

# FOLSOM LAKE TRAIL PATROL BENEFIT TRAIL TRIALS

Sunday, May 29, 2019

## INSTRUCTIONS, RULES and SCORING

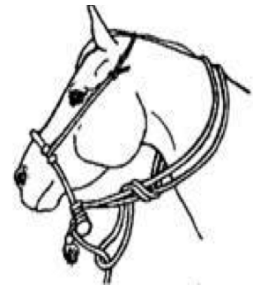
**Safety comes first!**

### RIDER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Please sign up for the proper division: **Buddy** (no obstacles, no scoring, no prizes, ride with friends); **Junior** (age 17 and under); **Novice** (a horse or rider who have never won a blue ribbon in any competitive trail event); **Geezer** (age 55 or over); and **Open**, the most advanced obstacles, no limits.
- Any type clothing suitable for riding is acceptable, but rider must wear appropriate riding footwear.
- Helmets are strongly recommended, and are mandatory for those 17 years of age and under.
- Horses must be visibly sound before and after the competition.
- If your horse kicks, tie a red ribbon in their tail. All riders must keep at least a horse-length between horses.
- The 8:30 am Ride Meeting is for your benefit and where you can ask questions. Riders are not required to attend the Ride Meeting.

### EQUIPMENT

- Any type saddle (no bareback pads) and any type bridle or bosal-hackamore with mecate, or side-pull. Halters are not allowed for riding.
- It is the rider's responsibility to determine the appropriateness of their tack and to ensure that the tack fits the horse and is used properly.
- For safety on the trail, tie-downs are not allowed.
- A halter with lead rope, or halter-bridle, or knowledge to properly tie a mecate so your bosal/hackamore can be used to lead your horse (see drawing), and a hoof pick, are required. A bottle of water and a knife is suggested. Juniors are not to carry knives.
- It is suggested you use a breast collar and/or crupper, depending on your horse's conformation and way of going, as there will be some steep hills.
- Barefoot or shod is permissible. Protective horse boots are permitted.



### GENERAL

- The Trail Trials will take place on the hiker-horse and multi-use trails of Folsom Lake State Recreation Area. You may encounter mt. bikes, dogs, strollers, backpackers, and loud noise.
- Two riders may not ride or compete with the same horse at the same time. No stallions, no dogs, no alcohol, no ponying of another horse, only one rider on a horse.
- No other gait but walk is allowed between obstacles.
- State Parks rules state all riders must stay on marked trails and do not enter the lake or beaches, except to water your horse. Any rider observed off the marked or park designated trails or in the lake will be disqualified. Trails will be marked with ribbons on the right with turns marked with three ribbons.
- A Judge or Ride Manager has the right to disqualify a competitor from any obstacle or the whole competition for safety reasons, unsportsmanlike conduct, dangerous conditions, or unsoundness or injuries exhibited by their horse. Any harsh use of crops, bits, or spurs will be subject to disqualification.
- A rider may stop their horse to drink at any stream or pond during the ride or obstacle.
- All fees will benefit the trails of Folsom Lake State Recreation Area.
- **Manure must be picked up from camping and parking areas. Take it out with you.**

## FOLSOM LAKE TRAIL PATROL BENEFIT TRAIL TRIALS, RULES and SCORING, continued

### SCORING

Trail Trials is a competitive event. The Judges will consistently assign scores which reflect the quality and safety of the performance over and through the obstacle. The Judges will be looking for a calm, safe horse who shows no resistance to the rider's cues. All Judge's scores are final. If there is a tie, pre-selected obstacle(s) will be the tie breakers.

- Participants will be given written instructions in their packets explaining each obstacle and the order they must be taken. Judging takes place only at obstacles and you will be judged at entering, performing and exiting the obstacle. Between the obstacles, participants of all divisions may enjoy the ride with others on the trail. When you approach the obstacle, the Judge or Judge's assistant will ask your name and number, at what division you are competing, and give you the appropriate directions.
- Judge will read the instructions to each rider. The same instructions will be given to each rider.
- At each obstacle, the Judge will award a possible 10 points for each horse and each rider as a team, for the highest total of 10 possible points at each obstacle. Pluses (+) are given for an exemplary try or performance by either horse or rider and are awarded at the discretion of the individual Judge.

**10 - Excellent**

**9 - Very Good**

**8 - Good**

**7 - Fairly Good**

**6 - Satisfactory**

**5 - Sufficient (Average)**

**4 - Insufficient**

**3 - Fairly bad**

**2 - Bad**

**1 - Very Bad**

**0 - Not performed - DQ**

- The rider has one attempt to complete and be scored at the obstacle. Time limits for the obstacles will not be assigned, but if the rider has three refusals (back up or evasive steps), or has sufficient difficulty, the rider will receive a zero and the Judge will ask the rider to move on. The rider may not practice the obstacle then, but may after the competition is over.
- Horse refusals and rider failures to follow instructions are penalized. A basic guideline would be two points off for the first refusal, an additional four points for the second refusal and dismissal (zero score) for the third refusal. Rider may not request a "do over." Assistant.
- A rider may elect not to perform any obstacle and receive a zero.
- For safety, a Judge may instruct a particular rider to dismount at any time without incurring a penalty. But, a fall of a rider is an obstacle disqualification and a zero score. A fall is described as an involuntary dismount.
- The judge may use a "Safety Call" to intervene for safety reasons, such as "Drop the slicker, please."
- All scores given by the Judges are final. There is no protest procedure. A zero score will be given if a Rider argues or protests a given score with a Judge or Judge's Assistant. Riders may ask for their scores at the obstacles and keep track for their own benefit, but only the scores from the Judges will count.
- First place and High Point prize winners must be present at the awards ceremony to take home their prizes.

This Trail Trials event is for fun only and not sanctioned for any other organization. For safety reasons the rules for this event are listed on this document and additional rules may be provided in writing and verbally at the ride meeting. If you would like to know more about official sanctioned Trail Trials:

Equestrian Trails, Inc. <https://etinational.com/trail-trials/>

California State Horsemen's Association [www.TrailTrials.com](http://www.TrailTrials.com)

If you have any questions, please contact Pam Simmons, Ride Manager (916) 835-6067 or [psimmons@calstrs.com](mailto:psimmons@calstrs.com) or Jaede Miloslavich [jaede@sbbmail.com](mailto:jaede@sbbmail.com)

*The Folsom Lake Trail Patrol 2015 Benefit Trail Trials are operated under a FLSRA Special Use Permit.*