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Resource List

- USPC website www.ponyclub.org
- USPC Polocrosse web page www.ponyclub.org/Members/Disciplines/Polocrosse
- USPC Polocrosse Facebook Page www.facebook.com/PolocrosseinUSPC
- APA website www.americanpolocrosse.org

Reminder: This is a new rulebook for 2020. Additions, deletions and changes have been made since the last rulebook was issued. Be sure to read the *entire* publication carefully so you will be aware of all the rules for the upcoming rally season.

This rulebook should be kept in a 3-ring binder to allow for addition of revisions and new instructional sections. Do not remove pages from your rulebook; be sure to make copies of all forms and charts before writing on them.

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SECTION I—USPC Rally Uniform Officiation Rules (UOR)

bility. Adult members and leaders should refrain from using alcohol or other substances that may adversely affect their judgment at any time that they are acting, or may be called upon to act in a responsible position.

A notation must be on the medical card/bracelet that a prescription medication is being used. This policy applies for the duration of the Pony Club activity. Duration of a Pony Club activity is defined in USPC Policy 0500 as being “A period of time beginning with the official opening of the activity and ending with the official closing of the activity.”

Any underage Pony Club member found to be using, in possession of, or under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, or other age restricted or illegal substances during a USPC sponsored activity shall be disqualified and barred from further participation in that activity. Any adult Pony Club member found to be using, in possession of, or under the influence of illegal substances during a USPC sponsored activity shall be disqualified and barred from further participation in that activity.

Any adult attending, participating, assisting with, officiating or chaperoning at any USPC sponsored activity whose behavior is inappropriate or creates a potential hazard to the safety and/or well-being of Pony Club members, officials, mounts, or other individuals may, at the discretion of the officials in charge of the activity, be asked to leave and be barred from the remainder of the activity.

Smoking is strictly forbidden in and around stable areas.

Article 9—Mounts (Policy 0910.A)

Mounts used at a regional or interregional rally should be the participant’s regular USPC mount, and be accustomed to being handled by its rider without adult supervision. A participant may use a mount other than the regular mount only with the advance permission of the DC/CA and RS.

Per USPC Policy suitable mounts are defined as follows:

1. Stallions are not considered suitable mounts.
2. Mounts must be serviceably sound, in good overall health and in condition for the activity in question.
3. Mounts must be appropriate for the certification level of the rider and must be at a level of training to participate safely in the activity.
4. Except as noted below, mounts must be at least five (5) years of age in order to participate in USPC competitive, instructional, and recreational programs and activities. In establishing the age of mounts, the first year is considered to be January 1 following the date of foaling.
5. Members holding a riding certification of C-1 and above may participate in all USPC activities on an appropriate mount at least four (4) years of age (See above). A mount must be excused from any activity if in the opinion of the instructor, examiner, or appropriate authority, it is unsafe either to its rider or to other riders or mounts.

Ownership of a mount is not a prerequisite for membership in USPC. The responsibility for obtaining a suitable mount for mounted activities rests with the parents or guardians of the individual member.

Article 10—Substitution of Mounts

For all mounted rallies (except Tetrathlon) mount and rider become eligible for Championships as a team. Therefore, a competitor must enter Championships only on the mount they earned eligibility on. In extraordinary circumstances, after becoming eligible for Championships, a substitute mount may be requested utilizing the appropriate form, by the regional supervisor and must be approved by the applicable discipline chair and the Vice President of Activities.

Any substituted entry must meet the same mount and eligibility requirements as the original entry.

No mount substitution may be made once a competition has commenced. Refer to ‘Mount Substitution Form’

Article 11—Sharing of Mounts

In some disciplines and in some competitions, the sharing of mounts may be allowed. At regional rallies, the rally organizer in consultation with the RS may allow for the sharing of mounts by competitors. For Championships, requests for shared mounts must be submitted to the appropriate discipline chair, and VPA utilizing the Mount Substitution Form. Each request will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, for approval or denial. Determination of shared mounts must take into consideration the discipline, competition schedule, and suitability of mount. Obviously, the welfare of the mount should be the highest priority in this situation and all competitors must agree that if the horse management, judges, technical delegate/steward, organizers or HM onsite feel that the health of the mount is in jeopardy at any time that they may be removed from the rest of the riding portion of the competition.

Article 12—Equine Drugs & Medication (Policy 0910.C)

Per USPC Policy 0910.C. DCs/CAs, RSs, rally organizers, officials and judges must be familiar with and enforce this policy. Parents and competitors must also be familiar with and abide by this policy. Failure to observe this policy will result in disqualification.

1. All mounts in a USPC sponsored activity shall be serviceably sound and healthy. Mounts should be free of medication other than dressings for minor wounds or scrapes, unless under treatment by a veterinarian. Medications and supplements may not be used to provide an unfair advantage over other competitors or to allow an unfit mount to be used.
2. Medication is defined as any substance that is not water, salt, electrolytes, or a supplement and is not considered a

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other competitors, their mounts, spectators, or others will be penalized accordingly.

- Any act or series of actions that in the opinion of the judge, TD, steward, member of the discipline ground jury can be defined as dangerous riding shall be penalized at the discretion of the discipline ground jury.
- If such actions are reported, the discipline ground jury shall decide if there is a case to be answered. If an individual member of the discipline ground jury observes such actions, they may eliminate or penalize the competitor forthwith on their own authority. There is no appeal against a discipline ground jury decision.

Article 15—Safety

USPC is committed to safety while recognizing that equestrian activities are inherently dangerous. **The USPC Safety Handbook is an excellent resource for more making safety a priority at all rallies and Pony Club functions.** This dedication to safety extends to requiring certain equipment be utilized during Pony Club activities and include:

1. Protective Headgear (Policy 0800.A): USPC requires members participating in mounted and some unmounted activities to wear a properly fitted equestrian helmet, securely fastened, containing certification that it meets the criteria established by the following international or national safety bodies: ASTM F1163 (North America), AS/NZ 3838 (Australia and NZ), PAS 015 (UK).
2. Safety Vest/Body Protector (Policy 0800.C): 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).
3. Medical Armbands and Bracelets (Policy 0800.B):
 - USPC requires that members participating in any USPC affiliated mounted or unmounted activity, must wear either a Medical Armband or Medical Bracelet while participating in the activity. The member may choose which one to wear.
 - Medical armbands must include a current completed copy of the individual's USPC or USEA Medical Card. It must be worn on the upper arm. If the member has small arms, he/she may safety pin the armband to his/her upper sleeve. (Armbands are available for purchase from Shop Pony Club.)
 - Medical bracelets must visibly list these six items on them: name and date of birth, contact information, known allergies, current medications, and existing medical conditions. More information is acceptable, but these six items are required to be on the bracelet

- All officials on site at the USPC mounted or unmounted activity are encouraged to work with the competitors to remind them of this requirement.
- Any member at a USPC affiliated mounted or unmounted activity* found not wearing either a medical armband or medical bracelet must be removed from the activity until the member conforms to the policy requirements.
- * Tetrathlon competitors will not be required to wear them while actually shooting or swimming but must have them visible and next to them for these activities and must wear them at all other times.

4. Unmounted Footwear: When working in the barn or near mounts unmounted footwear must meet all the following criteria:

- Thick-soled , shoes/boots (short or tall)
- Cover the ankle
- In good condition
- Made of leather or synthetic materials
- Entirely closed
- Securely fastened
- Well-fitted to foot
- Sturdy construction (e.g., Ugg-type boots do not meet this requirement)

Examples: paddock/jodphur boots, rubber riding boots, rain boots/wellies, western boots.

Article 16—Heat Related Information

Heat Illness (Policy 0900): USPC requires all Pony Club volunteers in a leadership position within Pony Club and especially anyone involved directly with mounted or unmounted lessons or activities to complete the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) heat illness training module.

At all USPC activities, rally officials must consider the:

- Temperature and humidity using the "Heat Index Chart" (Appendix II).
- Time of day and season of activity.
- Level of exertion necessary for participation in the activity.

The Heat Index (HI) or "Apparent Temperature" is the temperature the body feels when heat and humidity are combined. This reduces the amount of evaporation of sweat from the body and outdoor exercise becomes dangerous even for those in good shape. Please refer to Appendix II.

Steps to prevent heat related illness include:

- Providing unlimited cool water for consumption in ALL areas, especially riding areas.
- Make water breaks mandatory.
- Do not depend on thirst as an indicator of the need for water.

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- Avoid the hottest part of the day if this is an option.
- Consider shortening the length/level or exertion of the activity.

During rallies, the discipline ground jury (overall ground jury at Championships) is responsible for monitoring the Heat Index and taking appropriate action as necessary. Those actions could include, but are not limited to:

- Waiving of coats/jackets
- Banning of coats/jackets
- Altering of schedule

Any official can and should bring a potentially dangerous heat situation to the attention of the president of the ground jury. If coats/jackets are waived or banned the following processes should be followed.

Waived Coats/Jackets

When the temperature and humidity are recorded in the danger zone, removal of coats during warm up is MANDATORY.

If the rider wants to put their coat/jacket on for their competition round, then they may leave their neckwear and helmet cover on during warm up.

If the rider does not want to put their coat/jacket on for their competition round, then they must remove all neckwear and their helmet cover during warm up.

Additional Information

- When coats are waived, the competitors must be turned out per Competition Attire (including coats/jackets) unless they choose to compete wearing Basic Riding Attire.
- Riders must wear a collared shirt with long or short sleeves if they are not wearing a jacket.
- T-Shirts are not permitted.

Competitors must also remove neckwear and helmet covers on vented helmets if they do not wish to wear their jackets for their competitive ride.

Banned Coats/Jackets

When temperature and humidity are recorded in the danger zone and based on the decision of the discipline ground jury (overall ground jury at Championships) coats/jackets may be banned for the safety of competitors. If coats/jackets are banned then competitors must remove coats/jackets, neckwear and helmet covers for turnout inspections, warm up and for competition rounds.

Heat Illness Return To Play

A member believed by a leader, coach, parent or official of a USPC unmounted or mounted activity or competition to be suffering from heat illness shall be removed from play at that time and given appropriate treatment before being allowed to return to play.

Article 17—Concussion and Return to Play

Concussion (Policy 0900): USPC requires all Pony Club volunteers in a leadership position within Pony Club and especially anyone involved directly with mounted or unmounted lessons or activities to complete the concussion training module.

A member believed by a leader, coach, parent or official to have sustained a concussion during a USPC unmounted or mounted activity must be referred to medical personnel. Medical personnel in conjunction with rally officials and organizers will determine if a written release is required for the member to return to the competition.

Article 18—Unauthorized Assistance and Permitted Assistance in all Phases

1. Unauthorized Assistance: Unauthorized assistance is help and/or assistance during the competition from anyone other than other competitors, HMJs, and rally officials. Unauthorized assistance can occur in person or through the use of electronic communication, unless allowed by the specific discipline rulebook (e.g., coaches in certain situations)
2. If, in the opinion of the president of the ground jury, unauthorized assistance has been received by a competitor, that competitor may be eliminated from that phase of the rally, or in extreme cases, disqualified from the entire competition. If there is any question, the discipline ground jury makes the final decision. There is no appeal.
3. Permitted Assistance:
 - Adults may aid in the unloading of mounts and carrying of heavy gear into the stable area upon arrival, after which non-competitors must immediately leave the area.
 - After a fall of a competitor or competitor dismounts, they may be assisted to catch their mount*, to adjust their saddlery, to remount, or to be handed any part of their saddlery or equipment, including whip, while they are dismounted or after they have remounted. Helmets must be replaced, and retention harnesses refastened before riders may remount.
 - * Exception for loose mounts in Games only: In Games, a loose mount may be caught by any competitor or Official already in the arena when the loose mount is behind Lines A and C. However, only the mount's rider may enter the playing area to catch it.
 - A competitor may receive clarification of jumping penalties from an obstacle judge, e.g., after jumping a flag at a corner, the judge may clarify whether it was a run-out or not.
 - If bodily harm to mount and/or rider is imminent, assistance from anyone (Official or otherwise), without concern for penalties, is expected. Time permitting, the

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situation should be brought to the attention of an Official. If immediate intervention is necessary, then an Official will be notified as soon as possible concerning the situation.

- If a mount is ill or injured, the owner/agent of the mount will be called in to discuss care.

Article 19—Excused

1. Jumping disciplines may call this a “Technical Elimination”
2. To grant permission to, or request that a competitor leave the phase/round/game due to circumstances outside of the competitor’s control (e.g., illness of rider, illness or lameness of mount)
3. Decided by
 - Inspection panel at horse inspection
 - Judge
 - Discipline ground jury
4. May not ride; therefore, will not receive any riding score during the Excuse, but
 - May request a lameness recheck
 - Rider may request to compete in following phases/rounds/games after if illness passes.
 - Both the mount and rider shall stay on rally grounds (unless the mount is transported for medical reasons) and continue to participate with the team and continue to be scored in horse management.
 - If ill, mount will be moved to another area, if possible.

Article 20—Elimination

- Elimination means to exclude a competitor or mount, for cause, from judging consideration in a class/phase. Competitor not scored in a class due to a mistake (e.g., use of illegal equipment, violation of the rules of phase/rounds/ games.)
- After elimination, the discipline ground jury in consultation with the organizer, may allow participation in subsequent phases/rounds/games.
- Determined by judge or discipline ground jury.
- Refer to scoring of penalties for additional discipline specific reasons for elimination.

Article 21—Disqualification

1. Disqualification means that a competitor and his/her mount(s) may not take further part in the competition including in horse management.
2. It is applied at the discretion of the discipline ground jury.
3. Disqualification is a punishment for misconduct arising from a deliberate attempt to contravene the rules and regulations of USPC.

4. Includes but not limited to:

- Cruelty (Article 13);
 - abusive or unsportsmanlike conduct;
 - **obscene or inappropriate language;**
 - the use of drugs (other than those prescribed by a physician), alcohol, or tobacco (Article 8);
 - rude and disruptive behavior;
 - cheating;
 - rough or dangerous riding;
 - knowingly riding a lame, sick, or exhausted mount;
 - misuse of equine medications (USPC Policy 0910.C);
5. If such actions are reported, the discipline ground jury shall decide if there is a case to be answered. If an individual member of the discipline ground jury observes such actions, they may eliminate or penalize the competitor forthwith on their own authority. There is no appeal against a discipline ground jury decision
 6. Refer to scoring of penalties for additional discipline specific reasons for disqualification.

SECTION II—General Regulations

exhibit any dangerous behavior (such as kicking or biting at other mounts), or disease, and is serviceably sound (See Article 74.4d, umpires, for further details of dangerous behavior during play.)

- The mount is under proper control
- Mounts designated as umpire horses will not be eligible for competitors use at competition. Replacement mounts for teams are to be supplied by the team.
- Mounts entered as playing or substitute horse/pony must be qualified at the level of play that is required. Please refer to the Guidelines for Levels of Polocrosse Chart, (Appendix VIII), to make sure your mount or substitute mount is suitable and can play at that level.
- Mounts and substitute mounts at Championships must have attended a qualifying Polocrosse rally or APA tournament in the last 12 months at the level entered to be eligible. Exceptions may be made provided that the TD and rally chief umpire deem the mount appropriate.

Only one mount shall be allowed each player in any one chukka, except in the case of an accident or injury to the mount or if in the opinion and agreement of all the discipline ground jury, the mount is unsuitable or unsafe. In such instances, a substitute mount is permitted (see Article 10).

WEIGHT: The following weight limitations apply to riders dressed and ready to ride:

- Any rider over 117 pounds in weight may not ride a pony 12.2 hands or under.
- Any rider over 150 pounds in weight may not ride a pony 13.2 hands or under.
- Any rider over 190 pounds in weight may not ride a pony 14.2 hands or under.

Article 27—Chaperones/Emergency Contacts

DCs/CAs/RSs must ensure that the team chaperone fully understands the duties outlined in Appendix III. DCs/CAs/RSs should also remind persons (friends, family members, etc.) accompanying the team that any unauthorized assistance for the team may result in the team being penalized.

1. Chaperones:

- A. Any team or competitor under the age of majority must have an official chaperone listed who is at least 21 years of age, on the entry form. This person will act as the contact person for that team.
- B. The chaperone is the team's contact in case of an emergency and must be on the rally grounds at all times during the competition.
- C. Several parents may share one team chaperone's duties, but only one name will be recorded and should be listed in the program to be paged in an emergency. All other persons sharing this duty should be made aware of this name and answer to it.

D. The chaperone should serve as a volunteer for the competition in addition to their chaperone duties but shall not assume coaching duties.

E. Any additional contact while on the rally grounds must be authorized by the chief horse management judge. For complete information, see "Chaperone Form" (which must be signed by official team chaperones, and all persons acting as chaperones) in Appendix III.

F. At Championships each team will have one assigned chaperone. Championships team chaperones are responsible for their team while on the competition grounds. Chaperones play a very important role in the competition. Chaperones are allowed to be volunteers and may be asked to fill volunteer roles in any phase of the competition. Chaperones shall not bring work from home or unattended younger children with them. Team chaperones may coordinate with the other parents of the team for lunch or drink arrangements.

2. Emergency Contacts:

Any team or competitor above the age of majority must submit a completed Emergency Contact Form with their entry. See Appendix III.

Article 28—Coaches and Coaching

Polocrosse coaches are allowed, but not mandatory for all rallies. There may be one or more coaches (may not also serve as chaperone). The presence of a coach at a Polocrosse rally is to promote safety, good sportsmanship and good horsemanship during the warm-up and competition. Coaches are expected to help any Pony Club competitor who asks for assistance or whose coach is not present in the warm up area.

Competitors in a rally may also coach other competitors, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Must be 18 years of age as of January 1st of the competition year.
- No scheduling changes will be made to accommodate the coaches/competitors ride times.
- Competitor's responsibilities and mount's care always takes precedence over coaching duties.

Polocrosse Coaches:

Must read, understand, sign and return a coaches form with the team entry (Appendix V).

Must know the USPC Polocrosse rules, especially regarding unauthorized assistance, Article 18. Access to the team is limited and they may not enter the stable area except during authorized visiting times.

Coaches are allowed to help with team strategy and rule comprehension during warm-up as well as before and after each game played. A general de-briefing is encouraged at the end of the day.

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Walk-Trot is permitted to have coaching during the chukka.

At Championships competitions, coaches must attend the opening competitor briefing, and the coaches briefing.

Chapter 2—Competition Levels and Divisions

Article 29—Competition Levels

At regional rallies a rider may ride at any level offered, in which they feel their mount would be able to perform. Below are the most commonly offered levels at Polocrosse rally:

- Walk-Trot
- Novice
- Intermediate
- Advanced

Article 30—Competition Divisions

Competition divisions differ from competition levels in that competitors may be separated into divisions based on age and/or other parameters. A competitor's age is determined by their age as of January 1 on the year of competition. See Article 5 for more details on age minimums.

Junior Divisions—Up to 17 years of age

Senior Divisions—18 years of age and above

Note: Rally divisions can be combined based on entry numbers and approval of the organizer and regional supervisor. Junior competitors can always compete up a division as a Senior to fill out a team. Senior competitors can never compete down in a Junior division. Before combining Junior and Senior aged competitors on the same team rally organizers must get the [approval of the Junior competitor and their parent/legal guardian \(Appendix IV\)](#).

Article 31—Championships Divisions—Minimum Age and Certifications

Competitors seeking Championships eligibility must meet the age parameters and minimum certifications for the offered Championships divisions. There are no age and no certification exceptions to the below requirements. See Article 5 for more details on age and certification minimums.

Modified Novice	D-2 DR/EV/Flat/HSE	10+
Novice	C-1 DR/EV/Flat/HSE	12+
Modified Intermediate	D-2 DR/EV/Flat/HSE	10+
Intermediate	C-1 DR/EV/Flat/HSE	12+
Advanced	C-1 DR/EV/Flat/HSE	12+

Stable managers must meet the minimum age criteria of their division, and be a D-2 HM for modified divisions and a D-3 HM for all other divisions.

Note: Championship divisions may be combined based on entry numbers and approval from Vice President of Activities and the overall organizer.

Article 32—Championships Eligibility Process

Each individual Pony Club member who desires to compete at Championships must compete in a regional rally and be judged at the minimum HM level and same competition level in which they intend to compete at Championships. This constitutes the "individual eligibility" of the competitor.

Members wanting to become eligible for Championships must meet the below division criteria.

- Modified Novice—Participate in a standard or modified Polocrosse rally at the competition level.
- Novice—Complete a standard Polocrosse rally at the competition level.
- Modified Intermediate—Participate in a standard or modified Polocrosse rally at the competition level.
- Intermediate—Complete a standard Polocrosse rally at the competition level.
- Advanced—Complete a standard Polocrosse rally at the competition level.

If no standard Polocrosse rally is available members may earn Championships eligibility by completing the following:

- Novice—Complete an APA sanctioned tournament at a minimum D grade and participate in a mounted standard regional rally as a rider or a stable manager at the minimum certification level.
- Intermediate—Complete an APA sanctioned tournament at a minimum C grade and participate in a mounted standard regional rally as a rider or a stable manager at the minimum certification level.
- Advanced—Complete an APA sanctioned tournament at a minimum A/B grade and participate in a mounted standard regional rally as a rider or a stable manager at the minimum certification level.

If no modified Polocrosse rally is available members may earn Championships eligibility by completing the following:

- Modified Novice—Participate in an APA play-day or tournament at a 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.
- Modified Intermediate—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.

Article 33—Eligibility Requirements for C-3/B/A

Certified C-3, B and A members wishing to compete at Championships do not have to participate in a regional Polocrosse rally but must have permission of their RS.

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Article 34—Exceptions to Eligibility Requirements for Championships

Exceptions to the eligibility process are occasionally granted. There are no exceptions to minimum age and certification requirements. The process for requesting an exception is outlined on the Championships Competition Information page of the USPC website. All requests for exceptions must come from the RS to the appropriate discipline chair [using the online application found on the Championships Information Page of the USPC website.](#)

Chapter 3—Presentation of Competitor and Mount

Article 35—Competitor Identification

Identification numbers (pinnies, bridle numbers, etc.) must be worn in a prominent manner on competitors/mounts, as designated by rally officials. During chukkas players must be numbered correctly with clearly visible arabic numerals on their backs. Playing positions should act as Identification while on the playing field. Pinnies must be worn at all times in the barn area. Competitor nametags must be worn at all times, except when mounted.

Article 36—Competition Attire

Each participant is responsible for organizing their own attire and equipment which must meet all safety requirements outlined in Article 15. Competitors should be neat and clean with inappropriate jewelry not permitted; see Horse Management Handbook for specifications. Participants must wear a medical armband or [bracelet](#) as specified in Article 15.3. A Pony Club pin must be worn at all times unless otherwise stated by rally officials. Felt can be placed behind pins using the below designations:

Certification	Felt Color
A	Royal Blue
H-A	Orange
B	Red
H-HM/H	Purple
H-B	Brown
C-3	White
C+	Pink
C-1 and C-2	Green
D-1 through D-3	Yellow

Depending on the activity, different attire expectations exist, the different situations and attire expectations are listed below.

1. General Barn Attire—Long pants, mid-length or longer shorts or modest length skirts made of khaki, chino or denim materials of any color, with no rips or tears, a shirt with sleeves, and appropriate unmounted footwear (Arti-

cle 15.4), are examples of appropriate attire for unmounted work in the barn.

2. Horse Inspection (Jog Outs)—Attire must be safe, appropriate, neat and clean. It must include a helmet (meeting USPC Helmet Policy, Article 15), and appropriate unmounted footwear (Article 15). Workmanlike and discipline appropriate attire including a tucked in collared shirt with pants/ skirt/mid-length shorts/riding pants. If the pants/skirt has belt loops a belt is required.
3. Turnout Inspection and first round of competition—All competitors 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 detailed below. In inclement weather, competitors will be allowed to wear a helmet cover and a transparent or conservative colored raincoat.
4. Competition Attire for Polocrosse:

Required

Helmet—May be any color. All helmets must meet the USPC Helmet Policy (0800.A).

Hair—Hair should be neatly secured and away from the eyes.

Shirt—Shirt or Jersey of any conservative color with a collar and sleeves, tucked into pant. Players' position numbers must be clearly visible in arabic numeral on their backs while on the field.

Pants—White breeches or jodhpurs with garters/elastics. White jeans (5-pocket, boot cut, polo, or riding) are also permitted.

Belt—If pants have belt loops, belts are required.

Footwear—Conventional type of riding footwear with a heel that covers the ankles are required. Boots (tall boots, cowboy, polo boots, e.g.), half-chaps and leg pieces (rough or smooth) worn over a rider's jeans or breeches. Cowboy boots and paddock boots may be worn under jeans with or without the use of half-chaps/leg pieces (smooth or rough). Half-chaps may not have fringe.

Permitted

Knee Protection—Knee guards must be made of leather, neoprene, or cloth.

Safety/Protective Vests—Any color.

Spurs—Smooth disc rowels or free rolling balls on the ends. Bumper spurs are also allowed.

Gloves—Any type/color.

Not Permitted

Spurs with pointed rowels.

SECTION III: Competition

Article 39—Competition Format

USPC Polocrosse rallies are competitions where teams compete against each other on the field and in Horse Management competition. USPC Polocrosse rally rules and procedures are based on APA rules. Refer to the APA website for additional clarification: <https://www.americanpolocrosse.org/>

Article 40—Competition Schedule

The following is a basic schedule for a Polocrosse rally.

1. Briefing—Competitors are responsible for knowing all information from all official briefings whether present or absent. At least one representative from each team must be present at every official briefing.
2. Horse Inspection (formerly jog out)—required at standard rallies, and recommended at all rallies. Opportunity to inspect mounts for soundness.
3. Turnout Inspection—Each team reports at the assigned time and location for the turnout inspection with the mount. Riders must present for turnout inspection in the exact attire and with all the equipment, they will wear/use in the first riding round of the competition.
4. First Chukka
5. Cool Out—Following chukkas, the team reports to the official cool out area.
6. One or more subsequent rounds of competition may occur on the same or later days. Prior to each additional round of play a complete safety check of each competitor's attire, mount, and equipment must take place.
7. Turnback—Following all riding rounds, there may be an official check (turnback) of the mount, tack and equipment used for that phase.
8. Awards

Chapter 1—Field and Judging

Article 41—Polocrosse Field Specifications

At Polocrosse competitions, the size of the playing field should conform to the following as closely as possible:

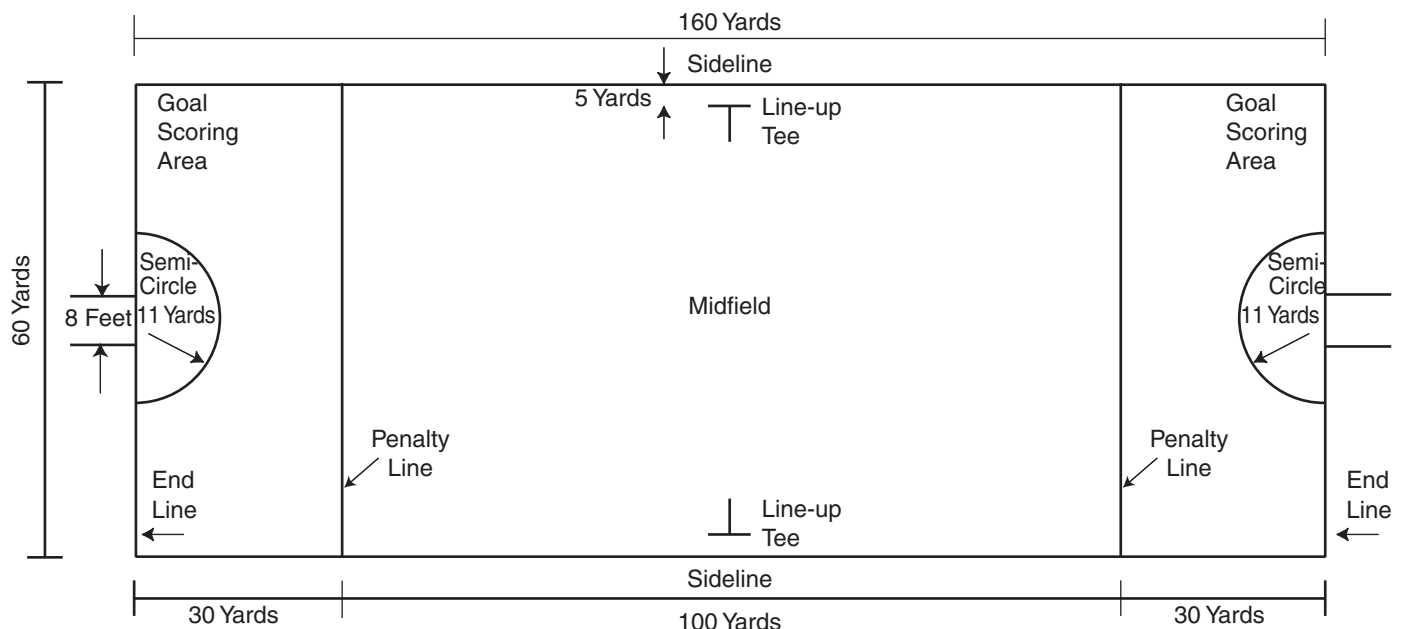
See Figure 1, below

1. The standard size of the Polocrosse field shall be:
 - Length160 yards
 - Width60 yards
 - Goal scoring area30 yards
 - Midfield100 yards
 - Radius of Goal Semi-Circle11 yards
2. The goal posts are to be 10 feet high and 8 feet apart. They will be light enough to break or be pushed over if overrun.
3. All lines shall be clearly marked and defined so as to be easily seen by all players and umpires.
4. The umpire has the right to suspend play if he/she feels that the field, mounts, players or officials are in noncompliance with the USPC Polocrosse rulebook.

Article 42—Access to Field/Warm-Up

The warm up area shall be supervised by any of the following: paddock manager, coach, umpire, or TD. They will assist in:

1. Supervising warm-up of competitors
2. Informing each team when it is allowed to go onto the field.
3. Limiting the number of competitors in warm-up as necessary.



SECTION IV: Scoring

tor), containing the references to the rules covering the reason for the inquiry Section VI, Chapter 24, D

Delivered within 30 minutes of the CHMJ decision on the verbal inquiry to the rally office.

Mounted Competition

Mounted Competition Scoring Written Inquiry

Written Inquiries may be initiated if the team captain/individual competitor does not agree or understand, or if they feel, a mistake has been made. Mounted Competition Written Inquiries are made to the TD/steward following the posting of scores.

Inquiries must be:

Initiated within 30 minutes from the time the score sheet(s) are posted and made in person by:

- The team captain, if competitor is on a team. The competitor involved may go with the team captain.
- The competitor involved (if competing as an individual).

If the team captain is riding when scores are posted and will not be available within the allowed thirty-minute period, another team member may notify the rally office that an inquiry is likely.

Written Protest to the Discipline Ground Jury

If a team does not agree with the TD/steward's decision on a written inquiry, they may advance a written protest (utilizing the existing Written Inquiry Form) to the discipline ground jury.

The decision must be made while the team is sequestered and within 10 minutes after the TD/steward's announcement of the decision to the team.

Written Protests must be:

Initiated by:

- The team captain, if competitor is on a team. The competitor involved may go with the team captain.
- The competitor involved (if competing as an individual).
- Made within 10 minutes of the TD/steward's announcement of the decision to the team.

Frivolous Protest

- During a rally, each team is allowed one "free" inquiry to the TD/steward. After the first, the TD/steward may present to the discipline ground jury any inquiry presented in which the decision of the judge was upheld and which the TD/steward deems frivolous and not in the spirit of good sportsmanship. Any inquiry deemed frivolous, may be assessed 5 points by the discipline ground jury.
- If any score change results, the Chief Scorekeeper must be notified by the official making the decision and changes recorded scores.

The discipline ground jury will meet, review the Written Inquiry/Protest form, make a decision, document the decision on the original Written Inquiry/Protest form, and report its decision.

THE DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINE GROUND JURY IS FINAL AT REGIONAL RALLIES.

Written Appeal to the Overall Ground Jury/ Appeal Committee

(AT CHAMPIONSHIPS ONLY)

If a team does not agree with the discipline ground jury's decision on a written protest, they may advance an appeal (utilizing the existing written inquiry form) to the overall ground jury/appeal committee.

The team's decision to appeal must be made while the team is sequestered and within 10 minutes after the announcement of the discipline ground jury's decision to the team.

Appeals must be initiated by:

- The team captain, if competitor is on a team. The competitor involved may go with the team captain.
- The competitor involved (if competing as an individual).

THE DECISION OF THE OVERALL GROUND JURY/APPEAL COMMITTEE IS FINAL AT CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Article 61—Scoring of Excused

Excused competitors/mounts will receive same score as an elimination score for any phase from which they are excused. Competitors/mounts may rejoin the competition soon as they are able.

Article 62—Scoring of Elimination

Game elimination of a competitor/team may occur when, in the opinion of the chief umpire, a rider has been guilty of dangerous or rough riding, unruly or unseemly behavior, rude, abusive, obscene or inappropriate language, or unsportsmanlike conduct. The decision of the umpire is final. A competitor/team may be elimination from a chukka or based on the decision of the discipline ground jury be disqualified from the rest of the competition. Elimination of a team will result in a "0" score for the chukka.

Article 63—Scoring of Disqualification

Competitors (or teams) who are disqualified from competition shall have all their scores from the competition stricken. If a stable manager is disqualified, all the team's HM points accumulated will be split evenly among the remaining team members. Disqualified competitors and their horses may not take further part in the rally, and may be asked to leave the grounds. A disqualified competitor/team may not receive an award.

SECTION IV: Scoring

The discipline ground jury may disqualify a competitor and/or a team from a competition, for the reasons stated in Article 21. The decision of the discipline ground jury is final.

Article 64—Team Scoring

1. Team scoring for Polocrosse is on a positive point basis. The total number of goals scored will be added to the Horse Management score to determine the final team score using the following formula:

Horse Management Bonus Points = # chukkas played—(# chukkas played *0.04)*(HM penalties)

Bonus scores cannot be less than zero.

Final Score = Riding Score + Horse Management Bonus Points

2. In extraordinary circumstances when a team loses a team member during the competition, the following team scoring will take effect.
 - A. In the event of the competitor being removed completely from the team. Ghost Horse Management scores will be determined per the Horse Management Handbook.
 - B. In the event of the competitor no longer being able to participate in the riding portion of the competition. They shall continue to earn Horse Management scores that count towards the final team score. These members are eligible to receive awards.

Article 65—Posting of Scores

Depending on the length of the rally, scores may be posted multiple times during the rally or just once. Any time scores are posted there is a 30-minute inquiry period where competitors can inquire regarding the scores (Article 58). After the final inquiry period, the only changes that can occur are if a transcription error has occurred. Following the final inquiry period, final scores for all competitors must be posted for review by competitors, parents, coaches, etc.

Anytime scores are posted during the competition, there will be an announcement of official score posting and time.

Article 66—Placing of Teams

The winning team is that with the best (highest) final score after all the riding score and the horse management bonus score together.

Ties: Will be broken by horse management score, and if still tied, by goals scored.

SECTION VI: Appendices

Appendix V USPC Polocrosse Rally Technical Delegate's Evaluation and Report

(This form is also available electronically on the USPC website.

=information required; circle yes or no when you see **(yes/no).*

TD/Steward's Name * _____ Phone * _____

TD/Steward's Email Address * _____

TD/Steward's License number and affiliation _____

Organizer's Name * _____ Phone * _____

Organizer's Email Address * _____

CHMJ Name* _____ Phone * _____

CHMJ Email Address * _____ Number of AHMJ's* _____

Rally Information

Region * _____ Rally Start Date * _____ Rally End Date * _____

Rally locations (please include all if multiple) _____

Is this a standard rally? * _____

Did you have a CURRENT copy of the Discipline's Rulebook? * **(yes/no)**

Did you read the rulebook prior to attending the rally? * **(yes/no)**

Was the entire rally conducted according to these rules? * **(yes/no)**

Did Horse Management function according to the rules? * **(yes/no)**

Did you have any problem with a stated rule? * **(yes/no)** If yes, please tell us why. _____

Did you have a situation for which there was not a stated rule? * **(yes/no)** If yes, please describe the situation. _____

Did any competitors receive Yellow Cards given during the rally? **(yes/no)** If yes, how many and why? _____

Were any competitors disqualified during the rally? * **(yes/no)** If so, please tell us who and why _____

SECTION VI: Appendices

Was the rally well-organized? **(yes/no)** Please describe _____

Were the facilities suitable for all phases of the rally? **(yes/no)** If no, please describe areas of concern. _____

Were the organizers and other officials friendly and supportive to competitors and each other? * **(yes/no)**

Was sufficient personnel provided to manage all phases? * **(yes/no)**

Were medical personnel & equipment (EMT, ambulance) on the grounds during mounted activities and on call at all times? * **(yes/no)**

Were any accident reports filed * **(yes/no)**

For the duration of the rally, was safety placed as a priority? **(yes/no)** Please describe _____

Were the communications suitable for all phases of the rally? (yes/no) If no, please describe areas of concern. _____

Were briefings held? (yes/no) Please describe. _____

Was the rally a learning experience for all competitors? * **(yes/no)** Please describe _____

Do you feel you were given all the materials to do your job effectively? * **(yes/no)** If no, please describe why not. _____

Horse Management Review

As the Technical Delegate/Steward, you are charged with the first level of reviewing the decisions in Horse Management. Under the rules of competition, the initial protest from the decision of the Chief Horse Management Judge is to the Technical Delegate/Steward. A protest can only be made by the team or individual competitor against whom an adverse decision is made. Therefore if a protest comes to you to reconsider the decision of the Chief Horse Management Judge and you do NOT sustain the decision of the judge, the protest is concluded. If you do sustain the Chief Horse Management Judge, then a protest can be placed before the Discipline Ground Jury.

Were all inquiries/protests that were brought to you as TD/Steward in written form on the official form? * **(yes/no)**

Do you have any comments on the Horse Management competition at this rally? _____

Do you have any additional comments or thought you would like to share? _____

SECTION VI: Appendices

Rally Competitor Numbers

Please utilize the lines below to indicate what competition divisions were offered and the number of teams and competitors in each.

	Level/ Division*	Number of Teams*	Number of Competitors*	Number of Competitors with D-2 Certification above 10 years of age*	Number of Competitors with C-1 Certification above 12 years of age*
Junior Walk/Trot	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Walk/Trot	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Junior Novice	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Novice	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Junior Intermediate	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Intermediate	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Junior Advanced	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Advanced	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Other (please specify)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

President of the Ground Jury's Name * _____ Phone * _____

President of the Ground Jury's Email Address * _____

President of the Ground Jury's License Experience (please describe) _____
