

PARKER TRAIL RIDERS

GYMKHANA RULES

(REVISED 2010)



GENERAL RULES

It is each exhibitor's responsibility (adults for children 18 and under) to know the specific rules of the Parker Trail Riders Club. A copy of the rules will be available at each organized event and are posted on the Parker Trail Riders website www.parkertrailriders.org. A signed "Release of Liability" must be signed by each exhibitor (adults must sign for children 18 years and under), which will also be available at each organized event.

All PTR Open Gymkhanas are held at the Salisbury Equestrian Park in Parker and begin promptly at 4:00 pm. The show office will open at 3:00 pm. for open gymkhanas and at 5:00 for Fun Nights. You do not have to be a member to compete in our Open Gymkhanas but **YOU MUST BE A PAID MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FUN NIGHTS**; membership forms will be available at the arena.

Parker Trail Riders will strictly enforce Colorado code and any exhibitor who appears to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs will be excused from the activity. Our shows are for family enjoyment. Exhibitors, parents, trainers, etc are **not allowed** to school their horses or students during classes from inside the arena. Discretion needs to be used by coaches or trainers from the sidelines. The Show Office reserves the right to ask person(s) to leave the sidelines and/or show area. All exhibitors and their horses shall demonstrate good manners and act in a courteous and professional manner. Under no circumstances may an exhibitor, parent, or spectator badger, insult, or be argumentative with any member of the Show Committee, Board member, or show volunteer. Any flagrant display of poor sportsmanship or an affront to the above mentioned by or on behalf of any exhibitor and/or repeated offenders will be excluded from future events and forfeit their membership in the club including forfeiture of any points and/or awards. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN.**

The Show Committee, Club President and/or Vice-President will excuse any rider whom exhibits inhumane and/or physical abuse towards their horse. The Show committee may excuse horses that display signs of lameness or illness, from competing in additional events. In such a case, the rider will be given the option to ride another horse or given a refund for events not ridden for that gymkhana only, future gymkhanas would require a veterinarian's certificate dated within 10 days of future gymkhana.

There is a \$20.00 returned check fee.

It is the exhibitor's responsibility to be **ON TIME** for his/her class. Each name will be called three (3) times (in the hole, on deck, and next). Any rider not **AT THE GATE** when he/she is up will forfeit their run. **No refunds will be given for forfeited classes.** In order to drop, change, or add a class, we require that this be done **prior to the start** of the event in question. For example, if you want to add the Wild Card event you must contact the office prior to the first rider in the Wild Card event, regardless of age division.

No more than two (2) contestants are allowed to ride a horse in competition for the gymkhana. With prior approval by the Gymkhana Committee, exceptions may be made for PeeWee One Barrel and for youth members who are not competing for year-end awards, as long as the horse is not ridden more than two (2) times in any event.

No person(s) – other than the show workers – are allowed in the arena **when a run is in progress**. Parents/helpers are permitted to help exhibitor enter the arena but are not permitted beyond the start/finish line and must exit the arena when the run is in progress unless pre-approved by the show committee. The exception is PeeWee One Barrel; this is a lead line class. Horses must enter the arena at a walk and must be in control prior to exiting the arena; this is for the safety of everyone.

SHOW GROUNDS

1. Participants are responsible for cleaning up around their trailers at all shows.
2. Horses and ponies must be kept at a walk at all times in the parking lot as well as outside the arena area, unless in a designated warm-up area.
3. Do not sit or stand on the arena fence.
4. If your horse kicks, tie a red ribbon on his/her tail and park away from other horses.
5. No spectator, horses or riders shall stand within 30 feet of the gate, except the gate keeper. This area is for horses entering/exiting the arena. The gatekeeper will help maintain this safety zone.
6. No stallions may be exhibited, ridden, or handled on the grounds by anyone under 18 years of age. Those with stallions need to park away from other horses.
7. All owners assume the responsibility for their horse(s) actions and will be held liable for damage to the grounds and/or other property, public, and/or person. Unruly horses may be asked to leave the show grounds.
8. All dogs brought to a show must be kept on a six (6) foot leash and not tied to a trailer.
9. No alcoholic beverages are permitted on the Salisbury Equestrian and Sports Complex either by participants or spectators.

EQUIPMENT AND ATTIRE

Horses must be shown with complete tack which includes at least a saddle, pad, and headstall (no halters); no bareback exhibitors. Exhibitor may ride with either Western or English tack.

All exhibitors must wear long pants and boots with a heel (no tennis style boots). Shirts must cover the midriff and tank tops must have at least a two (2) finger width strap, no spaghetti strap tank tops. Helmets are **strongly recommended**.

CLASSES

Each gymkhana will have five (5) events which will be posted on all gymkhana showbills and will remain constant throughout the season with the exception of the Wild Card Class. The four (4) regular events are Flag Race, Cloverleaf Barrels, Pole Bending, and Keyhole. The patterns for the four (4) regular events are at the end of the Gymkhana rules and will be available from the show office. The PTR board reserves the right to modify distances due to arena size. If a pattern is questioned or contested, it **MUST be done BEFORE the first exhibitor rides**. The party contesting a pattern needs to notify the show office IMMEDIATELY (or have the gate person contact the office) and the class will cease until

the issue is resolved. Once the class has started, the pattern will stand as is and all exhibitors will run the pattern as is. The Wild Card event will be randomly drawn by an exhibitor, announced, and posted before the start of the gymkhana. All Wild Card events are single rider and **WILL** count toward high point.

The following constitutes a disqualification of exhibitor (see Gymkhana Event rules for specifics for each event):

- a. Leaving the course or breaking the pattern.
- b. Returning across the start/finish line before completing the pattern.
- c. Hitting the horse with ANY equipment at any point on the horse (the **ONLY** exception is normal spur usage); no whips, crops, over unders, etc.
- d. Displaying unsportsmanlike conduct – this includes profanity, disorderly conduct or an unmanageable/unsafe horse.
- e. Charging the gate without any noticeable and obvious attempt to turn or stop; noticeable and obvious means that attempt must be visible to the announcer in the crowd's nest, gate person, and other board members in attendance.

Once the exhibitor enters the arena, he/she will have one (1) minute to cross the starting line. At the one (1) minute mark the exhibitor and horse will be excused from the arena. There is a three (3) minute time limit (maximum) for all speed events. Re-rides will not be allowed in Gymkhana classes, regardless of age, unless deemed necessary by the Show Committee. For example if a rider falls off of their horse he/she will receive a “no time” for that event and the rider will be given the option to take their horse through the event but not for a time. If the horse falls, the rider will be given the option of a re-ride for a qualifying time. If the fallen horse is injured, the rider has the option to ride a different horse for the remainder of that day's gymkhana and still earn points under the original horse but would need a veterinarian's certificate dated within 10 days of future gymkhanas to ride a different horse for future gymkhanas.

AGE REQUIREMENTS

Age will be determined as of January 1st of the current year. Exhibitors must ride in their age division unless approved in advance by the Gymkhana Committee to “ride up” one age division, and they must ride in this age division for the entire year.

All classes (unless stated otherwise) will be divided into five (5) age brackets: 10 and Under, 11 – 14; 15 – 18; 19 – 39; and 40 and over. PeeWee One Barrel entries will not be eligible for high point, cannot compete in other classes, and are free of charge for members. There are no lead line classes except for the PeeWee age division.

AWARDS

Daily ribbons are awarded for each age division for each event through 6th place. All five (5) events **DO** count toward Daily High Point and Year-End Awards. In order to qualify for Daily High Point and Daily Reserve High Point, exhibitors must ride in at least four (4) of the five (5) events. Points are awarded on a scale of six (6) to one (1): 1st Place – 6 points, 2nd Place – 5 points, and so on. Trophies/ribbons are awarded for daily high point and daily

reserve high point in each age division. Fun Shows and Fun Nights do not count toward year-end awards. Points are awarded to a one (1) horse/one (1) rider combination. If an exhibitor rides more than one (1) horse, points will be awarded separately for the second combination. Exceptions to this rule include but are not limited to an illness, injury or death of exhibitor's original horse. For injury or illness a veterinarian certificate must be dated and received by the club and/or Gymkhana Chair within 10 days of each gymkhana; in case of death to an exhibitor's horse, the Gymkhana Chair and/or the Parker Trail Riders' Board must be notified within 10 days of horse's death. For horses that are injured during a gymkhana, a veterinarian's certificate is not required for the current gymkhana but would require one for future gymkhanas. It is important that the Gymkhana chair and/or Parker Trail Riders board members be notified as soon as possible to avoid any conflict. **We do not** want to encourage participants to ride ill or injured horses just to continue earning points! Please consult with the board **prior** to competing if you have any questions, concerns or extenuating circumstances.

To have points qualify for year-end awards, each exhibitor must be a **PAID member in good standing BEFORE the start of the gymkhana** and must compete in four (4) out of the five (5) gymkhanas. In addition, a total of eight (8) hours of approved volunteer time must be logged with the club, for each discipline, by October 1st. In other words, if an exhibitor rides in Gymkhana, English and Western Pleasure that exhibitor needs eight (8) hours for Gymkhana, eight (8) hours for English, and eight (8) hours for Western for a total of 24 volunteer hours. Half of the volunteer hours, four (4) for each discipline must be worked before August 1st. For example, if an exhibitor is working toward Gymkhana, English, and Western year-end high point awards, he/she must have twelve (12) volunteer hours logged with the club before August 1st. We recommend that each exhibitor work his/her own volunteer hours, however, it is acceptable to designate another person to work your volunteer hours for you. All volunteer hours must be recorded by a Committee member and the designee's volunteer hours must state which person(s) will receive his/her volunteer hours **prior** to the start of volunteer work. Also, **each exhibitor must attend** least one (1) PTR meeting by August 1st and a second meeting by October 1st. For each meeting attended above the required two (2), exhibitors will earn two (2) points for each additional meeting to apply to their year-end total. Points are **not transferable** and parents cannot attend meetings for their child(ren). It is each exhibitor's responsibility to sign the attendance sheet at each meeting. There is a separate youth sign-in sheet that is available at the end of each meeting.

In the event that an exhibitor accumulated enough points to receive a year-end award but did not work enough hours (by above stated deadlines), and/or did not attend at least two (2) meetings (by above stated deadlines) the next qualified exhibitor will move up providing that he/she did meet the volunteer and meeting requirements and is a paid member in good standing.

Points are accumulated from October 1st through September 30th and year-end Champion and Reserve Champion awards will be presented to the top two (2) qualifiers in each age division. For the 2010 season, Parker Trail Riders will be presenting year end awards to the top five (5) qualifying exhibitors in each age group. This is a trial for the 2010 season. Parker Trail Riders may continue with Top 5 awards in future years in the event that funds are available and participation warrants. Again, to qualify for any year-end awards exhibitors must complete all year-end requirements including competing in four (4) out of the five (5) gymkhanas, attending a minimum of two (2) meetings, and completing a minimum of eight (8) volunteer hours – all within the above stated timelines. However, Parker Trail Riders is

not guaranteeing awards through 5th place in each age division beyond the 2010 season; it is dependent on participation and funding in each age group.

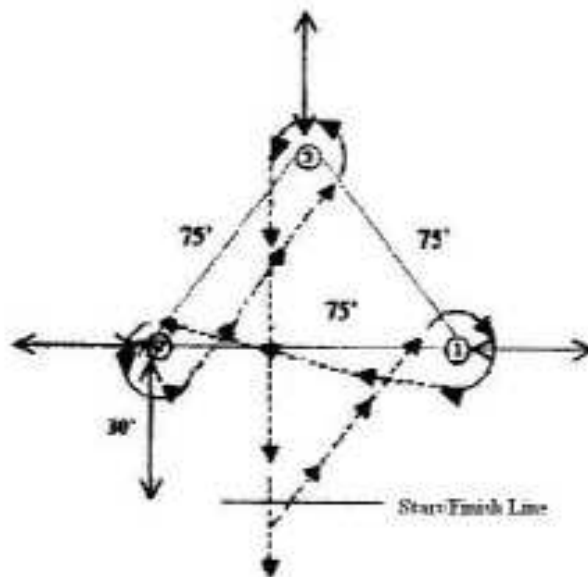
GYMKHANA EVENTS

CLOVERLEAF BARRELS

There is a running start of 30 feet from the start line to the first barrel. The distance between the three (3) barrels is 75 feet, if arena permits. Exhibitor may start on either the right or left barrel, but when starting on the right barrel there will be one right turn and then two left turns and vice versa when starting on the left barrel. After completing the turn around the third barrel, exhibitor must pass between the first and second barrel as he/she rides to the finish line.

Rider will be disqualified for:

- Breaking the pattern
- Crossing the start/finish line before finishing the pattern
- Five (5) second penalty will be added to time for every barrel knocked over
- More than three turns

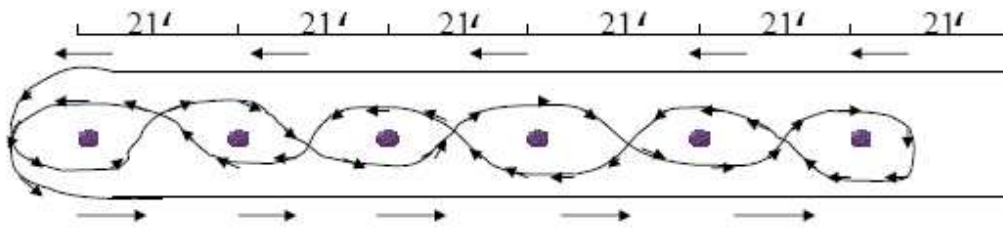


POLE BENDING

The distance from the starting line to the first pole and between poles will be twenty-one (21) feet. The exhibitor crosses the start/finish line and starts the pattern on either the left or the right side of the poles, rides down alongside the poles and upon reaching the sixth or far end pole turns around that pole. The exhibitor weaves/bends back through all the poles toward the first pole (nearest the start line). Upon reaching the first pole, the exhibitor turns around this pole and weaves/bends back, upon reaching the sixth or far end pole, the exhibitor turns around this pole and rides back alongside the poles to cross the start/finish line. A five (5) second penalty shall be added for each pole that is knocked over

Exhibitor will be disqualified for:

- Crossing back over the starting line before the run is complete.
- Breaking the pattern.
- If a pole is knocked down and the exhibitor does not follow the weave/bend pattern around the original base position of the fallen pole, it is considered a broken pattern.

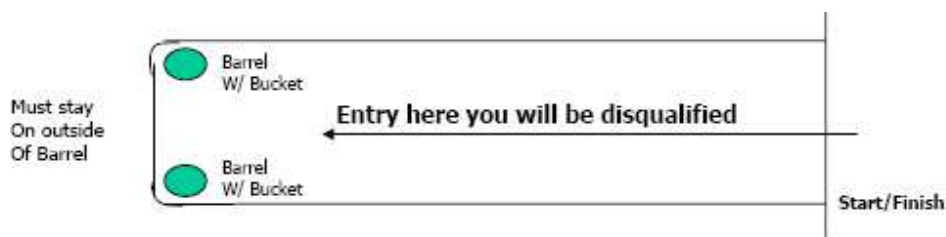


FLAG RACE

Two barrels will be placed 75 feet apart, if arena permits, and 30 feet from the start/finish line. Two buckets of equal size filled at least ½ full with beans or oats will be placed on top of each barrel. The exhibitor starts with a flag in one hand and deposits it into the first bucket, proceeds to second bucket removing the flag and riding to the finish line. Pattern may be run starting to the right or left and exhibitor **can** circle the barrel.

Exhibitor will be disqualified for:

- A flag does not remain in the bucket.
- Crossing back over the starting line before the run is complete.
- The exhibitor misses the flag.
- The exhibitor drops the flag;
- Knocking over the bucket and/or barrel.
- Hitting the horse with the flag.



KEYHOLE

Two poles will be placed 95 feet, if arena permits, from the start/finish line. Exhibitor will enter the keyhole pattern between four (4) poles, placed 6' apart in width and 10' apart in length and ride through the poles with the entire horse crossing the turning line. The horse's hindquarters must pass the turning point of the two end poles. The exhibitor then reverses and races back through all four poles to cross the finish line.

Exhibitor will be disqualified for:

- Knocking over any pole.
- Crossing back over the starting line before the run is complete.
- Breaking the pattern.

