They should not eat with or take breaks with any competitors.

14. A certified PMT Judge should uphold the PMT standards, rules, regulations, scoring, equipment, and attire with professionalism, truth, and integrity to the best of their abilities.

15. In the event a competitor wishes to file a formal complaint or concern to the PMT Board of Directors, they must send a written letter within two days of the occurrence along with a $50.00 fee. At this time, the complaint will be filed, and the board will address the complaint and pursue any possible further actions that may be necessary.

Divisions for Competitors

**Minimum age to compete in any PMT division is six (6) as of January 1 of the current year. (Youth, Rookie, Green, Small Equine and Open) All Riders/ Handlers must be able to navigate the courses independently and safely with full control of the equine.

1. Required Divisions to be offered by PMT Parks:

    a. Rookie – This division is for any first- or second-year competitor who has either never participated in any Mountain Trail competition, or who has not received more than three blue ribbons in the first year of competition. Any size equine may be shown in this division and may be shown in-hand and/or under saddle. Any competitor that receives three blue ribbons in their first year must move out of Rookie the following year and is no longer eligible to compete in the Rookie division. If a competitor does not receive three blue ribbons in the first year, they may choose to compete at the Rookie level for another year. After competing in the Rookie division for two years, a competitor MUST move out of the Rookie division and is no longer eligible to compete in the Rookie division. Any partnership competing in the Rookie Division may not compete in the Open Division. An experienced competitor may not return to the Rookie level with a new partnership once leveled out. An experienced competitor is defined as a competitor having shown at any Mountain Trail show in two separate years; shows do not have to be shown in sequential years.

    b. Green – This division is for any new and/or growing partnerships that are also eligible to compete in the Rookie level, and Adult, Youth or Open level 1. Any size equine can show in this division. This division is shown in-hand and/or under saddle. Professionals are eligible to compete in the Green Division. Any partnership competing in Levels 2, 3, or 4 are not eligible for the Green Division.

    c. Youth – This division is for any youth 18-and-under (as of January 1st). Any size equine can show in this division. This division is shown in-hand and/or under saddle. All youth at every park will be REQUIRED to wear a helmet for both in-hand and while under saddle. Stallions are not permitted in the youth division.

    d. Adult – This division is for any amateur adult 19-years-of-age and older (as of January 1st). An amateur is defined as a person, who at the time of application and for the past 24-months has not received direct or indirect remuneration for showing, training, giving lessons, clinics. or assisting in the training of an equine for compensation. Remuneration is defined as receiving financial gain, reimbursement, fair return for an action or barter for work completed. Amateurs may accept class payback and cash high point awards without jeopardizing his/her amateur status. This division is shown in-hand and/or under saddle. Any size equine may be shown in this division.

    e. Open – This division is for all competitors except for those showing in the Rookie Division. This includes Youth, Adults, Amateurs, and Professionals. Any size equine may be shown in this division. This division is shown in-hand and/or under

saddle. A Trainer/Professional is defined as a person, who at the time of application and within the last 24 months has received direct or indirect compensation for showing, training, giving lessons, clinics or assisting in the training of an equine for remuneration. Remuneration is defined as receiving financial gain, reimbursement, fair return for an action or barter for work completed.

f. Small Equine – This division is for any competitor showing any equine that measures less than 14.2-hands-high (under 58-inches, 147-centimeters) at the withers. This division is for any partnership only showing in in-hand classes. A partnership cannot compete in this division and show in a riding class. Any partnership competing in this division is eligible to compete in any other in-hand division they qualify for. Certified Height Measurement cards will be given to any competitor competing in the Small Equine division. A competitor should carry this card to each show throughout the year in the case proof of height is in question. A competitor must attain this card before showing in the Small Equine division. After each show walk through, the judge will offer a short, designated time and meeting place (off the course) for measuring and signing of cards. A competitor may not compete in the division without having the measurement card completed. Judges and parks should keep an official tape or measuring stick on hand at each show. The Height Measurement Card will be good for one year from the signature date and will need to be renewed yearly. In the case of an equine height being questioned and the competitor is unable to verify with the pre-approved Height Measurement Card, said partnership will be disqualified from the Small Equine division for that show day and until the card is provided or a new card can be completed.

2. A competitor may compete in as many divisions as they and their equine partner qualify for.

3. Stallions are permitted to be shown by an adult handler only. Competitors, please refer to each individual park on what their specific stallion policy is, as this may differ from park to park.

Levels and Eligibility

1. **Levels:**

    a. Rookie –In this level, a competitor will be asked to complete a pattern consisting of six to eight obstacles, all of which will be non-moving. At this level, the competitor will only be asked to walk. A Rookie competitor may have a "reader.” If a Rookie competitor prefers a reader, the reader stands with a park official and may call out each obstacle to the rider as they maneuver their pattern. The reader may only state the next obstacle they may not coach or give specific directions to the handler/rider. For the Rookie level in-hand classes, the competitor has the option to use a training aid such as a handy stick, crop or dressage whip to guide the equine while completing the obstacle. The competitor may not touch the equine with the training aid or this will result in horsemanship point deductions for

the handler. Any competitor that receives three blue ribbons in their first year must move up to the next level the following year and is no longer eligible to compete in the Rookie level. If a competitor does not receive three blue ribbons in the first year, they may choose to compete at the Rookie level for a second year. After competing in the Rookie level for two years with the same equine/rider partnership, then a competitor MUST move up and is no longer eligible to compete in the Rookie level. An experienced competitor may not return to the Rookie level with a new partnership once leveled out.

b. Green – In this level, a competitor will be asked to complete a pattern consisting of 6 to 10 obstacles, which may include both moving and non-moving obstacles. At this level, the competitor will only be asked to walk. A competitor may be asked to back on the ground only. Competitors may NOT have a "reader" at this level. Once a partnership competing in the Green level earns 500 points, they will no longer be eligible for the Green level. An experienced competitor may compete with a new partnership in the Green level.

c. Level 1 – In this level, a competitor will be asked to complete a pattern consisting of 6 to 10 obstacles. These patterns will include moving and non-moving obstacles. At this level, the competitors will only be asked to walk. Competitors may be asked to back on the ground or on non-moving obstacles. Competitors may NOT have a "reader" at this level. Once a partnership competing in Level 1 earns 500 points, they will no longer be eligible for Level 1. An experienced competitor may compete with a new partnership in Level 1.

d. Level 2 – In this level, a competitor will be asked to complete a longer pattern consisting of 9 to 12 obstacles. These patterns will include moving and non-moving obstacles. At this level, the competitors will be asked to walk and trot. The competitor will be asked to perform two judged trots. The trot will be judged as its own "obstacle" and may be included anywhere throughout the course. The Level 2 competitor will be asked to back, side-pass, perform 180 degree turns and/or 360 degree turns in their pattern. Competitors may NOT have a "reader" at this level. Once a partnership competing in Level 2 earns 500 points in this level, they will no longer be eligible for Level 2. An experienced competitor may compete with a new partnership in Level 2.

e. Level 3 – In this level, a competitor will be asked to complete a longer pattern consisting of 12 to 16 obstacles. These patterns will include moving and non-moving obstacles. At this level, the competitors will be asked to walk, trot, and canter. In the case a competitor is showing a gaited equine and a pattern calls for the canter, the competitor may perform the breed specific gait without penalty when performed correctly. There is no minimum number of trots required and they may be judged as their own obstacle or included with an entry or exit to an obstacle. There is a maximum of one lope/canter required in the Level 3 pattern. The canter will be judged as its own "obstacle" and may be included anywhere throughout the course. A Level 3 competitor may be asked to back, side-pass,

perform 180 degree turns and/or 360 degree turns in their pattern. Competitors may NOT have a "reader" at this level.

f. Level 4 - In this level, a competitor will be asked to complete a longer pattern consisting of 12 to 16 obstacles. These patterns will include moving and non-moving obstacles. At this level, the competitors will be asked to walk, trot, and canter. There is no minimum number of trots or loping/cantering required and they may be judged as their own obstacle or included with an entry or exit to an obstacle. In the case a competitor is showing a gaited equine and a pattern calls for the canter, the competitor may perform the breed specific gait without penalty when performed correctly. Lead departures, simple, or flying lead changes may be in a Level 4 pattern. A competitor may be asked to perform any high-level maneuver such as drawing your equine to you in-hand, backing, side-passing, performing 180 degree turns and/ or 360 degree turns. Competitors may NOT have a "reader" at this level.

2. Each competitor may compete in two levels moving upwards. For example, a competitor may show in the Rookie level classes as well as the Green and/or Level 1 classes. Alternatively, they may show in Level 1 and Level 2 classes. Additionally, a competitor may show in Level 2 and Level 3 classes, or Level 3 and 4 classes. However, a competitor may not compete in a walking only class and a canter class (i.e., Rookie and Level 3 or Level 1 and 3).

3. If a competitor chooses to move up a Level during the season, they will forfeit any scores/points earned in the lower Level for the year. For example, if a competitor starts in Level Green and Level 1 and chooses to move to Level 1 and Level 2, all points and scores earned in the Level Green class will be dropped for the year and not awarded.

Expectations for Equine and Handler for the In-hand Classes

1. In-hand – The judge is looking for a forward-moving, relaxed, and bold equine that does not hesitate and maneuvers the course and obstacles in a confident and natural way at pace with the handler and on a relaxed lead. The equine should not break gait, or pull on the handler, nor should they be nervous, calling or distracted as this could result in a loss of horsemanship points for the equine.

2. Leather halters, rope halters (which must be properly tied), and nylon halters are all acceptable. It is recommended, but not required, to have a 12- to 14-foot lead-line for the in-hand classes to be able to safely maneuver some of the obstacles. Lead ropes with chains are not permitted. Saddles and tack may be worn in the in-hand class; this will not count for or against the handler. A competitor may not compete in a bridle for the in-hand classes; leading with a bridle is not permitted for safety reasons. A Rookie level competitor may use a training aid such as a handy stick, crop, or a dressage whip to assist and guide the equine through the pattern, but they may not touch the equine with it; if they do, then this will result in loss of horsemanship points for the handler. Levels 1, 2, 3, and 4 may not use a training aid during competition.

3. There will be no touching of the equine by the competitor while showing in hand; this includes with the hand, the lead, or any training aid if allowed by that level.

4. The lead-line shall not touch the ground as the competitor moves throughout the course; they must show proper lead-line management, or this may result in horsemanship point deductions for the handler.

5. In the case where a competitor would like to compete in-hand and has presented to the judge and/or show crew a documented medical condition, the judge may approve and address any safety situations and/or any training aides BEFORE the show starts. He/she may approve any equipment or aide he/she sees fit to be used as an extension of the body as necessary for appropriate cues while aligning within the PMT rules. The competitor may compete in any class that their partnership qualifies for with approved equipment and aides.

Expectations for Equine and Rider for the Riding Classes

1. The equine and rider will be judged as an overall team and partnership as they travel the course and maneuver each obstacle.

2. Equines will be awarded for a forward-moving natural gait along with a natural head set for the breed standard. Judges are looking for a relaxed rein. Contact is allowable, but an excessively tight rein may result in horsemanship point deductions for the rider.

3. The equine and rider should move boldly and confidently forward through the obstacles; there should be no break of gait while entering the obstacle, performing maneuvers on the obstacle, traveling through the obstacle or exiting the obstacle.

4. Equines should not bolt, spook, call excessively, buck, rear, balk or appear distracted.

5. A rider is permitted to ride in any bridle one- or two-handed on any age equine. However, if a rider starts one- or two-handed, then they should complete the pattern how they started, or they will receive a deduction in horsemanship points. A rider may loosen and take up rein as they maneuver the obstacles and course with no deduction.

6. While riding, a competitor may grab the horn or the cantle of the saddle when stepping up or down a steep obstacle or hill without risk of penalty.

7. An equine under the age of two-years-old may not be shown in any riding classes.

8. In the case where a competitor would like to compete in a riding class and has presented to the judge and/or show crew a documented medical condition, the judge may approve and address any safety situations and/or any training aides BEFORE the show starts. He/she may approve any equipment or aide he/she sees fit to be used as an extension of the body as necessary for appropriate cues while aligning within the PMT rules. The competitor may compete in any class that their partnership qualifies for with approved equipment and aides.

Tack and Equipment

1. English, Western, Endurance, Australian, or other breed-specific saddles are permitted. Bareback pads are not permissible. English, Western, or breed-specific bridles, bosals, hackamores, or bit-less bridles are acceptable. The style of bridle and bit should match the style of saddle being used. These must be safe and acceptable by the judge(s) and show committee.
2. Romal reins may be used with a shank bit ONLY.
3. Excessive bling or silver is discouraged.
4. Spurs, gloves, chaps, crops, and dressage whips are all acceptable and optional for riders.
5. Breast collars and back cinches are acceptable if fitted properly. If these are ill fitting or improperly adjusted, then deductions may be incurred.
6. Leg- boots, splint-boots, or polo-wraps are highly recommended on all four legs, but are not required.
7. A braided mane and tail are not required for English riders.
8. **Prohibited Equipment:**
    a. Wire curb straps
    b. draw-reins, martingales, or tie downs
    c. Fake-tails
    d. Double-twisted mouthpieces or any type of chain mouthpieces
    e. No wire or chain over the poll or nose of the equine
    f. Bits of any style featuring mouthpieces with cathedrals, donuts, prongs, sharp edges, or rough-sharp material are not permitted
9. The judge may prohibit the use of equipment or bits he/she considers severe or inhumane. A Rider at any time before or after their pattern may be asked to drop the bridle if in question.

Attire

1. The style of the rider's attire should match the tack used, i.e., only western attire should be worn when riding with western tack, and only English attire is to be worn when riding with English tack.
2. Western handlers/riders should be dressed clean and neat in jeans with no tears. A long- or short sleeve collared button-up shirt or polo is acceptable. Youth must wear a helmet.

Adults may ride in a cowboy hat, helmet, ball-cap, or visor (see individual park rules if helmets are required). Proper western riding boots or other safe and appropriate equestrian footwear with a heel are required.

3. English handlers/riders should be dressed clean and neat in breeches and a collared shirt with sleeves. Jackets are not required. Youth must wear a helmet. Adults may ride in helmet, visor, or ball-cap (see individual park rules if helmets are required). Proper English riding boots or other safe and appropriate equestrian footwear with a heel are required.

General Rules and Scoring

1. Each equine and rider team will start with a score of 70.
2. Each obstacle is worth 9 points. Every obstacle is broken down into three sections which will be judged separately.
    a. Approach – is worth 2 points
    b. Obstacle – is worth 5 points
    c. Departure – is worth 2 points
3. If an equine and rider complete the obstacle with average success, they will be awarded 0 for each judged section. Approach will be 0 points, Obstacle will be 0 points, and Departure will be 0 points.
4. If an equine and rider complete the obstacle in an outstanding manner, with ease, and it is considered exceptionally well done, then the equine and rider team can be awarded a +1 point for each section of the obstacle. Thereby giving the team an opportunity to score a +1 point on the Approach, a +1 point on the Obstacle, and +1 point on the Departure. This will result in a +3 total points for that obstacle.
5. An equine and rider partnership can also earn up to 10 horsemanship points. These points will be split, 5 points to the rider and 5 points to the equine. This will be added to your final overall score.
    a. Possible horsemanship point deductions for the rider include but are not limited to: dirty tack; a dirty equine; excessive use of spurs; excessive use of crop or whip; excessively heavy hands; hitting or abusive behavior to equine; improper attire; cellphone in pocket either in-hand or riding; excessive bling or silver; switching how the reins are held (1- or 2-handed) during the pattern (with the exception of when operating a gate as an obstacle or doing a log drag); being “Off-pattern"; tack or equipment on incorrectly or not adjusted to be properly fitting; mis-matched tack (ex. using an English bridle while riding in a western saddle, using a western bridle while riding in an English saddle, etc.); overly tight rein; or any touching of the equine while showing in-hand with either the hand, lead-line, or training aide; circling away from an obstacle to line up or moving "off

trail pattern” (not to be confused with "Off-pattern" defined as missing an actual obstacle).

b. Possible horsemanship point deductions for the equine include but are not limited to: excessive calling; rearing; bucking; balking; shying or backing in between obstacles; being overly distracted; bolting; spooking; refusing to go forward; or any other disobedient behavior during pattern.

6. The deductions for each obstacle are broken down into three sections as well; these would be the Approach, Obstacle, and Departure. Therefore, the competitor can potentially lose a total of 9 points for the obstacle. The maximum deduction for a completed obstacle would result in -2 points on the Approach, -5 points on the Obstacle, and -2 points on the Departure.

7. Approach Deductions include:

    a. -½ point per each tic or if crooked

    b. -1 point for being off center, break of gait (longer than three seconds), hop on an obstacle (based on equine size and obstacle height), rush, each refused attempt (up to three attempts), or foot over the edge of obstacle

    c. -1 ½ points for a stumble, trip, bigger jump/hop on or off of an obstacle (based on equine size and obstacle height)

    d. -2 points for an excessive jump, picking up incorrect lead, or two refused attempts of an obstacle

8. After three failed attempts the judge will ask the equine and rider to move on to the next obstacle. The refused obstacle will be marked with an "I” for Incomplete on the scoresheet and will result in -9 points for that obstacle. **A competitor who receives an Incomplete (I) CANNOT place higher than any other competitor who did not receive an Incomplete.** An Incomplete obstacle is defined as the equine approaching an obstacle but is unable to get any foot in or on the obstacle (revised 02/21/2021).

9. Obstacle Deductions include:

    a. -½ point per each tic or if crooked

    b. -1 point for break of gait, each stride off center, stepping on log or over edge of obstacle with one foot, one foot out of the obstacle, hop, slight stumble or trip, each stride of incorrect gait or lead, rolling a log, missing a step (ex. stepping over a box in the ladder), break of gait during mount or dismount

    c. -2 points for rushing, bigger stumble, crossing in front of the equine while in-hand to switch sides while moving

    d. -3 points if the equine appears disobedient to the rider (ex. popping up, kicking out, etc.)

e. -4 points for excessive behaviors such as an overreaction of jumping or leaping through an obstacle, running with a log-pull, bolting through the cowboy curtain, etc.

f. -5 points for two feet off or out of an obstacle, letting go of or dropping the rope or gate, knocking down a raised back through log, extreme disobedience or reaction by equine (ex. rearing or bucking), or does not accomplish gait in trot or canter

10. Departure Deductions include:

    a. -½ point per tic or if crooked

    b. -1 point if off center, break of gait (longer than three seconds), hop off obstacle (based on equine size and obstacle height), rush,

    c. -1 ½ points if stumble, trip, or bigger jump or hop off of an obstacle d) -2 points for excessive jump, or doesn't exit off the designated end of the obstacle

11. "Off-pattern" occurs when a handler/rider completely misses an obstacle and/or gait in the order of the pattern without the acknowledgement of that obstacle or gait. "Off pattern" may also occur when a handler/rider adds an additional obstacle to the pattern. "Off-pattern" will be marked on the scoresheet with an "OP" and result in a -12 score. If the rider passes the obstacle but realizes before starting the next obstacle, then they have the opportunity to go back and complete the almost forgotten obstacle and this will only result in a loss of horsemanship points. However, if the competitor has started the next obstacle, then they may not go back and be scored on the missed obstacle. If a rider adds an additional obstacle into the pattern this will also be considered "Off Pattern" and -12 will be scored in the place of the obstacle that should have been completed in the correct order of the pattern. If the rider goes back and completes that obstacle the score will still remain -12. The competitor will not be interrupted and will be allowed to finish and be scored through the rest of the pattern. **Any competitor who receives an "Off-pattern" (OP) CANNOT place higher than anyone in the class.** In the case of two competitors receiving an "Off-pattern" in the same class, the placings will then be determined by score.

12. Tiebreaker:

    a. Before the show begins, the senior judge will give three obstacle tiebreaker numbers to the score crew in the event of a tie (ex. Obstacles 3, 6, and 9). In the event of a tie, the score crew will go to the first obstacle number, given. Whichever competitor scores higher on that obstacle will be placed higher. In the case that obstacle is a tie, you will go to the second tiebreaker number and so on and so forth.

13. Possible Disqualification (DQ) of a competitor:

    a. Rider with an unscheduled dismount during a pattern or if they fall off at any time.

    b. Inappropriate comments made to judges, scribes, park officials, or other competitors.

c. Inappropriate and excessive corrections or abusive behavior made to equine by handler/rider.

d. Equipment Failure

e. At any point an in-hand competitor loses connection with the lead-line with both hands, the lead breaks, or the equine becomes free from handler.

14. Any PMT competitor who receives a disqualification in any class will receive a PMT point of 0 for that class. The 0 point will be given to ensure that any competitor who has competed in the five minimum qualifying shows will still receive credit for showing in the class in which they received the disqualification or "DQ". This 0 then allows the competitor to remain qualified for year-end awards and prizes.

Obstacle List

45 DEGREE BALANCE BEAM BALANCE BEAM

BARREL PUSH

CAKE BOX

CANTER POLES

COWBOY CURTAIN

CROSS BUCKS

DISMOUNT ROCK IN WATER DOWN HILL

FLAT BACK THROUGH

FLAT BRIDGE

HILLS

JACOB'S LADDER

LADDER

LARGE TURN BOX

LOGS

NARROW BRIDGE

PINWHEEL

RAISED BACK THROUGH

RAISED BALANCE BEAM

RAISED BRIDGE

ROCK GARDEN

ROLLING BRIDGE

ROPE GATE

SIDE PASS FLAT

SIDE PASS UP/DOWN HILL

SMALL TURN BOX

SOLID GATE

SPRING BRIDGE

SWITCHBACK

TEETER TOTTER

TEXAS 2 STEP

TRENCH

TRESTLE BRIDGE

TUNNEL

WATER BOX ABOVE GROUND

WATER BOX IN GROUND

WATER, RIDE THROUGH

WATERFALL

WEAVE LOG

Premier Mount N Trail RIDE Program

This is the saddle, in-hand, and volunteer hours program.

-Any member can participate. The RIDE program is suited for members of all ages, of all skill levels from beginner to advanced riders, and for any riding discipline. This program provides recognition for all of the time that members spend with their equine.

-Just log all of the hours that you work, train, show, ride or drive an equine. Groundwork and lunging can also be counted for hours. Other equine-related activities such as grooming, feeding, cleaning stalls, or other barn maintenance do not count for hours.

-The RIDE program includes horses, Mini's, or other non-rideable equines, donkeys, mules, etc. as long as they are being worked by the member. If a member's equine is being trained, worked, or ridden by someone else, then this cannot be counted towards the member's hours.

-Members are responsible for keeping records of hourly logs for verification purposes. Any member logging an overly excessive/questionable number of hours may be asked to provide more verification or explanation of hours to the PMT ride program committee and/or PMT Board.

-Accrued hours do not have to be with your equine or just one equine. Hours are counted per rider/handler membership; therefore, the hours log is based upon how many hours the member spends working with any equine. Whether you are a trainer and ride equines all day or you are a casual weekend rider, all hours spent riding/working/training equines will count.

-Hours may also be earned by volunteering at any PMT Facility or Association that is in the program that hosts a work party or event. These hours will need to be noted as volunteer hours, along with the location and when so that it can be verified.

-Parks, Facilities, and Trail Organizations enrolled in the PMT Program will be chosen at intervals to offer double points/hours for the time spent at their location or event. Volunteer hours will also count as double points/hours at the featured location or event.

-The RIDE Program is based on the honor system, please be respectful.

-The time frame to accrue hours will be from November 1st through October 31st of the following year. Hours for the RIDE Program year must be turned in by November 15th each year so that awards can be given out at the annual banquet.

-Awards will be given at the determined milestone for the hours achieved for every member.

-There is no limit to how many milestones that you can earn in a season. All milestones that you reach will be awarded for that year.

-Milestones will be awarded at: 25 hours, 50 hours, 75 hours, 150 hours, 300 hours, 500 hours, 750 hours, 1000 hours, 1500 hours, 2000 hours, 3000 hours, 6,000 hours, and 10,000 hours.

-RIDE Program hours will keep accumulating as long as membership is maintained and kept current. Any lapse in membership will result in the member starting back at zero hours. It is the sole responsibility of the Member to turn in their PMT RIDE Program Cumulative hours by November 15 of each year.

-RIDE PROGRAM LOG SHEETS SENT BY MAIL WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IF POSTMARKED ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 15th AND WILL NOT BE COUNTED. Current membership will keep your current cumulative total hours, but late logs will not be added in.

Premier Mount N Trail COMPETE Program

This is the Mountain Trail Competitor High Point Award Program.

Members must show in at least five PMT approved Mountain Trail Challenges and hold a current membership to be eligible for ANY PMT awards.

1. PMT will offer Year End High Point awards, six (6) places in each of the following 32 classes. This will be based on the top 5 point placings earned for each Competitor/Equine combination.

Year End High Point Classes:

- Green In-hand & Riding

- Rookie In-hand & Riding

- Small Equine Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 – In-hand

- Youth Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 – In-hand & Riding

- Adult Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 – In-hand & Riding

- Open Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 – In-hand & Riding

2. PMT will offer All Around High Point Awards. Awards will be separated into Adult and Youth for all categories except Small Equine. Small Equine will be awarded as one category, based on all entries, regardless of level or age. There will be All Around awards for Champion and Reserve Champion in each category. All of the point placings earned by the same competitor/equine combination for that category will be counted. For example, a member could show in Rookie and Level 1 and all of the points earned in all of these classes would count towards their All Around cumulative total of points. Another example would be that a member could show in Adult and/or Open Level 1 and Level 2 and all of the points from these classes would count towards their cumulative total of points

All Around High Point Categories:

- All Rookie, Green, and Level 1 Classes

All Level 1 and Level 2 Classes

- All Level 2 and Level 3 Classes

-All Level 3 and Level 4 Classes

-Small Equine Levels 1-4

Competitors can compete in different All Around High Point Categories on different equines. Competitors can also compete within the same category on a different equine. As long as it is a different competitor/equine combination, then a member can compete within the same category but points will be accumulated per each individual competitor/equine combination.

Points are awarded based on the number of participants and by the placing received in each class. For example, if there are 11 competitors in a class, then 1st place will get 11 points, 2nd place will get 10 points, and so on for everyone in the class. If there are 2 competitors in a class, then 1st place will get 2 points and 2nd place will get 1 point.

Equines' names must be turned in with membership. If added later in the season or if a member gets a new equine, then the member needs to contact PMT to add the equine. This will ensure that members' points will be tracked correctly.

Facilities are encouraged to do high point awards for their own facility as well. For competitors, this would be an extra incentive to attend as many shows as possible as this would be in addition to the PMT awards. For facilities, this could mean that more competitors are at each show trying to win more points, especially with PMT offering multiple All Around Categories.