



2023 Rules

SECTION 1 – RIDE MANAGEMENT

1.1 — Senior Judge

Qualifications:

1. *TTCC member in good standing*
2. *Active Judge in good standing*
3. *Up to date on all TTCC rules*
4. *On current Senior Judge roster (once confirmed)*

Candidates for Senior Judge must be invited by Judges Director and must design an obstacle series per the Judges Directors requirements. A Senior Judge candidate must also act/perform the Senior Judges duties for their first ride with the oversight of a veteran Senior Judge.

Duties:

1. *May judge any TTCC obstacle*
2. *Consults with ride management in design of obstacles and trail logistics*
3. *Insures obstacle instructions and descriptions are clearly written/drawn*
4. *MAY be both Ride Manager and Senior Judge, but only with a ride co-manager*
5. *Has final say on all obstacles for their ride*
6. *Adjudicates rider complaints or disputes that may arise for their ride*

1.2 — Judge

Qualifications:

1. *TTCC member in good standing*
2. *A consistent competitor, placing 1st—3rd in Maverick or Horseman*
3. *Invited by the Judges Director to complete a Judges Application*
4. *Thoroughly familiar with TTCC rules and culture*
5. *Able to present and describe horsemanship principles and mechanics*

To remain on active Judge's Roster, and to stay current with judging procedures and protocol, all judges MUST attend one of the following every year.

n Judge's Roundtable

n Judge's Clinic

n Individual Judges meeting with Judges Director (scheduled at a TTCC event)

SECTION 2 – MEMBERSHIP

2.1 – Full Memberships

Renew annually on December 1st of each year and can be paid either online or at any ride. Member may ride different equines without affecting year-end awards eligibility.

- a) Single membership \$30.00 – one rider
- b) Family membership \$40.00 – two or more riders (same household)

2.2 – Junior Scholarship (\$250)

Available to junior members who with two or more years of TTCC competition.

- a) Eligibility – junior members who have compete with TTCC for two or more years; one-time award per junior member
- b) Educational Uses – colleges and vocational/trade schools
- c) Application – 300-word essay about rider’s educational plans and how horses and TTCC prepared them for future; due by Spring of senior year
- d) Approval – BOD reviews, votes approval; awarded at end of senior year

2.3 – Year End Awards

Full TTCC members are eligible for Year End Awards (see 5.6)

2.4 – Rider Mileage Rewards

Full members are eligible for Rider Mileage Rewards as follows:

100 miles, 250 miles, +250 mile increments (500, 750, 1000, etc.)

Awarded at Year End Awards Ceremony in January of the following year.

Ongoing accumulation; does not reset annually.

2.5 – Ride Fees

Member

- Adult— One Day \$67.00 Two Days \$107.00
- **Scout — One Day \$67.00 Two Days \$107.00**
- Junior— One Day \$47.00 Two Days \$72.00
- Buddy— **One Day \$47.00 Two Days \$72.00 (No longer available on website; through ride manager wait list only.)**

Includes \$7.00 to TTCC per weekend (\$60.00 ride + \$7.00 TTCC = \$67.00)

Ride fee must be received 30 days prior to ride. If payment not received 30 days prior, reservation will be cancelled and given to next waiting list member.

Non-Member —\$10.00 daily membership fee in addition to ride fee. **If paying on ride day, cash or check only.**

2.6 – Check-in Requirements

At Check-in, in addition to any other club– and ride-specific requirements, all riders must initial Trail Etiquette and Safety Rule Sheet.

2.7 – Ride-Fee Cancellation Policy; If you cancel:

- 14+ days prior to ride – full refund
- 7-13 days prior to ride – 50%
- Less than 7 days – no refund

If management cancels ride– full refund.

SECTION 3 – GENERAL RULES

3.1 – Rider

- a) **All Riders—Adult, Junior, Scout, Buddy, and Safety Riders—must sign liability form at check-in.** Members who've signed the annual form can skip TTCC form, but each venue may have their own form you must sign.
- b) Riding double, ponying an animal with or without a Rider, or a loose foal on the side is not allowed.
- c) Helmets are required for riders under the age 18.
- d) **Feet to remain in stirrups at an obstacle unless otherwise directed**
- e) **Both feet to be clear of stirrups when landing from dismount**

3.2 – Equine

- a) Equines will be observed for soundness before leaving on trail. This exercise can be considered an obstacle and, if so, is graded on scorecard, generally for horsemanship. Each Rider will trot their equine per Judge's instructions—either in-hand or mounted—to determine soundness.
 - i) Grade 1 = rider could receive point deduction as deemed by Judge. The equine is re-evaluated during ride to ensure lameness has not worsened.
 - ii) Grade 2 or 3 = equine will be dismissed from the ride. Second opinion by Senior Judge, Ride Manager, or secondary Judge is mandatory.
- b) TTCC recommends equines be 36 months before competing.

3.3 – Tack

- a) Rider must use a saddle with stirrups and have head gear with attached reins.
- b) Type of saddle and other tack is at the Rider's discretion —within bounds of good horsemanship. No inhumane method of restraint may be used.
- c) **All horses must have Rider number displayed.**

3.4—Trail

- a) Obstacles must be ridden in numerical order, unless Senior Judge directs otherwise
- b) Each TTCC ride day includes 10 obstacles, each marked with a TTCC cone; in the case of Hidden Obstacles, the cone is placed after judge. **Hidden obstacles will be announced at Ride Meeting.**
- c) No obstacles will be recreated in camp or on trail for competitors that got off trail and missed one or more
- d) Trail can be between 7-12 miles
- e) Trail can be marked with flagging tape, painted rocks, pie plates, PVC pipe or arrows
- f) Rocky ride locations indicated on ride page; will recommend boots or shoes
- g) When a judge has seen no riders for 10 mins, they are to call Senior Judge and report. Senior Judge (or Ride manager if Senior judge cannot be reached) may start a 30-minute clock. At the end of 30 minutes; if no riders— judge picks up cone and moves to next obstacle.

3.5— Camping

- a) Equines can be housed in pens, tied to trailer, high lined with sliding tether, or kept in an electric fence. Electric fences will be a respectful size. This ensures sufficient room for all competitors to house their equine in camp. All options at the discretion of Ride Manager and/or Ranch owner. Some venue may offer a limited number of pens.
- b) **Fences or pens may not be attached to an existing structure.**

3.6— Dogs—Good Neighbor Policy

- a) No aggressive dogs, no wandering dogs, no excessive barking will be allowed at the rides. This includes after you have ridden out. If your dog barks the entire time you are on trail, you will be asked to not bring it back.
- b) Dogs must be leashed or kenneled at all times. Certain Ranches do not allow dogs; while others do. Ensure you know the rules for the weekend.
- c) **No dogs at meals.**

3.7— Ride Management

- a) Ride managers may borrow \$200- \$400, depending on fund availability. Must sign a promissory note and repay monies at the end of their ride.
- b) Each TTCC will have four or more Judges.
- c) Each TTCC ride will have one Senior Judge.
- d) Each TTCC ride may have up to 65 riders subject to ride manager's discretion. If 65 riders, additional judge required.
- e) Each TTCC ride must have two ride managers.
- f) Ride venues may only be used one time per ride year, unless BoD approves (typically due to inclement weather or other mitigating factor).

SECTION 4 – DIVISIONS & CLASSES

4.1 – Divisions

Three levels of difficulty: Tenderfoot, Maverick & Horseman. You choose level; however, if a rider receive 5 consecutive firsts (Tenderfoot or Maverick) **at the beginning of their competition year**, scorecards will be reviewed by Judges Director and two Senior Judges. When starting a new/green equine, professional trainers ride in Horseman and nonprofessionals in Maverick or Horseman division may drop down one division one time, a second equine requires Board approval. **Riders who have dropped down a division are subject to the 5-consecutive-firsts rule as above.**

a) Tenderfoot*: Basic obstacles, Rider working on horsemanship skills.

- i. Confident with equine on trail.
- ii. Rider has limited competitive trail ride experience.
- iii. Equine can have previous competitive trail ride experience.
- iv. Can complete primary skills listed on the Obstacle Skills.
- vii. Tenderfoot Riders that receive 1st place awards in 5 rides during one calendar year mandatorily move to Maverick the next calendar year.b)

b) Maverick*: Rider has horsemanship skills and is comfortable on the trail.

- i. Experienced trail riding team that has has competed in trail events.
- ii. Is ready for most obstacles; can accomplish skills on Obstacle Skills sheet.
- iii. Able to complete multiple tasked obstacles.
- iv. May be asked to complete variations of the trail.
- v. Maverick Riders that receive 1st place awards in 5 rides during one calendar year mandatorily move to Horseman the next calendar year. The same Rider starting a new equine can stay in the Maverick division or move down from Maverick to Tenderfoot.

c) Horseman: Accomplished equine and rider team, trainers, and instructors.

- i. Can complete all skills listed on the Obstacle Skill sheet.
- ii. Can complete multiple tasks as directed by a Judge over demanding terrain and/or challenging environment.

d) Scout Riders: Non competing riders on trail.

- i. May pick any level obstacle; but must decide in advance. May not ask to have all read aloud by volunteer.**
- ii. Any member can choose to ride Scout at any time.**
- iii. Scout is a one-time score. Riders given a one-time 900 number.**
- iv. Scout rides do qualify towards Iron Rider.**
- v. May not quit the ride without notifying judge, if at an obstacle, or the secretary upon returning to camp.**

e) Buddy Riders: Non-competing rider accompanying a competitor on trail.

- i. May not register on website. Must contact RM or Secretary (check ride page) and be put on wait list. You'll be notified 30 days prior to ride.**
- ii. Must identify themselves to judge or volunteer and follow all instructions given by judge and/or volunteer.
- iii. Are not to ride away, leave the marked trail, or perform an obstacle.
- iv. May not quit the ride without notifying a judge, if at an obstacle, or the secretary upon returning to camp.
- v. Must not interfere or cause delays (example: horse refusing to cross water causing others to wait; must allow competitors to ride through.)

* Tenderfoot & Maverick High-Point Winners automatically move up a division.

4.2 – Age Classifications

a) Tenderfoot Riders will be divided into three classifications:

- i. 8 – 17 = Junior
- ii. 18 – 61 = Adult
- iii. 62 plus = Senior

b) Maverick and Horseman Riders will be divided into two classifications:

- i. 18 – 61 = Adult
- j. 62 plus = Senior

c) Juniors may compete in Maverick or Horseman divisions paying junior price and competing in the adult classification.

SECTION 5 – SCORING

5.1 — Judged Obstacles

Each obstacle is designed to evaluate both Rider and Equine. Rider and Equine earn their score based on negotiating an obstacle under the Judge's direction.

5.2 — Ride Completion

If rider pulls during competition, no points earned and no ride placing

5.3 — Points

Each obstacle is worth 20 points. The equine and rider are judged separately with 10 points for the rider, 10 points for the equine. Both equine and rider can receive a (+) plus from the judge.

5.4 — Scores

Scores are tabulated by the gross raw score. There are a possible 20 points per obstacle, totaling 200 points per ride. Team raw score determines ride awards; Junior, Tenderfoot, Maverick, and Horseman. Raw score also determines yearend placing (5.6)

5.5 — Placing

Each Team's scores are compared within their respective division and class to determine their placing .

Ties are broken as follows:

Step 1: Compare the number of pluses (+) on the cards

Step 2: Compare what Sr. Judge deems to be the most-difficult obstacle

Step 3: Compare timed obstacle score and length of time to complete obstacle

5.6 — Year-End Awards

Riders must complete 35% of all rides (rounded down for odd number of total rides; example: 8 of 23 rides) to be eligible for:

· 1st -6th place

 p Tenderfoot (Junior, Adult, and Senior)

 p Maverick (Adult or Senior)

 p Horseman (Adult or Senior)

 A junior may ride Maverick or Horseman division, Adult class, at Junior fee.

· 1st-6th Place Wrangler—This is a class within classes; designed for a confident rider and green equine. Must sign up at first ride attended. Teams ride in their standard division (Tenderfoot, Maverick, or Horseman); at year end, Wrangler Riders are SEPARATED for 1st thru 6th Wrangler class awards—Senior and Adult classes combined—but are eligible for Champion/High Point in their standard division. Wrangler scores have a multiplier to even out obstacle challenge: Tenderfoot—raw score, Maverick—score x 1.15, and Horseman—score x 1.25

· Sandra Ladd Award—Tenderfoot member that shows the most improvement from the start of the year to the finish, based on scorecards.

· Jennifer Severson Award—Maverick member that shows the most improvement from start of the year to finish, based on scorecards.

· Equine Awards — based on equine's score for the year. For each category (Green..., Working..., Seasoned...), one overall Champion (highest score across all divisions—Horseman, Maverick, and Tenderfoot) and one Honorable Mention per division (next highest score in each division).

 p Green Partners — Equines with less than 18 months of saddle time (no age limit). Green partners can start and finish a second year if still under 18 months saddle time. Not eligible for Wrangler class second year.

 p Working Partners — Equines aged 5-12 years as of Jan 1 of current year.

 p Seasoned Partners — Equines aged 13 & up as of Jan 1 of current year.

To be eligible for the following awards, riders must complete 50% of all rides (rounded down for odd number of total rides; example: 11 of 23 rides); for these awards, classes are combined and Wranglers return to their standard divisions:

· Grand Champion — Horseman only

· Reserve Grand Champion — Horseman only

· High Point — Tenderfoot and Maverick

· Reserve High Point — Tenderfoot and Maverick

· Iron Rider Award—Riders who rode and/or attended 100% of rides

 a) One day of two-day weekend counts

- b) Must compete in 40% of rides
- c) If you start a ride and pull, it counts
- d) Scout rides count.

Additional Year-End Awards Details:

- Multiple Equines: Apply to all Rider awards
- Multiple Riders on One Equine: Apply to all awards except: Wrangler/Green
- Best Scores: For every ride completed over the required number, the lowest score(s) are dropped and replaced with a higher score the rider earned.

5.7 — Worker Average Score

Ride Management, Ride Secretary, Asst Secretary and Judges and Interning Judges may receive points for rides worked at a 4:1 ratio or 6:2.

- a) Must compete/work in a minimum of four weekend rides for that season.
- b) Must complete the required 35% of year's rides to be eligible for Year-End Awards, including work weekends.
- c) Average score is calculated by adding the total raw score from all rides ridden and dividing it by the number of rides ridden. The result serves as the 'average' the worker would have scored had they ridden the day they worked. (If they have ridden 35% of rides, no average is used.) This average recalculates with every ride in which they compete.

5.8 — Award Presentation

Year-end awards will be presented at the Awards Banquet in January of the following year.

5.9—Buckle Series—

- a. **BOD decision announced in Dec Newsletter or at Christmas Fundraiser- one series per year**
- b. **Any Rider that wins 3 years in a row (same division) may not participate for 3 years, then enter again**
- c. **Worker average award may be used to replace 1 ride in Series**

Section 6 – BOARD

6.1 — Position Terms

Board members serve **3 years** with alternating elections, Directors one year/President and Treasurer the next.

6.2 — Membership

Board members receive free membership during their term.

6.3 — Meeting Frequency

Board members are to meet at least once a month in person or via conference call during ride season.

6.4 — Other Benefits

Board members receive no benefits other than free membership.