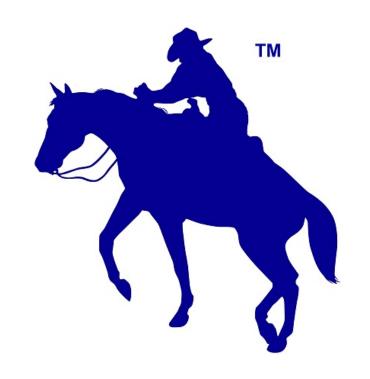
## LEISURE DIVISION QUICK START GUIDE



NORTH AMERICAN
TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE
natrc.org

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## INTRODUCTION TO THE NATRC LEISURE DIVISION

A competitive trail ride is a competitive distance event over a measured distance and completed within a window of time. North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC<sup>TM</sup>) Leisure Division (LeD) competitions consist of a sanctioned 1-day competition for equines (of any breed) 4 years old and older. Two competitions are often held on subsequent days. LeD rides can be held in conjunction with a regular NATRC ride, as a stand-alone competition, or in conjunction with a clinic.

The mileage for this division is 8 to 12 miles at 3 to 4.5 mph. The division is split into Experienced, Adult (over 17) and Junior classes. Riders who are approved judges of any division, those with more than 250 points from any combination of any division, or have won a national award must compete in the Experienced Class. Anyone may compete in the Experienced Class if they chose to do so.

There is a maximum of five judged observations per ride. The horse and rider are judged as a team by one or two approved NATRC judges.

Horses are evaluated based on trail ability and manners. Riders are evaluated on equitation and communication with the horse. Safety and courtesy are scored. Overnight stabling is evaluated for safety, but not scored, and (for insurance purposes) must comply with NATRC stabling rules. There is at least one pulse and respiration (P&R) stop where standard recovery criteria are scored. There are no restrictions for hoof or leg protection.

Horse and rider scores are added together to determine placing of teams for the three classes. Placings include first through sixth place in each class offered. Point distribution for the Leisure Division is based on the number of starters (see details in the Rule Book). Riders and horses accumulate 10 miles for each LeD ride completed.

From the scorecards and from the experience of competing, riders learn equitation and pacing techniques and methods of care that help their horses perform well. A by-product of competitive trail riding includes learning such things as developing a better partnership with your horse, proper nutrition, emergency medical care, etc. Most importantly, riders become familiar with how the animal's body functions and how it handles the stresses that lead to improved health and outlook.

NATRC competitors share the challenges of terrain and weather conditions, of timing, and being judged, and sometimes the treasure hunt quality of staying on course, making for a spirit of friendliness special to NATRC. In a sense, that too is one of the learning experiences of the sport.

So it is then that trail riders compete year after year, not just for the competition but for the friendships, old and new, the ongoing education, and the enjoyment of the partnership that develops between horse and rider, resulting in your becoming a better horse person and your horse becoming a better horse.

The NATRC website (www.natrc.org) contains interactive documentation and other aids to help competitors.

## WHAT THE DAY LOOKS LIKE

- 1) Riders arrive at the host site, park, and make their horses comfortable while they go check in at ride headquarters. Generally, riders are expected to pre-register in NATRC's Ride Management System (RMS); however, riders who just show up can be entered upon arrival (depending on management).
- 2) Riders then report for a briefing of the trail where the distance to be traveled and speed are announced to all. The maps of the trail are reviewed, and the 30-minute completion time window is announced. Horse/rider teams should arrive at the various point markers on the trail within the appropriate 30-minute window for that given point marker. Questions are answered.
- 3) After the ride briefing, riders present their horses for initial examination that includes a basic soundness and surface assessment to determine if the horse is fit to start the ride.
- 4) Once all the horse/rider teams have completed the initial assessment, riders tack up, mount up, and report to the timer. Riders are timed out at 15 to 30 second intervals.
- 5) Along the trail, horse/rider teams are evaluated up to five times on an instructed skill or just something difficult in the trail. According to NATRC rules, all observations must be natural and native to the terrain.
- 6) The safety of all observations and skills have been reviewed by management and approved by the judge(s). Should a rider feel that an observation is unsafe for them or their horse, they have the option to bypass, recognizing that this will affect their score.
- 7) Safety and courtesy by the rider are scored. In general, an attentive competitor who understands the safety aspect of horsemanship and who respects the rights of others will ride accordingly. For example,
  - a. It is safer to keep at least one horse length behind another, except when overtaking to pass.
  - b. It is courteous to wait for the next horse to complete an obstacle.
- 8) Trail observations might include:
  - a. A mount and/or dismount
  - b. Ascents or Descents
  - c. Up/Down Transitions
  - d. Negotiating a difficult part of the trail (downed timber, creek bed, between boulders, etc.)
  - e. A back up (through, around, between natural terrain, etc.)
  - f. A side pass (over log, to tree, uphill, downhill, etc.)
- 9) Somewhere on the trail, horse/rider teams can expect to encounter a pulse and respiration (P&R) stop. To help ensure equal evaluation of the horses, riders may be instructed to trot to the P&R. Failure to meet recovery criteria is penalized.
- 10) Toward the end of the trail (about 1 mile from camp), horse/rider teams encounter a trail marker that requires forward motion into camp. The purpose of this is to ensure that all riders maintain their pace according to the criteria given out at the briefing and to not wait outside the finish line if they are early.
- 11) Riders are expected to cross the finish line within the 30-minute window defined at the briefing. There are penalties for being early or being late.
- 12) Upon crossing the finish line, riders return to the judge(s) for a final exam. This assessment is the same as was done at the start of the competition. For the most part, comments on the final assessment are just noted on the cards. However, if a horse is consistently and visibly lame at check out, the team may be granted Completion Only (and not placed) or pulled.
- 13) Judges score the teams and provide comments to help the rider do better for themselves, their horses or the partnership between them. NATRC does not allow ties in the placings. Often plusses or minuses are used to determine the winning team.
- 14) Once the scores are tallied and placing made by the judge(s), there is an awards ceremony with ribbons and prizes for first through sixth places in each of the three classes (Experienced, Adult and Junior). At the end of the awards ceremony, the riders are given copies of their score cards containing numerous helpful suggestions from the judge(s). They can practice these things at home in anticipation of doing better next time.
- 15) Over time, you become a better horse person and your horse becomes a better horse.

## TIPS FOR LEISURE DIVISION RIDERS

## 1) Initial Presentation to Judge

- a. Clean horse, including hooves
- b. Remove parasites (bot eggs, ticks, etc.)
- c. Maintain two hands on lead
- d. Fold, don't loop, excess lead
- e. Stay on same side of horse as judge
- f. Maintain control of horse
- g. During trot stay beside horse and maintain consistent gait

## 2) Timing

- Set watch at noon when you time out
- Stay within +/- 15 minutes of time for each point marker
- Adjust pace as needed to ensure arriving at finish in required window
- d. Maintain forward motion after passing 1mile/ forward motion marker

## 3) Trail Equitation

- a. Light in saddle
- b. Soft rein contact
- c. Ankles relaxed
- d. Centered in saddle
- e. Subtle leg cues

## 4) Uphill

- a. Shift balance slightly forward from hip
- b. Increase weight through thighs to stirrups
- c. Maintain lightness in saddle
- d. Move with horse's action
- e. Allow horse to use head for balance
- f. Hold mane, if needed, for balance

## 5) Downhill

- a. Relax, resist leaning back
- b. Maintain lightness in saddle
- c. Move with horse's action
- d. Use legs to keep upper body still

## 6) Observations

- a. Stop, Settle, Slow
- b. Relax, relax, relax
- c. Look ahead, not down
- d. Ask questions, if needed

## 7) Mount

- a. Adjust tack in advance
- b. Square up and settle horse
- c. Use terrain / mounting block
- d. Jump up, not pull up
- e. Land softly in saddle
- f. Re-adjust/center saddle
- g. Settle horse before moving off

## 8) Back

- a. Stop, Settle, Slow
- b. Relax, relax, relax
- c. Check behind for footing and position
- d. Maintain soft hands, giving and taking with reins
- e. Use leg aids for directional control

## 9) Trail Safety and Courtesy

- a. Keep rider number visible
- b. Maintain at least one horse length between horses / Don't crowd
- c. Approach and pass slowly
- d. Ask permission to pass
- e. After passing, do not linger
- f. Wait for horse behind you at observations
- g. Don't let your actions spook others

## 10) P&R Checks

- a. Line up perpendicular to trail and parallel to other horses.
- b. Loosen saddle slightly
- c. Maintain control of horse
- d. Sponge, fan, cool horse
- e. Relax yourself so your horse will relax
- f. Ask permission before leading away
- g. Be polite to P&R workers and thank them for volunteering
- h. Follow special instructions, if given

## TRAIL ABILITY AND MANNERS

Trail Ability/Manners for the trail horse presumes, above all, that it shall be a safe horse! Then, consideration may be given to the features that make a horse pleasant during the rigors of traversing challenging terrain.

A pleasant horse performs the task without undue harassment to or from the rider; it allows the rider to relax, subsequently see the scenery, and enjoy trail riding even more. The scoring of manners reflect this priority.

The traits considered important are:

- a) standing quietly for an exam or P&R check,
- b) standing for the mount,
- c) readily responding to aids and cues,
- d) being respectful and responsive to the rider,
- e) willingly stepping through obstacles,
- f) lightly traveling at the rider's set pace,
- g) trotting in hand willingly and safely,
- h) and socializing appropriately (getting along with) with other horses.

Dangerous behavior by the horse may be grounds for disqualification and removal from the ride. A fractious or unruly horse, especially at exams or P&R stops, will not be allowed to compete. It endangers the volunteer help, other competing horses, and riders.



## PRACTICAL TRAIL SKILLS

A good trail horse is much more than one who will go forward down the trail. In order to deal with the unknowns of the trail, a good trail horse should be able to do certain trail skills. These types of skills highlight your horse's trust in you and your ability to guide him using your seat, legs, and hands. In the interest of safety, judges will often simulate a natural trail condition to ask you to perform a trail skill.

**Back up:** Since backing does not require any special props, such as logs or water, the judges may ask for this anywhere. The judge might stop you on the trail and ask for such things as to back your horse five steps, back between two trees, back between two logs on the ground, back up a slight incline, or even back in an L-shaped pattern. Collect your horse, glance back to make sure the space is clear, take a deep breath, and ask your horse to back. If backing a certain number of steps, back ONLY the number of steps requested. It helps to count the steps out loud so both you and the judge are in sync. Being able to control single steps of your horse is a wonderful tool for maneuvers on the trail or anywhere. Regardless of what you are asked to back through or over, the judges will be looking for a horse that backs straight, smoothly, and willingly.

**Side pass:** Being able to side pass can make a difference in safety on the trail as well as on your scorecards. This skill is useful in opening/closing a gate from the back of your horse, tying a ribbon, or picking up something lying over a fence.

Water and log crossings: Under most circumstances, the techniques used to cross water or logs are pretty much the same. The horse should cross obediently, without hesitation, paying attention to the rider's aids and where he puts his feet. Follow any instructions carefully. Don't be afraid to ask questions. It is usually permissible to let your horse stop and drink when crossing water, but you should not hold up other riders. Be considerate. If you think your horse needs to drink, move off to the side after the judge has evaluated you so as to let the next rider past.

Most judges like to see a horse cross logs without touching them. This shows that the horse is focused, aware of his surroundings, and not clumsy. The judge is looking for riders to be balanced in the saddle and guiding the horse over the safest route. To stay balanced, do not look down as you cross. This moves your weight over the side and interferes with your horse's balance.

Size up the situation BEFORE you begin, then keep your eyes focused ahead as you proceed through/over. It is usually considered unsafe to jump an obstacle. If you choose to jump, maintain your balance and stay with the action of the horse so you don't get whiplash. Don't look down as you go over. Fortunately, Mother Nature has given us lots of material to use to practice these skills at home. Instead of looking at the winter's downed trees and branches on the trail as a nuisance, consider them as an opportunity to practice your trail skills. For times when you can't get out on the trail, use logs or small jumps set up in a pasture or arena to practice on. Be creative...the judges certainly are!

**Be safe:** Above all, be safe. If you are asked to do something that you don't think you or your horse are ready for, just tell the judge that you'll pass on that observation. Yes, you will lose points, but just one more point than the horse/rider that did it the worst. It's better to be safe than getting you or your horse hurt.

**Tip:** When you practice these skills at home, be sure to do them from the ground as well. Not only can this help the horse understand the maneuver, sometimes the judge will ask you to perform these skills in-hand. Fortunately, these skills require no special equipment and can be easily practiced anywhere, even in an arena. Once your horse backs up and side passes willingly for you, you will find more and more occasions to use these new abilities. Saddle up and ride!

## TRAIL SKILLS - A TRAINING LIST

Being able to do trail skills is part of what makes a good trail horse. We only do what we've practiced, and because we are judged on trail skills, we practice them. Skills asked for in an NATRC ride are based on practical situations. Judges evaluate your horse's ability and responsiveness as well as your cues, control and balance. Ride them as you have practiced. Don't do a "monkey see, monkey do" and just copy the horse and rider ahead of you. Their technique might not work the best for you.

Following are some things you and your horse might be asked to do:

## From the Ground:

- Trot in hand
- Mount (using terrain) with the horse standing still
- Dismount with the horse standing still
- Offside mount with the horse standing still
- Back between two objects
- o Back uphill
- Back around something
- Side pass
- Allow strangers to pick up horse's feet, etc.
- o Stand calm for 10 minutes
- Turn on the forehand
- Turn on the haunches
- Hug the judges!



## While Mounted:

- Back between two objects
- Back uphill
- Back around an object
- Side pass
- Step over a large log, stop, stand
- Side pass along a log
- Open and close a gate
- Walk over a bridge
- Turn on the forehand
- Turn on the hindquarters
- Walk up a hill (no rushing)
- Walk down a hill (no rushing)
- Stop on an incline and tie a ribbon to a limb
- Trot a figure eight
- Trot, stop when told
- Trot over a log without breaking stride
- Cross water
- Go down the side of a deep ravine
- Go up the side of a steep ravine
- Put on and take off a raincoat
- Condition your horse to maintain a pulse at or below 48 bpm after a 10-minute rest

## **SCORECARD FRONT**

| South Association   | ALERS.                    | NATINC LONG              | dness                 | Check Out |       |             |      | No Change C          | tion                | 2nd Points      | 9-0   | 9-0         | 2 0, 5, 10<br>Holds<br>0 | - 20<br>oding                                  | esy               |           | ts 0 - 5  | SCORE  | PLACE  |                                   |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------|-------------|------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------|-------------|--------------------------|--|-------------------|-----------|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|
|   | 19 HT                     | 9                        | Surface and Soundness | CheckIn   |       |             |      | Permitted to start □ | Pulse & Respiration | # Had           |       |             | Hdd +                    | P&R Points 0 - 20<br>Refer to back for scoring | Safety & Courtesy |           | Safety Points 0 - 5                             | Penalty Points                                       | Penalty Point Explanation                      |                                   |
| FIGURE  | DIVISION                  | SCORECARD                | urfaces               | 5         |       |             |      | Perm                 | Pulse               | Out<br>(Scored) |       |             | No<br>Holds<br>+10       | P&F  | Safety            |           | S   | Penal  | Peralty Po                                     |                                   |
| -   | 38                        | SCOR                     | Ø                     |           | Mouth | Back/ Girth | Legs | Soundness            |                     |                 | Pulse | Respiration | Holds                    |  |                   | Comments: |   | Region   |  |                                   |
|   | Points                    | 0 -5 Horse<br>0 -5 Fater |                       |           |       |             |      |                      |                     |                 |       |             |                          | Γ  |                   |           |   | Ode  |  |                                   |
|   | Partnership<br>(optional) | <u> </u>                 |                       |           | · · · |             |      |                      |                     |                 | -i +i |             |                          | ċ  | 1                 |           | Total Observation Points<br>0 - 10 per obstacle |  |  |                                   |
| munication  | Excelent<br>+5            | 00                       |                       |           |       |             |      | 00                   |                     |                 |       | 0           |                          |  |                   |           | Total Observ                                    |  |  |                                   |
| itation & Con   | Good Job                  | 00                       |                       |           | 00    |             |      | 00                   |                     |                 |       |             |                          |  |                   |           |   | Age Ride Nerse                                       | (t) adpror                                     | 8                                 |
| OBSERVATIONS  By & Marners and Rider's Equitation & Communication | Satisfactory<br>+3        | 00                       |                       |           | 00    |             |      | 00                   |                     |                 |       | -           |                          |  | _                 |           |   | Breed  |  | CLASS: Experienced Add. Jurier DO |
| OBSE<br>A Marners a   | Needs Work                | 00                       |                       |           | 00    |             |      | 00                   |                     |                 |       | 3           |                          |  | _                 |           |   |  |  |                                   |
| Horse's Trail Ability   | Tried, DNC                | 00                       |                       |           | 00    |             |      | 00                   |                     |                 |       | 3           |                          |  | _                 |           |   |  |  | un DW: LBSURE                     |
| Hors  | Declined                  | 00                       | Comments:             |           | 00    | Comments:   |      | 00                   | Comments:           |                 |       |             | Comments:                |  | -                 | Comments: |   | Horse Name   | F3 der Narne                                   | TYPE 81-5at 82-6un                |
|   |                           | Horse                    |                       |           | Horse |             |      | Horse                |                     |                 | Horse | RES         |                          |  | Rider             |           |   | Rider#   | <u>,                                      </u> |                                   |
|   |                           | <b>←</b>                 |                       |           | 8     |             |      | 3                    |                     |                 | 4     |             |                          | r)   |                   |           |   | $ldsymbol{ldsymbol{ldsymbol{ldsymbol{ldsymbol{L}}}}$ |  |                                   |

## SCORECARD BACK



She should not diagnose any type of lameness but merely decide if the equine should be made to award completion misage only or to pull the team from the Judge will observe an in-hand, down-and-back that at check in and check out. is okey to start at check in (famouses not observable or consistent on the straight line), and the same or worse at check out. If the latter, a decision SOUNDNESS ide as described below.

## Lameness Grades

consistently apparent regardess of droumstance (e.g. under saddle, driding indines, hard surfaces, etc.). Grade 1: Lameness is difficult to observe and is not

under certain droumstances (e.g. weight carrying, dirding. when totting in a straight line, but consistently apparent Grade 2: Lameness is difficult to observe at a walk or inclines, hard surfaces, etc.)

원양

Soore

Breaths 9 or less 10-13 14-17 1821

808

Beets

Respiration

Pulse

PULSE & RESPIRATION

Grade 3: Lameness is consistently observable at a trot granted at the discretion of the judge with oard scored under all droumstances. Do not allow to start the day! If abserved during ride, the equine should be pulled. if deerwed at final check, Completion Only may be

1Hdd 2Hdd

COMPLETION

ğ

ONLY (CO)

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Grade 4: Lameness is obvious at a walk,

Grade & Lameness produces minimal weight-bearing in motion and/or at road, or a complete inability to move

## PULL CODES

Holds: if the scored P&R is at 17 or higher for either puise and respiration, the

be scored. The initial outgoing P&R is soored as above. These numbers are

based on a 15 second count

An incoming courteey Pulse & Respiration (P&R) may be taken but will not

÷

26 or higher

17 or higher + 0

ななななな 9 9

Strike a diagonal line across the face of the card. Write the words PULL" and one of the following pull codes:

Rider Option: Rider Illness, Injury, fatigue, weather, etc. Lameness: Any degree of lameness Grade 3 or above. Metabolic Non-recovery, odio, thumps, tie-up, etc. Disqualification: Rule violations, dangerous, etc. Surface Factoris: Wounds, sore backs, rubs, etc.

Cofe, Te-Up, Thumps: Pull - Recommend Immediate Medical Attention

Pull If not recovered (below 17 on both pulse and respiration) after two holds beyond the socred P&R (total of 30 minutes of recovery time including

the initial P&R)

equine will be held for another 10 minutes. It will again be checked after this

final hold

equine will be held for an additional 10 minutes. Another reading will be taken on both the pulse and respiration and if other is still 17 or higher, the

# TRAIL ABILITY / MANNERS

severe disobedience. An equine that displays excellent skill during a maneuver should earn a better soore than one that has difficulty orshows resistance. A quiet equine is awarded higher points than Responsiveness is rewarded so an equine that is attentive to the trail and rider is sooned higher than one with mild, moderate or one that displays buddying, head toesing, shying calling etc. Equines may eam up to 5 points on each observation

DISQUALIFY Obvious kick or bits at judge, rider or hander Fractious, Unruly, Dangerous

## RIDER'S EQUITATION & COMMUNICATION

reward good balance and lightness of east, soft cues, proper body and leg position, good cortrol, and effective hands and alds. through observations or when asked to stop and perform a task On ascending, descending and level temain, the judge should When negotiating chetacles, riders should display the desired Equitation and communication may be observed during ride control, ourse, timing and form to enhance the equine's Robers may earn up to 5 points on each observation serformance and teamwork.

## SAFETY & COURTESY

Riders may earn up to 5 points for overall attention to trail safety and courteey during the ride.

ing to directions, being safe with equine, self and others, and considerable when passing on the trail or waiting at an obtation will earn lighter scores. Good trail disjustice is Maintaining a proper distance between equines, respond-

Observe for interference and/or swelling. This is not a hands on

With a flat hand, feel across the top of the back and observe for

any reaction.

Observe for any aweling, chafing or rubs. Evaluate for rubs from bit or ohin strap.

Note: Andings are to be noted and discussed but not scored. Severe

SURFACE ASSESSMENT

findings may be reason to pull at the judge's discretion.

Mouth Girth Girth Back ŝ

## SCORECARD EXAMPLE

| ERICON TRAIL RIDE  | FERE                      | NOW                             | NATRC.ORG | dness                   | Check Out                                   | 3        | )            | )   | No Change ☑─CO □ Pull □ | tion                    | 2nd Points      | 0.5 H    | 8.<br>P     | 2 0, 5, 10<br>Holds / O   | -20 19   | ssy               | hill;  | 180-5 3   | SCORE          | 44             | PLACE   |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|---|----------|--------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------------|---|--|-------------------|--|---|----------------|----------------|---|
|  |                           |                                 |           | Surface and Soundness   | 유민  |          | )            | \   |                         | Pulse & Respiration     | 1st 2<br>Hold H | +        |             | Hold<br>+5  | P&R Points 0 - 20<br>Refer to back for scoring | Safety & Courtesy | ents:<br>Crowding #102 Downhill;<br>Keep safe distance | Safety Points 0 - 5                             | Points         |                | Explanation   |
|  | DIVISION                  | SCORECARD                       |           | rface an                | Check In                                    | 7        | 7            | 7   | Permitted to start      | Pulse &                 | Out<br>(Scored) |          | 6           | No<br>Holds<br>+10  | P&R<br>Refer to b                              | Safety            | ents:<br>Crowding #102 Dov<br>Keep safe distance       | Saf   | Penalty Points |                | Penalty Point Explanation                           |
| -  |                           | SCOR                            |           | Su                      |   | Mouth    | Back / Girth | regs  | Soundness               |                         |                 | Pulse    | Respiration | Holds   |  |                   | Comments:<br>Crowc<br>Keep 3                           |   | Region         | ∞              |   |
|  | Points                    | 0 - 5 Horse<br>+<br>0 - 5 Rider |           | <b>9</b>                |   |          | X            |   | 3                       | 7                       |                 |          | (           | †<br>>>   |  |                   |  | 456   | Date           | 1/10/20        |   |
|  | Partnership<br>(Optional) | <u> </u>                        |           |                         |   | <u>.</u> |              |   | <u>-</u>                |                         |                 | -i +X    |             |   | ;<br>;   | - 1               |  | Total Observation Points<br>0 - 10 per obstacle |                |                |   |
| munication   | Excellent<br>+5           |                                 | ]         |                         |   | 00       |              |   | 00                      |                         |                 |          |             |   |  |                   |  | Total Observ<br>0 - 1                           |                | Functusive CTR | nancy Drew  |
| ation & Com  | Good Job<br>+4            |                                 | ]         | -                       | ntrol                                       | 00       |              | t a time  |                         |                         |                 | ₽. E     | ×.          | precise   |  |                   |  |   | Age Ride Name  | 10 Funci       | 3   |
| <b>OBSERVATIONS</b> Ability & Manners and Rider's Equitation & Communication | tory                      | Q.D                             | <b>5</b>  |                         | Good Torm; snorten reins Tor better control | 00       |              | Allow horse to settle first; one step at a time | ₩ □                     |                         | horse           |          |             | Horse calm and responsive<br>Refine your cues to be a little more precise |  | _                 |  |   |                | Grade 1        | CLASS: Experienced (Adult) Junior DO                |
| OBSE<br>/ & Manners at   | Needs Work<br>+2          |                                 | ]         | g slightly;             | norten reins                                | ***      |              | to settle fin                                   | 00                      | Horse slightly hesitant | for hesitant    |          |             | n and respoi<br>ir cues to be   |  |                   |  |   |                | Gre            |   |
| Horse's Trail Ability  | Tried, DNC<br>+1          |                                 | ]         | Horse rushing slightly; | sood torm; s                                | 00       | Horse antsv  | Allow horse                                     | 00                      | Horse sligh             | Good cues       |          |             | Horse calr<br>Refine you  |  |                   |  |   |                |                | nna Win<br>2-Sun DIV: LEISURE                       |
| Hora   | Declined<br>0             |                                 | ם         | Comments: H             |   |          | Comments:    |   |                         | Comments:               |                 | <u> </u> |             | Comments:   |  |                   | Comments:  |   | Horse Name     | Jake           | Rider Name Jane Wanna Win TYPE: (81-59) 82-Sun DIV: |
|  |                           | Horse                           | and a     |                         |   | Horse    | ass          |   | Horse                   | ute                     | ail             | Horse    | Rider       |   | Horse  | Rider             |  |   | Rider #        |                | 7   |
|  |                           | F                               |           | Rocky                   | Downhill                                    | 7        | Sidepass     | Log   | [67]                    | Reroute                 | off Trail       | 4        |             | Gate  | 20   | 1                 |  |   | 5              | ,              | 12  |

## SAMPLE SCORECARD COMMENTS

## Grooming

Not judged (however, an LeD judge can remind a rider to groom for comfort of horse)

## Tack & Stabling

Not judged - evaluated for safety

## **Trail Equitation**

Use leg support to be light in saddle
Better control with shorter reins
Relax ankles and let heels drop down
Use quiet hands
Use more subtle leg cues
Line your heels under your hips for best balance

### Mount

Safer to settle horse
Adjust tack before mounting
Use shorter reins for better control
Square up horse before mounting
Use terrain/ natural mounting block
Try to not pull horse off balance
Settle lightly in saddle
Settle before cueing horse to walk off

## Ascents

Angle upper body forward from hips
Transfer some weight through thighs to stirrups
Be light in saddle, not out of saddle
Standing in stirrups unnecessary for light seat
Maintain soft rein contact
Allow horse to use head for balance
OK to hang onto mane

### **Descents**

Distribute weight on thighs, buttocks and feet Avoid leaning back on loins Side to side sway tough on horse Keep waist flexible & upper body still like hula dancer Maintain soft rein contact

## **Backup**

Settle horse
Think stop, settle, slow
Check behind
Use soft, subtle hands
Give and take with reins
Use leg aids for direction control

## **Obstacles**

Stop, settle, slow Look ahead, not down

### P&R Check

Line up parallel to next horse
Maintain contact/ control of horse
Remain quiet with low energy
Encourage horse to relax
Lead away with permission of next rider

## Safety & Courtesy

Keep one horse length between horses
Approach other horses courteously
Pass with permission
After passing, move on to create a quiet pocket
Ask next rider if you need to wait for them at
obstacle
Be careful not to spook others with your actions

## **Horse Trail Ability & Manners**

Rushing Antsy Fidgeting Reluctant Resistant Head tossing Buddying Responsive Willing



MEMBERSHIP FORM - Renew, Join or Buy Items online at www.natrc.org or use this form.

Memberships run January 1 - December 31. We offer a Platinum Upgrade to our adult and family plans, which adds personal excess liability coverage with a \$1,000,000 policy limit.

## FIRST YEAR FREE FOR BRAND NEW COMPETING MEMBERS!

Membership Plans, Eligibility, Benefits and Fees

|  | C  | Competing                                   | <b>)</b>                                       | Non-Co                             | mpeting    | Annual Platinum  |
|--|--|---|--|------------------------------------|------------|--|
| Plan Name  | Adult  | Family                                      | Junior   | Support ing                        | Fan        | Upgrade: (Optional) Not included with free memberships   |
| Fee  | \$75   | \$125                                       | \$25   | \$50                               | \$35       |  |
| Eligibility  | ·  |   |  |                                    |            | Platinum members receive   |
| Single adult age 18 or over  | Х  |   |  | Х                                  | Х          | insurance benefits thorough<br>Association Resource Grou   |
| Household  |  | +   |  |                                    |            | ARG. They receive personate excess liability coverage with the cov |
| Single child age 10 through 17   |  |   | Х  |                                    | Х          | a \$1,000,000 policy limit.  |
| Benefits   |  |   |  |                                    |            | Coverage is for claims<br>brought against members of   |
| Voting privileges  | 1  | 2   |  | 1                                  |            | NATRC™ (Platinum) arisin   |
| Reduced ride entry fees  | Х  | Х   | Х  |                                    |            | from the use and/or ownership of a horse and for   |
| Ride awards eligibility  | Х  | Х   | Х  | **                                 | **         | horse-related accidents  |
| Volunteer awards eligibility   | Х  | Х   | Х  | Х                                  | Х          | involving third party bodily   |
| Lifetime mileage tracking  | X  | X   | X  | ,,                                 |            | injury or property damage.<br>Coverage will apply when   |
| Mileage awards   | X  | X   | X  | ***                                | ***        | engaged in any horse relat   |
| Participation in virtual challenges  | X  | X   | X  | X                                  | X          | activity, and coverage is in<br>excess of any existing valid   |
| National year-end awards eligibility   | X  | X   | X  | ***                                | ***        | and collectible insurance.   |
| Regional year-end awards eligibility   | X  | X   | X  | ***                                | ***        | There is no deductible. Professional Liability and   |
| Sponsor discounts  | X  | X   | X  | X                                  | ***        | business exposures are   |
| Can purchase excess liability ins.   | X  | X   |  | X                                  |            | excluded.  |
| Electronic <i>Hoof Print</i> and E-News  | X  | X   | Х  | X                                  | Х          | Adult \$20/  |
| Region membership and newsletter   | X  | X   | X  | X                                  | X          | Family \$40/   |
| Exclusive access to updated Rider's Manual   | X  | X   | X  | X                                  | X          | Supporting \$20/9  |
| CHECK PLAN DESIRED   | $\hat{\Box}$   | Ĥ   | Ĥ  | Î                                  | Ĥ          | No Upgrade \$0/  |
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