

## 2021 HORSE MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

There are changes to the HM Rulebook in the Uniform Officiation Rules section which is found in all USPC Rulebooks. The Chaperone information and signature pages were also updated. You can print off just the new pages and insert into your HM Rulebook. Here are a few highlights to note for Horse Management education and competition.

Please be aware and check the [Requirements and Recommendations for Hosting USPC Mounted Rallies in the COVID-19 Environment](#) document as changes could be made throughout the 2021 rally season. <https://www.ponyclub.org/ContentDocs/Volunteers/RallyOrg/USPC%20Req.%20and%20Rec.%20for%20Mounted%20Rallies%20During%20COVID%2011.23.20.pdf>

- 1) Section I, Article 21: Rally discipline ground juries now have the ability to assign a Yellow (Warning) Card and potential penalties to competitors who commit disqualifiable offenses. This allows it to become a teachable moment for competitors instead of expulsion from the competition. Examples for a Horse Management infraction could be, but are not limited to, unsafe behavior around horses and competitors or failure to care for the mount.
- 2) Slight change was made in reference to competitors 'hair' in all riding discipline rulebooks which takes precedence over the HM Rulebook statement on hair. New wording: *Hair-should be neatly secured (away from the eyes) and may not cover competitor number.*
- 3) Found on the Rulebook homepage, under Horse Management, revised in 2020.
  - Part 2: *Judges Guide at USPC Rallies* (this document is for the education of HM judges and describes responsibilities and processes)
  - Part 3: *Organizing and Staffing the HM Program* (this document describes the responsibilities and processes that the Horse Management Organizer should follow to assist in member education, and staffing HM Judges at a rally)
- 4) Found on the Instruction Resources homepage, under Instruction Ideas and Horse Management Program, revised in 2020.
  - *The Horse Management Program Guidebook* (helps DCs and CAs with information on the importance of teaching Horse Management to members, and ideas on ways to build a successful program)

5) Cooling out of Hot Horses: In 2020, the Horse Management Committee was asked to look at the established guidelines for cooling out hot horses to see where USPC stands regarding current research. Here is the result of much discussion and collaboration of all Instruction Committees.

*The Instruction Council of the United States Pony Clubs believes that the individual rider is the person who knows best how to cool his/her horse when it is overheated. This is not just confined to the vet box at the end of the cross country course, it could also be after a round of mounted games, after a polocrosse chukka or even after a long trailer ride on a hot day.*

*Our advice to the member is to be aware of how their horse responds to cooling processes, be able to assess their horse's needs in the moment, and the best way to achieve a cooled status and do whatever possible, **using the resources available**, as long as it is effective in a timely manner. These actions could be continuous hosing, or sponge and scrape, or sponge only with tepid or ice water, along with walking your horse.*

### USPC Horse Management Required Equipment Checklist Amplification 2019

This document is located on the Rulebook page under Horse Management. There are detailed explanations for the extra equipment including information for the Western Disciplines and alternative stabling methods. We want to make this a "living" document and will be adding information to it throughout the years.

We wish you the best while rallying this year, stay safe!

### 2021 Horse Management Committee contact list:

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