



GIDDYUP Open Horse Club **Show Guidelines and Rules**

With these rules we have attempted to 'level the playing field'. We ask that you carefully and ethically consider your and your horse's level of ability; and, enter only those classes appropriate.

HORSE SHOW ETIQUETTE: always be courteous, cautious and prepared. Be polite to judges, ring stewards, gate people, office personnel, other exhibitors and bystanders at all times. Inappropriate behavior, the use of foul language, and the mistreatment of any horse will not be tolerated. **This is a family event and we are trying to teach our youth good sportsmanship and to have fun.**

SAFETY RULES: Don't crowd other riders or horses; leave a good horse length between you and the next horse. Pass on the inside. Always use extra caution around strange horses. If you and/or your horse are considered a safety risk or hazard, you will be asked to leave the show.

YEAR-END AWARDS: Must be a paid member of the GUOHC in order to earn points for annual awards and attend at least 2 open shows. Tabulation of points begins after membership dues are paid. The person with the most points at the end of the season will be awarded the year-end award. For classes (novice horse f.i.) where eligibility may be affected, there will be an opt-out option for classes with only one or two participants.

MEMBERSHIP: A family membership is a member, and a partner, dependent children, or grandchildren. Single membership is for one adult member. Youth membership is any youth 17 and under as of Jan 1st of the current year. Dues are set on an annual basis.

LIABILITY WAIVER: Must be completed prior to competing.

WALK/TROT - These riders have never ridden in canter/lope classes in any show. **IF YOU COMPETE IN THE WALK/TROT YOU MAY NOT COMPETE IN ANY CANTER/LOPE CLASS OR THE PLACING WILL BE FORFEITED.** These riders may use two hands with any legal bit. Horses used in Walk/Trot classes may be ridden by a different rider in a Canter /Lope class. **Walk/trot riders/horses may show in canter classes at the last show in any club, without forfeiting year-end awards. Exceptions may be made for age, health or other circumstances with an appeal to the board.**

NOVICE RIDER: A horse/rider that has not won more than 4 (four) 1st places in canter classes, in that class. Two hands may be used with any legal bit.

IN HAND TRAIL WALK TROT: Any pony can be shown in this class. A horse of any age that has not cantered in a class may be shown.

MINI/PONY HALTER: 46 inches 14 hands

LEADLINE: For riders age 6 and under. **They must be led by someone 18 or over who has signed a Liability Waiver.** Horse must be wearing a halter with a lead rope under the bridle. The child should hold the reins correctly. This is a walk only class. There will be no fee for these classes and no one is placed. No year-end award.

STALLIONS: No one under the age of 18 is allowed to ride, or show a stallion.

RANCH HORSE RIDING The horses should not perform the gaits as they do in **traditional western pleasure classes.** They should be presented in a more forward-moving style.

“Hoof polish and tail extensions are not allowed, and silver on saddles and bridles is discouraged. We are looking for a horse you would ride on the ranch doing chores”. **This class may be judged on tack and attire.*

CROSS OVERS: Any horse can be ridden by more than one rider in a pattern class. A rider may ride more than one horse in a class. Classes that are judged on the horse (halter, novice horse, green horse) may have different handlers. Classes judged on the person, different horses may be used. **However, we limit the number of classes that one horse can compete in is 12 in one day, for the good of the horse.**

DRESS/GEAR: This is a casual show; however, riders will be expected to dress in appropriate Western or English riding attire that is comfortable and safe. No sweats, tank tops, t-shirts, tennis shoes, flip-flops, etc. are permitted. Horse tack needs to be well maintained and appropriate for the discipline; and at the discretion of the rider, it can either be everyday tack, or show quality. Dress for safety, boots with a heel and helmets are strongly suggested.

LAMENESS: The Board of the Giddyup Open Horse Club has taken a stand on the issue of lameness. Obvious lameness shall be cause for disqualification. If lameness is observable at the trot, marked nodding, hitching or shortened stride, minimal weight bearing, this horse will be excused from the class or not placed.

SHOW FEE AND MEMBERSHIP REFUNDS: For a participant of a show who has been dismissed and/or disqualified for any reason, their show fees and any membership fees will not be refunded. If a show is canceled due to weather, prior to the show beginning, all show fees will be refunded either by cash on the show day, or by check within 5 working days. No annual membership fees will be refunded due to a canceled show. If a show has started but is canceled prior to completion due to an unforeseen event such as weather, etc., all results completed will remain, and the remaining show schedule may be rescheduled. Class show fees will be refunded for a partially canceled show; however, the arena fees are non-refundable, as well as membership fees.