

TRAIL TRIALS SYMPOSIUM

July 16, 2011

Clarifying Rules and Ride Management Procedures

AGENDA

JC 1.4: All CSHA Trail Trials judges, while working at an event, must be in possession of the current CSHA Trail Trials program rules.

A Errors in the 2011 Trail Trials rules

- 1 **TT 12.3 Dismounting:** ...Style of dismount not considered, only a smooth mount that does not unbalance the horse ...
Should be changed to dismount.
- 2 **TT 13.4 Rider's Control:** ...If un-mounted, the rider is to lead as set forth in rule 11.1 ...
Should be changed to 12.1.
- 3 **TT 9.3:** Appropriate awards shall be given to qualified riders placing second through sixth.
Should be changed to third.

B Clarifying rules

- 1 **JC 3.1.7.3 Trail Trials Senior Judge:** The junior judge will conduct the obstacle judges' meeting on the day of the event.
Can this be enforced if ride management chooses to hold the obstacle judges' meeting prior to the day of the event and may not hold a meeting at all on the day of the event?

Diane Medlock will write resolution to corroborate Trail Trials rules 7.2 and 7.3 with Judges Commission rules 3.1.7.3 and 3.1.7.4.

- 2 **TT 4.1.1.3 Definition of Categories:** Advanced: ...can accomplish combined skills in succession ...
 - a) Clarify "combined skills"
 - b) If this is not stated in the Novice definition, can the Novice be directed to negotiate obstacles that are "combined skills"?
 - c) If so, then what is the difference between the Novice and the Advanced definitions other than the type of terrain and environment, tailing, drag/pull consideration in Novice?

No total agreement. Still needs more discussion. The problem: If Novice can be asked to negotiate combined obstacles in succession, then what is the distinction between Novice and Advanced directions except for tailing, environment and terrain.

- 3 **TT 12.18.5 Obstacle Skills:** Make turns on the forehand and/or hindquarters.
 - a) Clarify how these skills are scored based on the position of head, the movement of the feet, etc.
 - b) If the senior judges cannot come to consensus of the way these skills are to be performed, then how can the competitors be scored fairly on these skills?

As long as skills are demonstrated smoothly, the position of the horse's head is not to be considered.

4 **TT 13.1 Cinch Check (TT 12.2 Mounting, TT 12.6 Uphill, TT 12.7 Downhill, 12.11 Drag or Pull:**

Does this include the back cinch and if so where should this be stated since all the above require cinch checks and none of these rules mention the back cinch but do mention the main cinch, breast collar and crupper. Competitors are confused and wish to have this addressed. If it is not in the rules then it isn't a rule and should not be scored as such.

Total agreement. If not stated in the program rules (13.1), then it isn't a rule and competitors will not be penalized for not checking back cinch. Only one cinch per obstacle.

5 **TT 14.6 No Score:**

Clarify: If rider(s) miss 1 or more obstacles and return to the staging area, can they be sent out to those missed obstacle(s) for the purpose of completing the ride by ride management or the senior judge rather than receiving a NS?

A lot of discussion but no clear and final conclusion. Trail Trails 2.3 All Trail Trials are to be performed on a clearly marked trail.

C Clarifying ride management procedures affecting Senior Judge responsibilities

1 **Obstacle Signs:**

Are obstacle signs a part of the "clearly marked trail" **TT 2.3: All trail trials are to be performed on a clearly marked trail.**

Request management to provide obstacle signs. Because of NS rule, obstacle signs are very important to competitors so that they will have the knowledge of what they have completed and what is left to complete.

2 **Trotting, Loping or Galloping between Obstacles:**

Competitors have complained about riders who are competitors coming up behind them either trotting, loping or galloping past them and causing problems. This is a lack of trail etiquette, however can this be enforced by ride management as long as the "problem" riders are registered competitors, schooling riders or companion riders while participating at the event? What options are available to ride management while conducting a CSHA sanctioned event?

Trail Trials 7.5. Senior Judge has the authority and can support ride management to disallow trotting, loping or galloping between obstacles.

3 **Check Out and Check In:**

Should this be something that senior judges may propose to ride management in order to help them perform their duties; i.e., the no score rule?

Agreed that checking in is a good idea, however, Senior Judges have no authority to dictate procedures to ride management, however, Senior Judges may suggest that this be done for safety reasons.

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4 **Drag Riders:**

- a) Who sends them out?
- b) When should they be sent out? (one hour after last competitor, after all competitors have “checked in“)
- c) Be instructed not to pass any competitors? (who gives the instructions)

This is a ride management responsibility but Senior Judges could suggest that at least 1 hour after the last competitor departs staging area that drag riders are sent out and that under no circumstances are they to pass any competitors on course.

D Open Discussion - Concerns other than listed in the agenda

Cinch check: Discussion on whether or not the cinch check needs to be done immediately before mounting. No ultimate decision or agreement was made.

Trail Trials 13.8 vs. 14.4 Disqualify: For safety reasons or obstacles not executed as stated in the obstacle judge's directions. Discussion but no agreement or final decision.