

WESTERN SADDLE CLUB – GYMKHANA RULES

1. When a contestant registers to ride in a Western Saddle Club (WSC) Gymkhana, the contestant agrees to ride and abide by WSC/ASHA Gymkhana rules. *(A copy of the WSC Gymkhana rules will be posted at the Announcer's Stand at each WSC Gymkhana and copies will be provided upon request.)*
 2. All entries must be made on forms approved by WSC.
 3. Entries for the first pattern will close at the designated start time. Entries for each pattern thereafter will close when the last contestant completes the preceding pattern. (This will be strictly enforced). All contestants will ride with their age group.
 4. No contestant may enter in any pointed event more than once, unless a different horse is ridden. In such a case, the second horse will always be a non-pointed "Time Only" ride.
 5. Under no circumstances will anyone under the age of 18 be allowed to ride a stallion at any WSC event.
 6. Age groups shall conform to the age divisions set by WSC. The contestant's group for the current series year will be based on the contestant's age as of **JUNE 1, of the current series year**. Riders entering in the Novice age group must ride within the specified times for the patterns. Riders getting times faster than the pre-set time limits will receive **DOUBLE** the time ridden for that pattern for that pattern. Riders entering two horses must stay in the same age group. An individual cannot enter the age group **AND** the Novice group at the same time. The seven age groups are as follows:
 1. **Lead line/10 & Under**
 2. **11-15**
 3. **16-20**
 4. **21-39**
 5. **40 & Over**
 6. **Novice 18 & Under**
 7. **Novice 18 & Above**
- In the event the Novice groups get very large, a Novice I and a Novice II **MAY** be created to distinguish between the two types of riders.
7. The arena must be clear of the previous contestant before the next contestant enters the arena.
 8. When entering and exiting the arena, contestants must have their horses under control and proceed at a walk through the entry/exit gate(s). Once in the arena, contestants must wait for the gate to be closed and the announcer's cue before beginning the pattern.
 9. Horses may be led to the arena with the aid of another person, but that person **may not** enter the arena with the contestant. Excessive force or time will not be permitted. The contestant must enter within 30 seconds of being called or forfeit his/her turn.
 10. At any time while on WSC property, a contestant may be disqualified and or excused from the arena for abusing the horse, unsportsmanlike conduct, lack of control or unsafe situations.

11. A contestant may request that a jump be set on the ground, adding a five (5) second penalty to the time. In patterns with a jump, all four legs of the mount must cross the jump, or a No Time will be given for a broken pattern.
12. There is a five (5) second penalty for knocking over a pole, jump or barrel.
13. During any event using a prop, the prop MUST make it into the ending destination, or the run will result in a "NO TIME". The rider must start with the prop on whichever side it is on. The prop will not be moved to the preference of the rider, it will be "luck of the draw".
14. Any contestant not following the exact pattern will be disqualified for that event.
15. Please come prepared, particularly, if the contestant is riding more than one horse per event. The committee will try to space contestants with multiple horses as much as possible. Time will not be given for tack changes when a contestant is riding more than one horse.
16. All riders MUST wear long pants and boots or approved standard riding shoes with a heel of one half (1/2) inch or greater. All riders must use a saddle.
17. WSC highly recommends that ALL riders wear helmets for safety reasons.
18. In lead line classes, the horse must cross the line first before the handler. The handler must be in control of the horse at all times and must hold the lead line within twenty-four (24) inches of the snap at the halter.
19. If a contestant begins as a lead line at the start of a gymkhana, they must remain a lead line for the rest of the present day gymkhana. ABSOLUTELY NO letting the lead lines go on the "run home". Doing so will result in a NO TIME. This is for the safety of our contestants.
20. No re-rides will be allowed for contestant's equipment breaking or horse falling.
21. If a timer failure occurs, the contestant has the option of up to two (2) re-rides. If during the first re-ride an obstacle is knocked over, the contestant may take a second re-ride. If the second re-ride is taken, it voids the first re-ride and the contestant 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.
22. At the end of each disqualified run, the announcer will provide the WSC Judge's reason for the disqualification. No re-rides will be given to a disqualified run.
23. NO REFUNDS once the WSC Gymkhana has started. REFUNDS WILL NOT be given due to weather, dropped patterns, or disqualifications.
24. NO RACING in the warm-up arena will be allowed.
25. ALL riders MUST ride horses at a WALK when outside arena. Absolutely no horses allowed by the snack stand (this is a health code).
26. Ties for HIGH POINT: The tied contestants may decide to participate in a RUN OFF (using the pattern of the last event) or decide to use an AVERAGE OF THE CONTESTANTS TIMES OF THE DAY. If the contestants can't agree, then the last pattern run off will be used to determine HIGH POINT of the day.

27. NO BAREBACK RIDING or RIDING DOUBLE is allowed while the WSC Gymkhana is in progress.
28. Any act of discourtesy or disobedience to any Gymkhana official or volunteer in or out of the arena will not be tolerated and will result in disqualification.
29. The WSC Judge's as well as the Gymkhana Committee and Chair's decisions are final. WSC reserves the right to revise these rules without notice.
30. See Appendix A for YEAR END ELIGIBILITY RULES.

APPENDIX A

WESTERN SADDLE CLUB (WSC) YEAR-END AWARDS ELIGIBILITY

1. Participants must be either a Member of the Western Saddle Club or have paid for an Individual/Family WSC Gymkhana Associate relationship for the current series year to be eligible for year-end awards. Series run from January to December each year.
2. Western Saddle Club Members or WSC Gymkhana Associates earn points by competing in Western Saddle Club Gymkhanas. The awards will be presented at Western Saddle Club's Gymkhana Award Ceremony in December for the current series.
3. To qualify for year-end awards, each contestant must meet the requirements of a MINIMUM of TEN (10) hours of volunteer service at the current series year of Western Saddle Club Gymkhanas. Hours can be worked by contestant, or someone working for them. A maximum of two (2) volunteers can work for a contestant per gymkhana; also a maximum of two (2) volunteer hours will be given per person per gymkhana. Therefore the maximum hours per gymkhana a contestant can earn are four (4). Volunteers must sign up on the volunteer sign in sheet for hours to be counted, and the contestant the hours are going for must be written, and must be legible.
4. There will be TEN (10) WSC Gymkhanas in each series year. Contestants must ride in one more than half the gymkhanas in a current series, usually equaling SIX (6). To receive points contestants must ride in THREE (3) out of the FOUR (4) events available. The Fun Event does not count for points.
5. Contestants may only earn points on ONE horse PER event. If riding more than one horse in an event, contestant must DESIGNATE the point horse for that event BEFORE THEY RIDE. This decision is final for the event, and cannot be changed after the CONTESTANTS ride.
6. Gymkhana year-end awards will be given for FIRST (1st) through SIXTH (6th) qualified winners in each age group. However, there may be a modified prize for lead line or 6&under contestants. If more than SIX (6) riders qualify in a class, participation awards MAY be given to all who qualify. The Novice awards will also place FIRST through SIXTH, but may be modified from the age groups awards.
7. WSC Individual/Family Associate Gymkhana must be paid by the July of the current series year WSC Gymkhana to be eligible for year-end awards. POINTS START COUNTING ON THE DATE OF ENROLLMENT. (POINTS ACQUIRED BEFORE ENROLLMENT IS ESTABLISHED WILL NOT COUNT TOWARD YEAR END AWARDS).

Any issues or concerns regarding year end rules needs to be discussed with Jacqueline Price as soon as the issue/concern arises. The month of the awards ceremony is not the time to address it.

IF A CONCERN OR GRIEVANCE IS BROUGHT FORTH AFTER NOVEMBER 30th , of the current series year, NOTHING WILL BE DONE ABOUT IT.

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