

2019 POLOCROSSE RULEBOOK

The new, completely reorganized 2019 Polocrosse rulebook is now available online. There have been extensive changes to the 2019 Polocrosse rulebook. Be sure to read completely the new Rulebook and this Newsletter. Members and leaders will enjoy a streamlined structure and uniform presentation throughout every rulebook. Key changes to the Polocrosse rulebook include:

- Regional rallies redefined.
- Updates to competition divisions.
- Updates to competition attire requirements (all competition attire is now available in the discipline rulebook).
- Expanded Championships opportunities and updated eligibility requirements.

Regional Rallies Redefined

With the expanded opportunities for Championships participation, an update to rally terminology was needed. As a reminder, regions may hold more than one rally per discipline, per year as necessary with the approval of the RS.

Standard Rallies – Always the preferred type of rally. Standard rallies specifically follow all the rules outlined in the discipline rulebooks including utilizing a chief horse management judge from the approved CHMJ list on the USPC website, and any other specified licensed officials.

Modified Rallies - Modified rallies do not specifically follow the discipline rulebooks and generally occur because of limited resources. While attendance of a modified rally makes some members eligible for the modified Championships divisions, it does not meet the minimum eligibility requirements for other divisions.

Competitors aiming for the all divisions of Championships must compete precisely per the rulebook at the standard regional rally and at Championships.

Rally Attire

Depending on the activity, different attire expectations exist. Competition attire requirements have been updated to follow common Polocrosse attire. With these changes, D attire exceptions no longer specifically apply. Turnout and competition attire requirements are based on the competitors' intent to earn eligibility for Championships. Competitors seeking Championships eligibility must turnout and compete in appropriate competition attire. Any competitors not seeking Championships eligibility may turnout and compete in appropriate competition attire or in basic riding attire as outlined in the Polocrosse rulebook.

Rulebook Attire Correction

Please note in Article 36—Competitor Attire, 5. Basic Riding Attire for Polocrosse: D-2 and up, Permitted, *Half-chaps*-Any type/color. was accidentally omitted. Half-chaps of any type and color are permitted for members competing in basic riding attire.

USPC POLOCROSSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

USPC is pleased to host Polocrosse at Championships East in 2019. Please note a new registration process for Championships 2019. More details about the competition and registration process will be included in the Guidebook to Championships and posted on the Championships Competition Information page of the USPC website.

Championships East

Cross-entering not permitted. All competitors must be moved in by Thursday, July 25th and will compete July 26th-28th.

CHAMPIONSHIPS ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A reminder that C-3/B/A members are not required to participate at a regional rally in order to attend Championships. To enter they must have the permission of their RS.

Championships Divisions

Competitors must compete in a regional rally and be judged at the minimum HM level and same competition level they intent to compete at Championships.

If there is no standard Polocrosse rally available, members must compete at an APA sanctioned tournament at the equivalent level of which they intend to compete in and participate in a mounted standard regional rally as a rider or a stable manager at the minimum certification level.

Modified Championships Divisions

Participate in an APA play-day or tournament at minimum E grade or Junior Division and participate in a mounted modified regional rally as a rider or stable manager at the minimum certification level.

Exceptions

Competition eligibility exceptions will be handled on a case-by-case basis, and there are no exceptions to the age or certification requirements. All competition exception requests must come from the Regional Supervisor to the Polocrosse Committee Chairs. If an RS has a member that they believe will need an exception, it is recommended that the RS contact the Chair as early as possible for guidance as to the materials needed for different circumstances.

APA MEMBER INVITATION TO CHAMPIONSHIPS

APA Competitors are again invited to participate in the 2019 Polocrosse Championships East. APA members may be merged into teams with USPC members, and will compete according to the below.

- Must be between 12 and 24 years old as of January 1, 2019
- Must provide your own mount and tack
- Must have played in at least 2 APA tournaments at D-grade or above in the last 12 months
- APA members will be judged at a C-1 certification if playing at Championships or at a D-3 certification if playing in Modified Championships.

Awards will be given in these categories:

- Mounted competition teams riding plus factored HM
- Team HM awards

APA Competitors should contact Erin Roland, activitiescoordinator@ponyclub.org for entry forms. All entry information and payment must be submitted by noon on Monday July 1st.

APA CROSSE-OVER CHALLENGE

The American Polocrosse Association is pleased to invite interested Pony Club members to participate in their Crosse-Over Challenge, a competition in which youth trainers acquire a recently retired Thoroughbred (TB) racehorse and prepare it over a period of months for competition in polocrosse. The horses are supplied at no charge to participants and the training emphasis will be obedience, ease of handling, agility, responsiveness and body condition. Youth trainers then bring their horse to 2020 APA Nationals to compete for the \$1000 cash prize. Please see the website for all the information and trainer application form.

<https://www.americanpolocrosse.org/about-polocrosse/apa-programs/#1498237076238-af3a4e96-361f>

USPC POLOCROSSE IN SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow Polocrosse in USPC on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/PolocrosseinUSPC/>, for more information about Polocrosse in Pony Club.

On Facebook, please remember to like:

American Polocrosse Association
APA Crosse Over Challenge

POLOCROSSE RALLY SUPPORT

Looking to start playing polocrosse or further your polocrosse education? Please reach out to Cile Savoy, Polocrosse Committee Chair, for help in hiring a clinician, scheduling a location, racket and ball loan, or any other questions in regards to getting off the ground in this awesome sport. Many different clinic options and formats are possible, both mounted and unmounted.

Regional rally organizers are reminded that Technical Delegate Reports are *REQUIRED* for standard rallies and requested for all rallies because they aid the discipline committees in monitoring the number of Pony Club competitors participating in the discipline across the U.S. Electronic versions of TD reports are always preferred, but hardcopy versions are also acceptable. Please make sure that your Technical Delegate is submitting the reports to the National Office.

Electronic TD reports, scoring programs, and other rally support documentation can be found by logging into the USPC website and then going to Parents/Volunteers/Resources/Rally Organizers.

POLOCROSSE COMMITTEE CHAIR INFORMATION

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