OSY Obstacles Series Rules

Arena Obstacle Challenge – An arena style obstacle challenge. The course is in an enclosed area and is judged on the performance of the horse and rider at each obstacle. Obstacles can be natural or manmade; anything that is safe for a horse and rider. 3 failed attempts at an obstacle and you will be asked to move on. There will be a time limit on each course which will be determined by the judge. In case of a tie the fastest time will be the tiebreaker.

Divisions

If you have questions as to which division you should enter, please discuss it with the registration assistants, or you can contact a judge who would be happy to assist in determining which division you should enter. A horse may only be used once in each challenge; however, a rider may ride up to 3 horses per division. (exception is a youth may use a horse in in-hand and youth divisions)

IN-HAND-This division is for any age rider or any horse regardless if they have won a challenge. A horse used in this division may NOT be rode in another division exception will be if a youth is showing the horse, they may compete in in-hand and the youth division. In this division a horse is shown without a saddle or bridle. You may choose to use a halter or go halter-less. You may use a training device such as a crop, short whip or training stick. But at no time can this device touch your horse. If it does you will be immediately disqualified from the competition. Your lead rope should be at least 4 feet in length. If your horse should get away from you, you will have 1 minute to catch the horse on your own and continue the course.

Youth – This division is for riders age 3 to 14. Youth riders may be led through the course; however, scores will reflect this and be less than a rider riding on their own. A young person may have 1 parent in the arena if necessary. The score will reflect this and will be less than a rider riding on their own. Youth may stay in this division until they win a series buckle or age out. Two different youth riders may use the same horse in the youth division. A youth rider may use a horse that has previously won in another division, however that horse may not be used by an adult rider.

Open - This division is for any age rider. Open Division is for horses that have not previously won any obstacle challenge. (Exception youth will move to the open after winning a series buckle.) This division is for horses or riders that may be working towards the advanced division and do not have the knowledge or confidence to compete at an advanced level.

Advanced- This division is for any age rider. Advanced division is for any horse that has previously won a belt buckle in any obstacle challenge (except youth) Anyone may enter the Advanced division if you feel your horse has a high skill set.

ENTRY FEES & REQUIREMENTS Entry Fees are: OSY members is $10.00. for 1st horse and $20.00 for each additional horse. There will be a 3-horse maximum. Nonmembers is $20.00 per horse 3 horse maximum

JUDGING AND POINT SYSTEM

Horses will be judged at each obstacle for their willingness and skill at correctly completing the obstacle, and the riders will be judged on their skill and horsemanship at handling and maneuvering their horse through the obstacle. The judging score is 0 through 10. (10 reflects the highest score for an obstacle completion). A score of 0 is only given when an obstacle is skipped, done out of order, or the horse/rider team becomes dangerous (i.e. rearing, bucking, etc.). Riders score will reflect the softness and effectiveness of the rider's cues while guiding their horse through the course on a scale of 0 - 10. (10 reflects the highest score given for Horsemanship) score given on score sheet is a combination of horse and rider.

- Improper use of cues, spurring, poor equitation, or any show of poor sportsmanship or horsemanship will receive a lesser score. Each entry's total ride time will be recorded by the timekeeper and will be used as a tiebreaker for multiple entries with the same score.
- Scores will reflect excessive force, or excessive use of spurs, excessive cuing etc.
- A judge has the right to dismiss any rider at any time.
- Each division in the obstacle challenge series will have the same number of obstacles in the Spring, Summer and Fall challenges.
- There will be three obstacle challenges in the buckle series. Spring. Summer and Fall, Weather permitting. If an obstacle challenge is canceled. We will attempt to reschedule, however, if necessary, the challenge may be canceled.
- At each challenge awards will be given out for 1st -3rd place. (buckles will only be awarded for high point at the end of the series) Points from each event will be recorded and applied to the next challenge. Total points will determine high point winners. Each division winner will be awarded a high point buckle which will be awarded the last challenge in the series. Points will be awarded per horse not rider.
- The horse will receive the points the same horse must be used for each challenge to be eligible to win the high point.
- If a rider suffers the death of the horse they have been competing on during a season: The rider may substitute a horse for the duration of the season with the points from their original mount moved to the new mount. This will only be done 1 time, to 1 horse to finish the current season. The rider should not suffer the loss of their points for the current season.
- No other situation will apply to transfer of points.

RIDER & MOUNT

Tack: It is up to the rider the type of saddle, bridle and bit, halter, hackamore, gear and equipment to be used. *rider's must show their horse riding with one hand on the reins, unless the horse is shown in a snaffle bit, D ring, O ring or hackamore (bosal) or specified during walk through.* Devices such as combination bits, draw reins, side pulls, martingales (standing, running, etc.) Tie downs are not allowed. Any other form of head restraint other than a bridle or halter is not permitted. Riders will be given a chance to adjust or remove any tack that is not

allowed prior to their ride. If an adjustment is not made it will result in a disqualification with no refund. Riders may choose to ride bridle less or bareback. Safety is always a priority and an unbalanced or out of control rider will receive lower scores or may be excused.

General Rules: Horsemanship and building partnerships between horse and rider is of highest priority in our events. No cantering/loping in the common areas (trailer parking area, etc.) Riders may compete with up to 3 horses. You may enter more than 1 horse in each division.

Horsescan use the same horse.

Horses may only be used by one rider. The exception is 2 youths can use the same horse. Prior to starting the competition there will be a walk through to view the course, discuss the obstacles and answer any questions. No horses allowed during walkthrough Competitors are not allowed to ride their horse onto the course prior to their run on the day of competition – *Any rider doing so will be disqualified for that event with no refund.* Riders must be ready to ride when they are called to start their course. There will be three calls for the rider before a rider forfeits their ride. If a rider falls off their horse they have **1 minute** to catch their horse and remount unassisted or will be disqualified. The only people allowed on the course during the competition will be Judges, scribes, timers, Course re-setters, social media specialist, *NO one else will be allowed on the course (exception parents with youth permission from judge)*

A judge can ask a person to leave the premises if any treatment of any equine is deemed inhumane resulting in forfeiture of entry fees. Inappropriate language or a show of poor sportsmanship will be grounds for disqualification resulting in forfeiture of entry fees.

Alcoholic beverages and dogs are prohibited on OSY grounds

Judges' scoresheets are available to EVERY contestant the day of each Event. If *ANY* rider has *ANY* issues or concerns on scoring, they *MUST* discuss the issue with the judge responsible for the score in question ***THE DAY OF*** the event It will be the rider's responsibility to be familiar with the current rules.

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