

Agenda

2025 Judges Symposium

February 1, 2025, 8-10 am, Doubletree Hotel, Modesto

Sonoma Room

Roll Call: Carri Gunn, Maria Hines, Charlotte Johnson, Cindi James-McElwain, Diane Medlock, Cindi Paine, Victor Pedroza, Deb Waters, Kelly York

Riders, ride managers and others interested may sit in on the meeting but discussion is limited to the Senior Judges unless time allows.

Rule Changes: Please bring a 2025 copy with you. Available at www.trailtrials.com Calendar of Events or from CSHA website under information.

5.1.2 Added the last sentence:

5.1.2 A halter with lead rope or halter bridle and hoof pick must be carried on the ride. The natural or Spanish hackamore will count as a halter and lead rope

11.0 Points was removed and subsequent sections renumbered.

11.1 Reworded to include sending and moved definition from 12.1.6

11.1 **Leading or Sending: When leading**, horse to follow willingly, not crowding or lagging. Excess rope shall be held in the non-leading hand. The send is defined as: From a designated position, the horse moves as directed ahead of the rider without the rider moving position and with slack in the lead rope. Hand position should never be in front of the horse after the initial send.

Old Section 12.1.5 New Section 11.1.6 When a horse is asked to “send” in an obstacle a halter and lead rope must be used was inadvertently left in, should have been revised “unless exception applies.” Need discussion between Sr Judges and TT Committee how to interpret for 2025.

12.10 Gate revised and renumbered:

11.10 Gate: Competitors may be required to negotiate a gate either mounted or dismounted. The horse and rider combination will move through the obstacle quietly, deliberately and under the rider's direction.

11.10.1 Direction of opening the gate will be given as follows:

11.10.1.1 Push - the riders initial direction will be to push the gate away from their horse. Horse to side pass through the gate to open the gate.

11.10.1.2 Pull - the riders initial direction will be to pull the gate towards their horse. Horse to side pass away from the gate to open the gate.

11.10.2 Solid Gate- A rider must keep their hand on the gate at all times. Moving or adjusting hand position on the gate while negotiating the gate is allowed.

11.10.3 Rope Gates - when going through a rope gate, the rope should not touch the ground. The rope shouldn't become tangled in the horse's legs nor should the horse hang their head over the rope gate.

12.12 Added the word "See Appendix C & D for specified knots" and renumbered.

11.12 Standing tied: Some obstacles may require riders to tie their horse. Horses will be tied with the halter and lead rope or correctly configured halter-bridle, or other approved means, using a knot that is safe and appropriate for the situation and horse. (**See Appendix C & D for specified knots**) The knot must be secure and the horse must be tied in a location that is safe for the horse, the rider, and any bystanders, other tied horses and their handlers. Horses will stand quietly while tied.

13.2.1 Rider Awareness reiterated and included rule 2.14 to avoid conflict. Reworded and Renumbered.

12.2.1 Rider awareness: Judging only begins once the words "you may proceed" or "you are now being judged" are read.

12.2.2 The rider should evaluate the obstacle for potential cautions before proceeding, and during the obstacle. If the rider is asked to answer a question (i.e., where are we on this map?), perform a specific skill (i.e., tie a specific knot, using only specified knots found in the State Trail Trials Rulebook. Use only specified knots included in Appendix C & D.), or lead their horse, and the rider does not perform the skill correctly, the judge may use this category to assess points.

13.5 Balance removed duplication of wording and renumbered.

12.5 Balance: This applies to both rider and horse. The rider should be well balanced in the saddle. For uphill, the rider should lean slightly forward with legs balanced under rider and not hitting horse's flanks, and deep in the saddle but not hitting the back of cantle. For downhill, the rider should lean slightly back. The rider is not to lean excessively forward, back or sideways. The horse is to be balanced while negotiating

obstacles. For downhill obstacle hindquarters should be under the horse and the horse should not lean on forehand. While negotiating step overs, the horse is to be balanced and pick up feet and avoid clipping and stumbling. A slight brush that does not imbalance the horse or move the obstacle is acceptable.

Submitted Issues for Discussion, Consensus or Resolution Development

1. Crossover of OB challenge Obstacles to Trail Trials, OB Challenge type obstacles in TT...EM obstacle to straddle pole both left on left, both right on right
2. Crossover of judging from OB to TT (hesitation ok in TT, not in OB)
3. Conflicts b/w ride officials and senior judges
4. Does Schooling and Companion need to be defined in rules? Situation where RM allowed Companion to negotiate obstacles.
5. 5 of 8 obstacles in camp should not be allowed in TT? Should we recommend event evaluation by Senior Judge as part of future sanctioning?
6. Ponying of horses "off the mountain" when rider can't continue. 2.12
7. Senior judges instructing OB judges on sidepass not to judge on crossover
8. Copy of old rules in judges boxes

9. How do we address video “evidence” of a score.

10. “You may proceed”, “You are now being judged” How and when these are applied

11. Off Course vs DQ, continued discussion. Example pull vs drag.

12. Repairing the obstacle to make it the same

13. Horse pooping in an obstacle

14. Cutting items off of a line