

2023 HORSE MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

The changes to the 2023 Horse Management Handbook and Rules for Rallies were with an effort to update the book with current USPC policies and certification changes and for making the rulebook more specific to competitors.

Article 5- Member Participation and Eligibility and restated in **Article 41-** Leaving the Barn Area During the Competition Day: Competitors and mounts are expected to participate in **ALL** aspects of the rally including briefings, horse inspections, mounted competition, and Horse Management. For overnight rallies, all mounts are expected to stay on the competition grounds unless the competitor makes other arrangements with the rally organizer prior to the start of the competition. If a mount is removed from the competition grounds without prior consultation with the rally organizer, the competitor may be penalized by the ground jury.

Article 12- Veterinary Care and Medications and **Article 97-** Veterinary Care and Equine Medications and **Article 98-** Veterinary Care and Equine Medications Instructions and Procedures: (Policy 0860 and 0860 P.1) To promote the safety and welfare of Pony Club members and their mounts and provide for fair and unbiased competitions, the Policy of the Board of Governors is that all mounts in a USPC sponsored activities be serviceably sound and healthy. The definition of serviceably sound may vary based on the mount's duties and competition level.

Medications may be administered to mounts, provided their use does not create an unfair advantage or allow an unfit mount to participate as determined by the rally officials.

It is the owner/rider's responsibility, in coordination with a veterinarian, to determine what medication(s) are appropriate.

Competitors participating in USPC rallies held in conjunction with other competitions may be subject to medication rules of other organizations in addition to those of USPC. *See Article 12 page 3 for more details.*

Article 15- Safety and **Article 128-** Helmet: Protective Headgear (Policy 0810): 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 with SEI Mark (North America)
- SNELL Memorial Foundation E2016 or E2021
- AS/NZ 3838 with SAI Global Mark
- PAS 015 with BSI Kitemark

Article 21- Disqualification: If a rally official identifies a competitor behaving in a way that could lead to disqualification, that official may issue a written warning to the competitor using Appendix VII, a Yellow Card. If the rally official believes the Yellow Card should have penalties attached to it, or that the competitor should be disqualified, they must refer the situation to the discipline ground jury. *See Article 21 on page 7 for more details.*

Article 40- Access to the Barns During a Rally: Mounts must be fed at barn opening and before barn closing.

Article 95- Feeding at Overnight Rallies: Mounts are expected to be fed upon barn opening by at least one member of the team.

Chapter 15- Officiation: This chapter was removed and can be found in the all discipline rulebooks.

Appendices- Veterinarian Letter: This item is no longer required and has been removed from the Handbook.

Appendices- Chaperone and Emergency Contact Forms: find these in the discipline rulebooks.

Appendices- New Heat Index Chart that includes 0-100% humidity for 70-130 degrees

Article 138- Making a Stall Card: The Stall Card template was revised to include an Adult Member Only Contact and Emergency Contact Info box at the bottom.

Rally Score Sheets:

- Have a "new look" but the wording has not changed.
- Rally worksheets have been moved to Regional HM Judges Guide.
- A complete set of score sheets are available in Regional HM Judge's Guide and listed on the CHMJ/HMO Resource web page.

Officials and Competitor rally evaluation forms will be available online soon. Notice will go out to Chiefs, HMOs, and Rally Organizers when complete.

Chiefs, Provisional Chiefs, and Mentor Chiefs please complete the online rally evaluation forms found on the CHMJ/HMO Resource pages.

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

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