

2019 TETRATHLON RULEBOOK

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

- Regional rallies redefined.
- Updates to competition divisions.
- Changes in the ability to compete down.
- Updates to competition attire requirements (all competition attire is now available in the discipline rulebook).
- Changes to headphone/earbud usage and electronic devices.
- 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.

Stable Managers in Tetrathlon

Stable managers may be used at regional rallies at the discretion of the rally organizer. Championships will not include stable managers.

Competing down in Ride, Run and Swim Phases

To encourage safe participation competitors may ride, run, and swim down as many levels as they wish. Each drop down in height or distance will incur a 200 point deduction for the first drop and 100 points for any drop thereafter. The intention of competing at a lower level must be declared before the start of the phase.

Rally Attire

Depending on the activity, different attire expectations exist. Competition attire requirements have been updated to follow common Tetrathlon show 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 in the Tetrathlon rulebook.

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Rulebook Attire Correction

Please note in Article 36—Competitor Attire, 5. Basic Riding Attire for Tetrathlon: 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.

Headphones/Earbuds and Electronics

Please note headphones and earbuds are not allowed in any phase of competition. Additionally, electronic communications (Apple Watches, Fitbits, etc.) are not allowed during the run phase of the competition.

Safety Vests

Following Board Policy 0800.E, USPC requires members to wear a properly fitted equestrian body protector when jumping cross-country or solid obstacles during any activity sponsored by the USPC, its regions, registered clubs or riding center programs. USPC recommends wearing a body protector that is ASTM-certified (manufactured in US) or certified to the BETA Level 3 (manufactured in Great Britain).

Riding Phase

Please note that several items were accidentally omitted from the Articles listed below.

Article 41.7

If a rider seeking Championships eligibility at a regional rally is eliminated for any reason during the riding phase other than Fall of Horse or Rider, the rider may request one “re-ride” prior to end of competition in their division. Scoring for the “re-ride” applies only to a rider’s eligibility score. For placement in the Regional Rally, the rider shall receive an elimination, scoring no points. The re-ride cannot make a horse incur more than 3 rides during the day. The re-ride must be approved by the Technical Delegate and Chief Riding Judge. If the rally contains two rides, the re-ride shall be for the one ride where the rider was eliminated.

Article 42.8

Negotiating the slip rail: slide the top rail end free of the wing and lower it to the ground (or optionally slide the top rail fully back into the second wing). Lead the horse over the bottom slip rail. Complete the task by replacing the top rail to its original position.

Negotiating the gate: The gate is negotiated by the rider while mounted. The gate is considered to be successfully negotiated after the rider has opened, passed through, and replaced the loop completely over the post. An intentional (mistaken) dismount at the gate is scored as a first disobedience on course (24 points).

Article 46.1.I

Specifications for the slip rail and gate are included in Appendix VII

Appendix VII

Slip Rail Specifications

- Wings must be two fences 4’-5’ high by 6’-8’ wide with bases
- Opening - 6’-8’ width (must be minimum 6’ and maximum 8’)
- Opening must be spanned by 2—2”x4” boards that are 2’ longer than the width of the opening

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Appendix VII

Gate Specifications

- Wings must be two fences 4' high by 6'-8' wide with a 5' high inner loop post.
- Gate stop must be placed on the exit side of the loop post to ensure that the gate swings on the outgoing side only.
- Loop must be rope or other suitable flexible material is fastened at the top near side of the gate, with enough slack to comfortably pass over the loop post.

Article 48.2.A

Both the slip rail and gate are considered obstacles in reference to scoring of penalties. If a gate or slip rail is slid through (no attempt to negotiate) and must be rebuilt the penalties will be the same as a disobedience on course plus the additional time penalty of 12 points.

Article 81

A reminder that breaking competitor ties is addressed in Article 81 of the 2019 Tetrathlon rulebook.

USPC TETRATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS

USPC is pleased to host Championships East and Central 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 Central

Cross-entering permitted. See the Guidebook to Championships Central for specifics. Move in Monday, August 5th and compete August 6th-7th.

CHAMPIONSHIPS ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A reminder that certified C-3, B, and A members wishing to compete at Championships do not have to participate at a regional Tetrathlon rally but must have permission of their RS.

Championships Divisions

Compete at a standard regional Tetrathlon rally at level earning a total minimum score of 2600 for Novice and Intermediate or 2800 for Junior and Senior and a score of 550 for all Championship divisions.

Modified Championships Divisions

Participate in a standard or modified Tetrathlon rally at the competition level and not be eliminated in riding round for a safety related elimination (i.e. fall of horse or rider).

Please note: The modified division will have one riding round of competition.

CHAMPIONSHIPS ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION CONTD

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 Tetrathlon Committee Chair. 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.

TETRATHLON RALLY SUPPORT

Tetrathlon Committee members are available to help with questions about Tetrathlon rally. Contact Nichole Fisher (see contact information at end of newsletter) to get started. Tetrathlon Organizer's Guide available on the rulebooks page of the USPC website.

Tetrathlon Scoring: Check out www.ponyclubscoring.com for information on the FREE scoring program developed for USPC Tetrathlon. Technical support is always available, and contact information is on the website.

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.

2020 INTERNATIONAL TETRATHLON EXCHANGE

The 2020 International Tetrathlon Exchange hosted by The Pony Club UK is coming up! Start planning early! Members must be C3 and up to apply, 16-21 years old. Strong C2s may be considered.

Your tax deductible donation helps build USPC Tetrathlon International Exchange. Please send your checks today to the USPC restricted Strassburger Tetrathlon Fund.

Support the International Tetrathlon Exchange Teams

We have a SwimOutlet.com Team Store! Visit <https://www.swimoutlet.com/uspctetrathlon/> to shop for your Tetrathlon gear! Our store is customizable; if there is something you are interested in purchasing, please let us know. Items related to running, leisure swimming, and general fitness are all available.

USPC TETRATHLON IN SOCIAL MEDIA

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

Follow USPC International Tetrathlon on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/USPCTetrathlonTeam/> to keep up with past and future exchanges.

TETRATHLON COMMITTEE CHAIR INFORMATION

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