

Trail Trials Judges Symposium

January 25, 2020, 12 noon-2:00 pm

Hotel Mission de Oro, Pacheco Main

Santa Nella, CA

Judges Present: Sue Edwards, Cindi James-McElwain, Diane Medlock, Debbie Waters, Kelly York, Ron Jenkins, Victor Pedroza, Charlotte Johnson

Judges Absent: Joan Wilkinson, Cindi Paine

Review of new 2020 Rules

2.22 The ride year is defined as the third weekend in September through the second weekend in September. **For new members, rides ridden from the third weekend of September through December 31st will count for the following year as long as the rider pays their CSHA membership dues by January 31st of the following year.**

9.4.1 Every rider must be a member of CSHA (see CSHA Bylaws for a definition of member).

9.4.1.1 Each rider who is not competing must be sponsored by a qualified competitor.

Symposium Topics

Senior Judges to discuss first, others if time allows after

Obstacles: Natural, Unnatural, Drones, Number of elements. Is there a difference between an Obstacle Challenge obstacle and a Trail Trials obstacle?

Group discussed the number of elements in an obstacle. *Consensus to keep 3 or less elementary elements in Novice.*

Group discussed use of DRONES as obstacles. *Consensus that DRONES not be used as a trail trial obstacle.*

Cinch Checks: Is there ambiguity in the rule 12.1, 12.11 and 13.1 for Cinch check? Rule 12.2 – Mounting states cinch must be checked before mounting. Rule 12.11 under Drag/Pull states cinch must be checked before taking rope. If Rider drops rope and must remount, but checked cinch prior to taking rope, then must rider re-check cinch before re-mounting? And then how would that be scored?

Group discussed the continued confusion with rule 13.1 “Only one cinch check per obstacle shall be required.” We have been struggling with this for many years. *Consensus that as long as a cinch check is performed after the rider is told “you may proceed” it is a valid cinch check for all required within that obstacle. If other requirements in the rules like breast collar for an uphill and crupper for a downhill, those must be checked also or 2 points will be added under cinch check. All other descriptions of when the cinch must be checked, i.e. before taking the rope, before beginning ascent or descent remain valid.*

Kelly York volunteered to write a resolution that clarifies the cinch check requirement and defines that the cinch check for a mount must be done immediately before the mount but still allows for only one cinch check per obstacle.

Send: Continued confusion on how to score this type of obstacle and what definition implies. Defined in 2019 as: From a designated position, horse moves as directed ahead of the rider.

Is rider position fixed? *YES*

Can rider move behind horse? *NO*

Is length of lead rope a factor? *YES, advanced riders may be asked to send distances where a 10-12' lead may be needed.*

Is manner of (directing) sending horse a factor? i.e. whip, twirling lead rope, striking horse, verbal, combination? *YES, scored appropriately*

Should definition be added to rules? *YES, Diane Medlock volunteered to write a resolution adding the definition to Obstacle Skills rule.*

Consensus on all above and redefining as: From a designated position, horse moves as directed ahead of the rider without the rider moving position and with slack in the lead rope. Hand position should be lowered once direction is given.

Side Passing: Rule 12.17.4. Be able to move the horse laterally (side to side).

Does horse need to move at a 90 degree angle to the objected horse has straddled?
Does horse need to cross over feet or can horse move sidestepping over object?

Consensus that 90 degree is ideal but scored appropriately for those moving more front than back and that crossing over feet is NOT required.

Forehand and Hindquarter turns: Rule 12.17.5. When making a hindquarter turn, front feet should be planted and used as the pivot point, if instructions dictate a forehand turn to the left, which direction do the hindquarters move? (Consensus on this question at previous symposiums was don't ask for a direction, just the turn. Direction definition continues to be in dispute.)

Direction continues to be in dispute. Consensus that when asking for a forehand or hindquarter turn within an obstacle that a direction should not be given, judge the turn.

Scoring: this is a general question

If an obstacle has multiple elements how is it scored?

How many elements is too many?

These topics covered above.

Other questions or comments.

Advised group of new gymkhana rule under 6.0 requiring notification of a judge who is not complying with CSHA rules be notified by another judge who witnesses to quietly and courteously advise such judge and show management.

Judges wish to share each others obstacle judges instructions given during the judges meeting at a trail trial. Diane Medlock will ask each judge to submit their topics, consolidate and send out to the group.

Watched a video of an obstacle being performed at SCE 2019. Each judge offered their thoughts and where they would add points and under what category. *Consensus was that we all saw basically the same errors and used the same categories.*

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Medlock

Attachments:

2020 Rules

Symposium Notes/Consensus from 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019