

Tennessee Saddle Club Association (TSCA) – State Rules And Regulations

SHOW RULES

Revised 2016

The State Show Committee, consisting of all TSCA Officers, Executive Staff and Board of Directors shall have official direction over the management of the show and have the authority to enforce all rules governing the show.

1. **Class Age Groups are as follows:** 6 and under, 12 and under, 13 thru 17, Adults, and 50 and over.
 - A contestant's age on or before April 1st of each year will determine the age group for competition.
 - Adult classes - It is the rider's personal choice regarding their choice of age group: 50 and over or Adults.
 - A contestant must stay in the chosen age group for the entire year.
 - No contestant can ride for points in more than one age group, at the same saddle club, during an official show season year. The only exception for moving out of an age group is when a horse is over 52 inches and the rider is in the 12 and under classes. This requires that the rider be placed in the 13 thru 17 age group. Once a rider moves to another age group for points, he/she must stay there for the entire year.

2. **Age Verification**
 - Each Saddle Club is responsible for verifying that each rider is riding in the correct age category. Fall clubs must adhere to the age category guidelines that the contestant will compete in at the State Meet. (Revised 2013)
 - If a rider is protested, verification of the rider's age must be provided (such as driver's license, birth certificate, etc).
 - Failure to provide proof of age will result in a \$250.00 fine and a 100-point penalty to the saddle club.

3. **Event Records**
 - TSCA record times will count only on standard patterns.
 - If a record is broken, the pattern will be measured and verified immediately after the run.

4. **Points and Awards to be awarded at the State Show shall be:**
 - English Division – High Point Club
 - Western Division – High Point Club
 - Timed Division – High Point Club
 - Over All High Point Club - To be named after the major sponsor.
 - Class Trophies and points will be as follows: 10 places with 1st place – 10 points, 2nd place – 9 points, etc. down to 10th place – 1 point.
 - The first year of any new class will only place 5 places, except for all 12 and under classes, which will place 10 places.

5. **Saddle Safety:** No rider shall be fastened to their horse on the show grounds except with a Magic Seat™ and/or equivalent.

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6. **Horse Ownership:** Any saddle club member may ride any saddle club horse, but the contestant and the horse owner must be members of the same club. The horse may be ridden only once in any event unless ridden by members of an immediate family in the same household. Immediate family being spouse and children still in school.
7. **Contestant Competition:** No contestant can compete against them self and must ride under their own name. A contestant shall compete for only one club at the annual State Show.
8. **Required Minimum Attire:** For safety reasons, all contestants must wear boots or shoes with western type heels, pants must be below the calves and shirts must have sleeves **equivalent to a standard sleeved T-Shirt**.
9. **Behavior and Animal Welfare:** The Rules and Regulations Committee has the power to disqualify any contestant or club member acting on behalf of the contestant for the following:
 - Not following the rules of the event.
 - Knocking over any property. (Property being anything used in the event that is moveable, a rider may hold up property.)
 - Intentionally hitting a horse with a property.
 - Poor sportsmanship, intoxication, or unruly conduct.
 - Use of a hot stick or other electrical devices.
 - At the discretion of the TSCA, any suspicion of animal abuse may warrant action by the TSCA. Any suspected unhealthy horse will be checked by a Veterinarian with action to be taken accordingly.
 - During any event, an unruly or out-of-control horse will be disqualified.
 - A horse may be escorted by another horse or person for safety reasons.
 - If a contestant or club member is suspended or disqualified, the suspension or disqualification period can range from single day/single event to permanent suspension from current or future state shows.
 - In the event of a random inspection, all fines given to a horse whether by an official of USDA or other state or federal agency will be the responsibility of the horse owner including any fines assessed to the TSCA.
 - All animals must have shade provided to them. (revised 2015)
10. **Timer and Records:** A contestant shall get one accurate time on the clock and that will be the recorded time, qualified or disqualified. (Secretaries from working clubs are responsible for recording disqualified times.)

In speed events, the timer is to be set up No Further than 75 feet from the gate (Revised 2012)
Note: There will be a 5 second penalty assessed if a rider loses a hat/cap in the arena during their ride in all speed events. (revised 2016)
11. **Sale of Goods and Services:** The sale of anything at the TSCA State Show is restricted solely to approval by the TSCA president.

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12. **Contestant Ties:** In the case of a contestant tie, the contestants will be given the option to have a run off or a coin toss. If one contestant wants a run off and the other contestant wants a coin toss, then there will be a run off with a one second penalty for each knocked over property.
13. **Chute Requirement:** The arena/ring will have a chute.
14. **Contestant Timeliness:** Each contestant will have 30 seconds to get his horse in the arena and mounted after his name is called. Riders will not be disqualified as long as an honest effort is being made.
15. **Club Duties:** Each club will be assigned event duties by a drawing at the meeting held at least 30 days prior to the show date. Duty schedules and times will be determined by the Executive Board. (Revised 2013)
 - Workers to report 30 minutes before their scheduled designated time.
 - The duties consist of working classes, entrance gate, checking/selling tickets and receiving money.
 - Two Rules and Regulations committee members are to work each class. Workers must be designated from a TSCA club.
 - Clubs who do not report to work their classes, entrance gate, or other duties at their designated time at the state show will be fined (\$250.00) two hundred & fifty dollars. The fine must be paid before the end of the state show in order to pay the club that worked in their absence. At the discretion of the TSCA the club will be brought before the executive officers for consideration of suspension.
16. **Judge Expectation:** English and Western Pleasure judges will handle classes entirely, including checking for “soreing” or any other issues that appear out of order. Shoes will be checked by the Rules and Regulations Committee and/or appointee.
 - Judges will place eleven (11) places in English and eleven (11) places in Western classes.
 - Western judge will be a current card-holding judge. Judges to be found by April 1st and have a contract of understanding that they are responsible to find an equivalent judge if they must cancel.
17. **Emergency Services and Bad Weather:** The TSCA will make arrangements for police and ambulance services for the State Show. In the event of severe weather the show may be delayed for safety. The Vice President or other Executive Officer will make all decisions regarding severe weather. If the show is delayed, contestants will have 30 minutes to return to the arena once the announcement is made that the severe weather has passed and all is clear.
18. **Protests:** Any member wanting to protest a written rule must make his protest to his or her saddle club President or Vice President. A required deposit fee of \$10.00 must be paid. The fee will be refunded if the Committee finds the protest to be valid. The saddle club President or Vice President will then file the official protest on behalf of the individual club member.

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- If the Committee finds the protest to be invalid, the person filing the protest forfeits the \$10.00 and it goes to the Association general fund.
- The representative of the club (President or Vice President) making the protest shall have a vote in the final decision.
- The protest must be made before the completion of the class being protested.
- During the protest, class places and trophies will be held, pending the Rules and Regulations Committee decision.
- If the protest is made after the conclusion of the class, the protest will not be considered.
- When a protest meeting is called, each saddle club President or Vice President has five (5) minutes to reach the site of the meeting. At the end of the five (5) minutes, roll call will be taken and the meeting will start. No other club Representative will be allowed at the meeting.
- Trophies and awards will be held on the class under protest, but other classes will continue as scheduled.

19. **Pony Measurement:** It will be the clubs responsibility to have all ponies measured (Clubs President or Rules Committee Representative) prior to the State Show.

- Any pony that is protested (a fee of ten dollars, \$10.00, Pony Height only) and found to be too tall will be eliminated from competition and the responsible club will be penalized 100 points and a fine of \$250.00 (two hundred and fifty dollars).
- When a pony is protested it is to be measured in a area designated by the Rules and Regulation Committee (President, Vice President of TSCA – chairman of the Rules and Regulations Committee)
- The owner will hold the pony. When the pony is standing and relaxed squarely to their satisfaction, he will be measured by the Rules and Regulations Committee. The pony's legs cannot be touched or adjusted.
- The chairperson of the Rules and Regulations Committee is to have the final say. All ponies will be measured in a measuring chute and the chute will be available to the clubs on a first come first serve basis.
- At their discretion, the Rules and Regulations Committee (President, Vice President of the TSCA – chairperson of the Rules and Regulations Committee) can measure a pony any time at the State Show, without a protest fee. This may result in disqualification.
- The owner of the pony may voluntarily have their pony measured by the President and Vice President of the TSCA. If the pony is voluntarily measured, the pony's measurements will be valid for the entire weekend.
- The pony must be run in the same manner that it was measured. If measured without shoes, the pony must run without shoes.
- An official measurement form will be completed and kept on file for each pony that is voluntarily measured.

20. **Contestant Withdrawal or Substitution:** Each club shall designate two (2) representatives per day to make substitutions when a rider has scratched, no other changes can be made at the State Show. (Revised 2012) The names of these representatives are to be turned in with the entry forms. Changes

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made by anyone other than the designated representatives to anyone other than the State Show Manager or the Show Secretary will not be accepted.

21. **Class Size for Judged Events:** In Pleasure Classes there shall be no more than 30 horses in each working, however, each working will be kept as equal as possible.
22. **Show Curfew:** One hour after the last event each night, there will be no running the roads, cruising on horses or vehicles. Everyone is to be at their campsite or gone from the show grounds. This will be enforced by TSCA and security.
23. **Keyhole Judges:** The class will have five (5) judges from the Rules and Regulations Committee. Each judge will be assigned to one area of the pattern and will be responsible for judging that part only.
24. **Arena lights:** Lights will be turned on before the start of the show each day.
25. **Motorized Vehicles & ATV's:** For safety purposes, there will be no loud motorized recreational vehicles of any kind allowed on the state show grounds. This includes, but is not limited to motorcycles, 3-wheelers and 4-wheelers. Golf carts, Scooters (Honda Spree or similar), Gators or similar Farm Utility Vehicles are allowed, but must be driven by a licensed driver.(Revised 2012) Bicycles, skates, or other things that would frighten a horse must be kept away from the arena area.
26. **Working the Arena:** During speed events except Keyhole the first arena drag will occur at the number equal to half the number of participating clubs and then on the same number thereafter. Each western and speed event starts new.
27. **Closing Classes:** A class will be closed when the first rider for that class is called.
28. **Pets:** No pets will be allowed in the seating and concession areas.
29. **Rules Enforcement:** Anyone refusing to follow the rules of the TSCA will be asked to leave the grounds by security.

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