



Horse Management Staff Guidelines for Rallies

The goals for Horse Management Staff at rallies are to ensure the safety of the competitors, aid in the care of their mounts, assist in team dynamics, and nurture an educational and productive environment. In an effort to create consistency across the country, the Horse Management Committee has identified some specific guidelines that will be followed by all staff members. The judging of Horse Management is an evaluation of how well the competitor cares for his mount and manages his work in the stable, when away or at home.

As HM Staff, it is not our role to decide if the competitor is using the best practice; but, whether the practices being used are acceptable. Most importantly, judging Horse Management is to make sure that the competitor is aware when their practices are unacceptable and at the same time how to do it right and why doing it right matters. Every competitor should feel that they can ask anything of any member of the Horse Management Staff, at any time, and thereby avoid being penalized for what they did not know was expected of them. In horse care and stable management asking for assistance from a member of the Horse Management staff is never considered as unauthorized assistance.

- Listen, Explain, Evaluate: When conversing with competitors, always encourage and make an opportunity for them to share their insight into a situation. There are many routes to Rome - we all learn something new each day!
- Create opportunities to make corrections: Each competitor should have a chance to fix an area of weakness, prior to having points suggested to CHMJ.
- Share Evaluations: Each competitor or team should see their formal or required equipment sheet prior to having it passed into CHMJ. At a formal station, sharing the evaluation sheet with competitor will increase their understanding of standard.
- Horsemen are practical: The competitors are at the rally to compete in their discipline of choice, participate on a team, learn and have fun. They are only to be held to the same standard as you, as horseman, hold yourself.
- Ratings Make a Difference: C-3 competitors and above are the products of the USPC program, and have worked hard to demonstrate their skills. They have much to share, both as horsemen and as mentors for other Pony Clubbers. They should be treated with the respect given any knowledgeable horseperson and given the opportunity to demonstrate their self reliance.
- Different judges for different aspects of rally: Focus on those activities that take place in the barnyard, leave the riding critique for others.

I have read and understand the foregoing guidelines. I shall comply with these objectives and standards in dealing with each competitor before I report anything to the CHMJ. I understand that my primary goal is the safety of the competitors and their mounts and that this is usually achieved through my education and training of the competitors.

Date: _____

Horse Management Staff