

Ft. Smith Extreme Trail Challenge

Extreme Trail Challenge Rules

October 7, 2011 | Kay Rodgers Park
Rules /Scoring

Eligibility: Any competent rider with a horse, pony, mule or donkey is eligible to enter. Equines will be judged for their ability to travel through and between obstacles with inquisitive desire to go forward without compromising its calm, relaxed attitude and way of going. It should approach each obstacle squarely with authority and correct form, with its own style, yet maintaining its willingness to be dictated to completely by the competitor with no apparent resistance.

Divisions:

- Donkey
- Youth (ages 18 and under)
- Non-Pro (ages 18 and over individuals, whom engage in horse riding for pleasure and not as a profession)
- Pro (ages 18 and over individuals, whom accept money for training, riding, giving lessons or instructions)

NOTE: Any one equine cannot be ridden by two different people in the same division (i.e. youth can ride an equine ridden by adult rider in the Non-pro or pro division). Any one person WILL be allowed to compete on two different equine. NO ONE IS TO BE ON THE TRAIL COURSE AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO THEIR ROUND ON THEIR EQUINE, OR ON FOOT, UNLESS THE JUDGE IS PRESENT.

Tack and Attire: Dress as you would for a normal trail ride. Safe supportive boots with a heel of 1 inch min. is required. The only requirement for tack is that it be in good repair. All tack should be carefully inspected by rider/handler before competing. If you use a shank bit, you must use one hand on the reins. Two hands are permitted when using a snaffle. Donkeys will be allowed to use two hands regardless of what type of bit they use. Everyone is entitled to wear protective equipment without penalty and we encourage all exhibitors to do so.

Course Inspection and Walk Through: All exhibitors will have an opportunity to walk through (no equine) and review the course one hour before start time. Challenge will start with the youth, then open and pro division.

Scoring: All equine begin with a score of 70. At each obstacle, the judge will log scores and penalties if they occur. When all riders have completed the course, scores will be totaled and penalties subtracted to arrive at a final score for each competitor. Scores will be posted as soon as possible. This a judged event, points will determine your placing. You will be allowed sufficient time to complete the course if your equine is maneuvering obstacles at a reasonable and forward moving pace. Once you have reached the limit on time per obstacle, you will be waived to the next obstacle and will not receive points for any obstacles you did not complete.

*All equine are judged from the time they enter the arena until the completion of the last obstacle.

*The judge may alter the course prior to the walk through.

Each obstacle in the Extreme Trail Course will be scored as follows:

+3 EXCELLENT: The equine approaches and negotiates the obstacle in correct form with definite style. The equine performs in an efficient manner with curiosity and athleticism. The equine's performance over the obstacle is visually impressive.

+2 VERY GOOD: The equine approaches and negotiates the obstacle in correct form with noticeable style. This equine definitely displays many qualities of a good trail equine and the equine's performance over the obstacle is visually attractive.

+1 GOOD: The equine approaches and negotiates the obstacle in correct form with some degree of style. This equine may display some qualities of the ideal trail equine, but lacks those qualities to the degree they are exhibited by the Very Good or Excellent performer. Never the less, the equine's performance is visually pleasing.

0 AVERAGE: For the most part, the equine approaches and negotiates the obstacle in correct form. Minimal style is exhibited. If the equine's performance displays any qualities of the ideal trail equine, they are negated by errors in form. The equine's performance leaves a visually neutral impression.

-1 POOR: The equine fails in some way to approach and/or negotiate the obstacle in correct form. There is a noticeable void in some of the qualities of the ideal trail equine. Control may have been compromised but safety was maintained.

-2 VERY POOR: The equine approaches and negotiates the obstacle but noticeably fails to do so in correct form. There is a definite deficiency in the qualities of the ideal trail equine. Safety may have been compromised and the equine exhibits noticeable resistance.

-3 EXTREMELY POOR: The equine approaches and /or negotiates obstacle in unacceptable form, but avoids elimination. This equine's performance is reckless, careless, and/or dangerous. The equine exhibits significant resistance towards the competitor's commands.

-5 REFUSAL: The judge instructs the rider to proceed to next obstacle after 3 refusals to negotiate the obstacle.

Disqualification Abuse to the animal inside or outside the competition arena and /or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred will be grounds for disqualification. This includes lameness and/or fresh blood in mouth, shin, shoulder, barrel, flank, hip or legs; disrespect or misconduct of exhibitor. Disqualification also includes, refusing to leave the obstacle area after being motioned off, dismounting while on course, unless dismounting is part of the obstacle, knowingly entering into the wrong division.

Definitions:

Knockdown: When any portion of an obstacle is displaced from its original position by either the equine or the competitor.

Off Course: Taking an obstacle in the wrong direction; negotiating an obstacle from the wrong side; skipping an obstacle directed by judge, negotiating obstacles in the wrong sequence; not following the correct line of travel either in the drawn pattern or at the judges instruction.

Refusal: Any action taken by the equine to avoid performing an obstacle, part of a combination of obstacles or portion of a trail course. These actions may include, but are not limited to the following: balking, evading or running past an obstacle, complete loss of the required gait, and any blatant action by the equine that demonstrates an unwillingness to approach, negotiate and/or complete an obstacle.

Walk Through: Opportunity to navigate the course on foot (no equines) with the judges, prior to the competition, in order to ask questions and become comfortable with the pattern. This is your opportunity to determine the safety and feasibility of each obstacle for your individual animal. Walk-Through will take place at 1 hour before competition begins.

Extreme Trail Challenge: This competition is designed to bring many elements of trail riding onto one course. It is a challenging course. You may be asked to perform such maneuvers as backing, side passing over a log, loping circles on the correct lead, jogging over a series of poles, navigating a bridge, opening and closing a gate, etc. Exhibitors may be asked to change gaits while they navigate the course. Routes through the course will be the same for each competitor, with exception of the youth division, youth division will not be asked to jump any obstacles. Prize presentation will be awarded at the end of the Challenge. Prizes will consist of cash and merchandise awards. There will not be separate rounds or separate finals.

Ft. Smith Show management holds the sole right to dispute & settle any and all issues arising from any consequence not discussed in this document, show contracts or forms, and the determination by Ft. Smith Show Management will be final and binding.

By signing this agreement, Exhibitor agrees to abide by all Event and Venue rules & regulations, and to hold harmless from any damages or injuries to themselves or their equine to Ft. Smith Show Management and/or Kay Rodgers Park. Exhibitor also agrees that they have read and understand the rules & regulations of the Ft. Smith Extreme Trail Challenge. Exhibitor agrees to indemnify (to pay any losses, damages, or costs incurred by) Ft. Smith Extreme Trail Challenge and/or Kay Rodgers Park with respect to claims for harm to you the Exhibitor or your equine, and for claims made by others for any harm caused by you the Exhibitor or your equine at this Event. Exhibitor agrees that you are participating voluntarily in this competition with your equine as a rider, driver, handler, lessee, owner, agent, coach, and trainer or as a parent or guardian of a youth exhibitor. Exhibitor is fully aware and acknowledges that equine sports and the Competition involve inherent dangerous risk of accident, loss, and possible serious bodily injury including broken bones, head injuries, trauma, pain, suffering or death. By signing below, I further agree to be bound by all applicable All Star Extreme Challenge rules and all terms and provisions of this entry registration form.

ENTRY FEE FOR ALL DIVISIONS \$25 - PAYBACKS 1st \$40, 2nd \$30, 3rd 20, 4th 10 - PLUS ADD'L PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED!

Date _____

Rider/Handler Signature _____

Print Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (if rider is a minor 18 & under) _____

Print : _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Entry Fee _____

Day Stall (is optional) _____

Total Due _____

Please mark one..... **Donkey** **Youth** **Non-Pro** **Pro** **Division**

• Day Stall is optional at \$20/ Day (bring your own shavings or purchase at show office)