



CAVIETTA TRAIL OBSTACLE CHALLENGE

The purpose of this event is to promote horsemanship in ever-changing environments, while keeping FUN the main priority. We have carefully selected different divisions to make sure all participants and their equines have a level playing field and leave with a positive experience.

DIVISIONS

- **Exhibition**-An opportunity to ride through the obstacles, exposing equines to things they might not have seen. Riders must enter/clear the arena in under 6 minutes. Please note that we will allow up to 4 exhibitors in the course at a time. Please be mindful and courteous to other exhibitors. If you're struggling with an obstacle, let other riders waiting complete the obstacle and then continue your work.
- **Leadline**-This division is available for children 10 years of age and younger who are not yet riding without a helper. Children will receive a score just as adult exhibitors, but will all receive a first place. This obstacle will consist of no more than 5 obstacles. Exhibitors in this division must have an assistant in the arena beside their equine at all times. The course must be completed within a designated timeframe. Leadline exhibitors must wear a helmet at all times while mounted. Leadline exhibitors may NOT enter any other division. No stallions allowed in this division.
- **In-Hand**-This division is for all equines and handlers. This division will have no more than 8 obstacles and must be completed within a designated time frame.
- **Green Horse**-This division is for horses of any age that are not yet able to neck rein, and are not proficient in "finished maneuvers" such as spins, hard stops, flying lead changes, etc. It is expected that horses in this division might not approach obstacles with the confidence of horses in other divisions. Open level riders will be allowed in this class.
- **Youth**-This division is reserved for riders 18 years of age and younger as of January 1st of the current year. Riders in this division may not have helpers in the arena, but may have a DESIGNATED coach (*only an open level rider*) helping them verbally, but respectfully from the sidelines. No stallions allowed in this division.
- **Amateur**-This division is reserved for **adult** riders who are 19 years of age or older as of January 1st, but receive no remuneration for riding horses and/or teaching horse riding/handling lessons.
- **Open**-This division is open to ALL exhibitors, no matter the age or experience. This is the only division riders may enter if they receive remuneration for riding horses and/or teaching horse riding/handling lessons (except the Green Horse division).
- **Need for Speed Side-Pot**-This is a \$25 side-pot offered for exhibitors **ONLY in the Open Division** who can complete their judged obstacles in the fastest amount of time. All other judging still applies. This is not a separate class. You will pay to ride once and your time will count for the class and the side-pot. Please note that horsemanship should not be



sacrificed for speed. And if speed becomes a priority over equine welfare, the judge has the right to excuse an exhibitor.

TACK

- Riders may ride in the tack of whatever discipline they choose, so long as it is properly fitting, correctly adjusted, and brings no discomfort to the animal.
- Riders must be in full cowboy attire or full English attire (according to what saddle they ride in). In extreme weather, judges may waive attire rules.
- All riders are permitted (and encouraged to) wear helmets, but riders in English saddles must wear a helmet. Any youth wanting to ride in a western saddle without a helmet must have a special waiver signed by a guardian. Leadline exhibitors **MUST** wear a helmet at all times while mounted.
- No tie-downs, martingales, draw reins, etc. permitted.
- Breast collars, cruppers, back cinches, etc. may be used.
- BITS
 - Horses of any age may be shown in most any bit.
 - Any rider using a bit excessively to force a horse into a frame, into compliance, into a direction, or to express their emotions **WILL BE EXCUSED** from the competition.

BEHAVIOUR

- Exhibitors are to examine good horsemanship and sportsmanship both during competition and on competition grounds when they are not competing. Any rider found treating their horse poorly, using equipment improperly, or treating humans with disrespect will be excused from the competition.
- Horses showing signs obvious discomfort will be asked to leave the competition.
- Horses showing signs of agitation will be asked to leave the competition.
- Horses who bolt/rear/kickout/bite or show other signs of disrespect/discomfort/disobedience may be asked to leave the competition.
- All decisions and rulings from the judge are final. Riders are welcome to ask judges for clarification at the end of the day, when results are posted. If riders or coaches have questions about a score that might change the overall results of a class/division, they may approach show management, who will then consult with the judge.



- A time limit will be set for each pattern.
- Exhibitors must complete a pattern within the set time limit.
- Scoring will be done on a score of 1 through 10, with 5 being considered an average score. A score of 10 should be rare. A score of 8 or 9 should show a well-educated partnership with good communication.
 - The obstacles will each have three basic components
 1. The approach (+1 or -1)
 2. The obstacle (0-8)
 3. The departure (+1 or -1)
 - The judge will only record one score for each obstacle
 - A whole pattern will receive a +5 credit for neck reining in a curb bit, or direct reining in a snaffle bit
 - No credits will be given for neck reining in a snaffle or direct reining in a curb bit.
 - Things to consider while approaching, completing, and departing the obstacles
 - Straightness
 - Softness
 - Transitions
 - Balance
 - Willingness
 - Alertness
 - Responsiveness
 - Quality of movement
 - Penalties (per occurrence)
 - -1 point penalties
 - Gaping Mouth
 - Wrong Diagonal
 - Excessive spurring
 - Excessive speed in unsuitable conditions
 - Cross-cantering for more than 3 strides
 - -2 point penalties
 - Wrong lead for more than 3 strides
 - -3 point penalties
 - Hanging on the rein to maintain balance
 - Heavy Handedness
 - Not fixing a cross canter/wrong lead
 - Credits (per occurrence)
 - +1 credits



EST. 2017

- Correct lead
- Loose Rein
- +2 point credits
 - Backing through an obstacle with cadence, balance, and speed
 - Correct stop
 - Balanced/smooth rate/transitions
- +3 point credits
 - Flying lead changes
- If there is a tie at the end of a class/division, the tie-breaker will be:
 1. Whoever has the fastest time
 2. Whoever has the fewest penalties

MISC.

- Riders may enter on as many horses as they'd like across as many divisions as they're eligible for.
- Horses may be entered under different riders and in different divisions.
- Each pattern is "Riders Choice" regarding the SPEED in which obstacles and spaces between obstacles is executed. This should help an exhibitor show off their horse as best they can. It is better to be slow and smooth than fast and sloppy. Credit will be given to riders who are fast and smooth/correct.



SCORE SHEET

DIVISION						
Rider Name/#						
	Approach	Obstacle	Departure	Penalties	Credits	Total
Obstacle 1						
Obstacle 2						
Obstacle 3						
Obstacle 4						
Obstacle 5						
Obstacle 6						
Obstacle 7						
Obstacle 8						
Obstacle 9						
Obstacle 10						
Obstacle 11						
Obstacle 12						
				REIGNING CREDIT +5		
				RIDER TOTAL		
				RIDER TIME		