

Western WI Trail Competition Rules

1. Divisions of Trail Competition

A. Jackpot: Obstacles will be more difficult. Awards will be cash payback.

B. Just For Fun: Less difficult obstacles. Awards will be prizes.

C. Junior division: 7-15 years of age. Juniors MUST wear a helmet and MUST be accompanied by an adult rider. One adult may supervise up to 3 junior riders and each junior MUST provide written authorization from their parent and or guardian consenting to same. Awards will be ribbons/prizes. A junior rider may opt to ride in the pleasure or open division if they pay appropriate fees for that division and wear a helmet.

D. Buddy Rider: A buddy rider is a rider who rides the trail following the rules just like a competitor, but does not participate in the obstacles. Buddy riders are not judged. A buddy rider may be a friend of a competitor, a person who wants to check out the competition before they decide to compete or someone who wants to take the opportunity to give their green horse exposure. Or perhaps someone who wishes to avail themselves of the scenic trails accessed through Trail Challenge.

2. Moving Between Divisions of Western WI Trail Competition.

A. Any riders who have placed first or second in the Just for Fun division in a prior Trail Challenge MUST move into the Jackpot division on that specific horse the following year.

B. Riders are permitted to move between divisions as they see fit. For example, if a rider usually rides the Jackpot division with their most seasoned horse and that horse goes lame, the rider may ride the Just for Fun division with a less seasoned horse on a subsequent trail challenge.

C. Once a rider has placed in the Jackpot division, they MUST NOT ride in the Just for Fun division ON THAT SAME HORSE.

D. If a junior rider starts out riding in the junior division and their birthday takes them to their 16th year, they can continue to ride in the junior division for the remainder of the season.

3. Equipment Regulations on a Western WI Trail Competition

A. Horses MUST wear some form of head gear, such as a bridle or hackamore.

B. Tie downs, martingales and/or other training devices are not allowed during the trail competition.

C. Horses MUST wear some type of SADDLE.

D. Bareback pads May NOT be used.

E. Protective sport boots are permitted for your horse during a Trail Competition. The use of a protective boot for an unshod horse is permitted.

F. All riders under the age of 18 must wear ASTM certified helmet.

4. Stallions on a Trail Competition

- A. Stallions are permitted in WWTC events but MUST NOT be shown by anyone less than 18 years of age.
- B. Stallions must be double tied at all times.
- C. Stallions must have a yellow ribbon displayed in their tails to warn others that they need to keep their distance.

5. On the Trail.

- A. A trail challenge appointed judge has the right to disqualify a competitor from that judged obstacle, or the remainder of the trail challenge, for whatever reason they see fit, whether it is for safety reasons, unsportsmanlike conduct, dangerous conditions or unsoundness problems exhibited by their horse. 1. A judge may instruct a particular rider to dismount at any time without incurring a penalty. For example, a judge may instruct a rider to dismount a horse having difficulty in a bog situation.
- B. A competitor has a time set limit to complete each single judged obstacle. After the elapsed time, the rider will be asked by the judge, to move on to the next obstacle, continuing down the trail, and if the obstacle was not completed, the horse & rider will receive a '0' for that obstacle. A competitor may ask to be notified when half their time has been complete. (Notification is at the judge discretion).
- C. A competitor MUST only complete obstacles at their division level. For example, a rider, MUST NOT, complete open division obstacles during a ride for extra points if they are riding as a pleasure division rider. Stay in your division, and complete the obstacles of your division for the entire CTC.
- D. A rider MUST NOT 'pony' a horse from another horse during a ride at any time.
- E. A rider may voluntarily dismount from their horse at any time, but MUST remain mounted when moving forward. If a rider voluntarily dismounts within an obstacle boundary that horse and rider team will receive a '0' score for that obstacle.
- F. A rider may stop their horse to water at any stream or pond during a ride, but they MUST NOT be watered at a judged obstacle, due to time constraints on the ride (this will cause a ride to back up). A rider can allow their horse to drink before or after a water obstacle but a rider MUST NOT allow their horse to drink during a judged obstacle.
- G. A 'fall' of a rider is a disqualification. A 'fall' of a rider is described as any involuntary dismount.
- H. A 'fall' of a horse is a disqualification. A 'fall' of a horse can be described, as when a horse drops to the ground at a point above his knees, such as their shoulders. Any fall which involves the horse falling to their knees or below is regarded as a stumble.
- I. A rider must not interfere with another contestant's performance of an obstacle. To do so will incur a disqualification. (An example of this would be, allowing a horse to water in such a way as to impede the movement of another contestant within the obstacle).
- J. A rider MUST NOT 'double up' on a single horse at any time during the ride. Two riders MUST NOT ride the same horse, at any time.