



## **Horses With H.E.A.R.T., Inc.**

### **Gymkhana Rules**

Boots or shoes with a clearly defined heel and long pants must be worn while in the arena.

A western saddle or a speed saddle must be used while in the arena.

Alcoholic beverages or use of any illegal substance of any kind are strictly prohibited by riders on the grounds. One warning will be given; any repeat offense will result in automatic dismissal of the rider and/or guest(s). No points will be given to the rider for that day.

The use of profanity or abusive language by any contestant will result in disqualification from that event and could result in disqualification from the entire gymkhana.

The contestant shall have one minute to be at the gate of the arena after his/her name is called. Failure to do so will result in disqualification from that event.

It is the responsibility of the rider to understand the pattern of each event ridden.

There will be no running of a horse outside the arena, with the exception of inside the warm up arena, and then only for the purpose of warming up the horse (no racing or reckless running). There will be no running into the arena. This is for the safety of all riders and animals.

There will be no refunds after entries are paid.

Any act of discourtesy or disobedience toward any Gymkhana Official, in and out of the arena, will result in disqualification for the duration of the Gymkhana.

Any discrepancies in times or patterns must be brought to the attention of the arena judges immediately (prior to the next rider entering the arena).

After crossing the timer, a rider has a maximum of two minutes to complete the pattern and exit the arena.

The rider must ride the same horse in all point events to qualify for high point of the day, with the exception of injury to the animal and approval by HwH Officer. Once an injured horse has withdrawn, said horse may not return to competition for that day.

To qualify for high point awards, riders in age-group competition must ride in all four point events.

The rider may ride more than one horse in the same division, but points will only count for one of the horses. Selection of the "point" must be decided at the time of entry.

The age of the rider as of September 1st of the first half of the season will determine the age group the rider will ride in for that year.



## **Horses With H.E.A.R.T., Inc.**

### **Gymkhana Rules Page 2**

The contestant or the contestant's legal guardian must sign all entries and release form before entering the arena.

A five-second penalty will be taken for each prop that is knocked down in all events except the flag race. Any prop knocked down in the flag race will result in a no time.

Line judges will be used for any event requiring small barrels. An HwH official will appoint the line judges. The line judge's decision is final.

In the event of a tie, if the contestants agree, an event will be run as a tie breaker for awards. The points will remain the same. The event selected will be at the discretion of the judge.

Excessive punishment or inhumane treatment of any horse at any time shall result in disqualification for the duration of the Gymkhana. HwH Officers will determine what constitutes excessive punishment or inhumane treatment - no exceptions.

The HwH Executive Director is the final authority on any discrepancies that may arise.

Any discrepancies must be discussed with the arena judge or the HwH Executive Director. Discrepancies are not to be discussed at the announcer's stand.

There will be no riding double in the arena or warm up arena.

Horses may not be tied to fences anywhere on the premises.

Any dogs brought onto the premises must be kept on a leash.

There will not be any re-rides given in the event of tack failure or dismounting of a rider.

All riders must enter the arena thru the approved entrance gate and exit thru the approved exit gate only.

The HwH Executive Director, or other appointed HwH Officer, may determine that a horse presents a safety or health risk to others and disqualify the horse from the gymkhana. They may further request that the horse be removed from the arena grounds. Failure to comply with this request will result in disqualification from the event and forfeiture of accumulated points for the event.