

ORANGE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC EQUESTRIAN LEAGUE, INC.

ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

RULES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

GYMKHANA

2021-2022

All classes at the OCIEL shows will be run under the US Equestrian Federation rules and specifications as modified for equestrian competition. If the rules of the OCIEL do not apply to a given situation, then the rules of the USEF shall govern. The OCIEL Gymkhana Division will be ruled by USEF Rule XXXIX.

RULE I MEMBERSHIP

- SECTION A:** Any school interested in participating in the OCIEL activities and willing to subscribe to the By-Laws and Rules is eligible for membership.
A school team can be made up of only one rider.
- SECTION B:** At the discretion of the school, the school representative may be a parent or a designated coach. Download the **TEAM REPRESENTATIVE FORM** and submit.
- SECTION C:** An eligible student must apply for membership on the official OCIEL Membership Form, signed by that individual and their parent or guardian. The school is not required to sign the rider membership form. Said application must be filed with the OCIEL before the student can compete. Membership fees are non-refundable.
- SECTION D:** The membership form must be accompanied by the OCIEL Eligibility form, submitted by the trainer, stating which division that individual is eligible to compete in and must be submitted to the OCIEL prior to their first show. New members are welcome anytime throughout the show season.
- SECTION E:** New applicants must provide records of their prior show participation from OCHSA, PCHA, GSDHSA, CDS, IEHJA and USEF sanctioned shows along with the membership application in order to be considered. Results from the organization internet sites are acceptable. It is the responsibility of the rider or rider's parents to provide documentation. The show staff is not responsible to download and print off copies of the rider's show records.
- SECTION F:** Any falsification of the membership and eligibility forms may be cause for immediate expulsion of the individual, school and coach from the OCIEL and/or a \$150.00 penalty. Trainers will also receive disciplinary notices.

RULE II REGISTRATION AND FEES

- SECTION A: Membership and Eligibility Forms, Team Representative Forms, Entry Forms and the Release of Liability form must be downloaded from the web site.
- SECTION B: Each competitor (horse/rider) **must** pre-enter using the Entry Forms found at www.ociel.org under “Show Entry Forms.” **Full payment is due at time of entry. Checks may be sent in, however must be received the Tuesday prior to the start of the show. Credit cards will be charged the Tuesday prior to the start of the show.**
- SECTION C: **Schooling Rules:** Schooling will be permitted in designated areas only. The word schooling includes but is not limited to riding, lunging, leading, and exercising. In accordance with California State Law, poling and/or the use of offsets will not be permitted. Violations of schooling regulations may be considered cause for fines and/or elimination. Official schooling on Friday shall be from 10am to 5pm, and 45 minutes before the start of the show on Saturday and Sunday. Riding outside of these time constraints is done so at the risk of the rider and trainer.
- SECTION D: The OCIEL will not allow late entries. **All classes must be entered into by the entry deadline date, which is 10 days prior to the start of the Saturday show. Classes may not be added at the show.**
- SECTION E: Checks returned by the bank or credit cards declined for any reason are regarded as a serious offense. Returned checks will be assessed a \$50 fine and must be paid in full; in cash, cashiers check or money order within 5 days of notice to the competitor/trainer that the check has been returned. A declined credit card will be assessed a \$50 fine if the office has to call to obtain a different credit card number. Failure to comply may result in the OCIEL forwarding the information to the competitor’s school for further disciplinary action.
- SECTION F: **Show scratches prior to the show entry deadline will not be charged. Show scratches received after the entry deadline through the Monday prior to the start of the show will be charged a fee of \$50. Show scratches received on or after the Tuesday prior to start of show will be charged a \$50 fee plus the stall/shaving fees will not be refunded. Any monies left over that amount will be forwarded to the next show. Show scratches on the day of the show are non-refundable.**
- SECTION G: If there is a credit balance at the end of the OCIEL season (last show) members have 5 days to submit a written request for a refund. Any requests submitted more than 5 days after the last show will not be considered.
- SECTION H: If the weather forecast calls for rain on or after the Thursday prior to the start of the show the show will be cancelled.

RULE III PROTESTS

SECTION A: Protests may be made to the Show Committee by a rider, handler, agent, trainer, exhibitor, or parent of a junior exhibitor for any violation of the OCIEL Rules. **It must be:**

- In writing, (no telephone calls) **and signed by the protestor.**
 - Addressed to the Secretary of the OCIEL, stating at which show the alleged violation occurred, citing the said violation, and mailed to: OCIEL/Alison Gerami, 24431 Chancellor Ct., Laguna Hills, CA 92653.
 - Accompanied by a check of \$100 (payable to the OCIEL), and
 - Received 2 weeks before the next show.
- The Board will review the evidence and respond in writing with their decision within 10 days of receipt of the complaint. **There will be no verbal or anonymous protests accepted.**

RULE IV DIVISIONS

SECTION A: **GYMKHANA DIVISIONS:**

Gymkhana: Big T, Speed Barrel, Pole Figure 8 Cowhorse, Wrangler Run, and Cloverleaf will be offered: The same horse and tack shall be used by the rider throughout all phases of Gymkhana. Classes will be run under CSHA and CGA rules. NO over and unders or whips allowed. All competitors have 60 seconds to enter the ring and must stop forward motion (stop/hesitation/back up or circle) before proceeding. A knock down results in a 2 second penalty for each infraction. Off Course results in elimination and receives no points or ribbon.

SECTION B: Any deviations from the criteria for the above divisions would need prior approval from the OCIEL Board and proof of show records from approved associations.

SECTION C: If a horse is being shared, the horse may enter a maximum of five (5) gymkhana classes at one show. Individual and team points will be counted toward the applicable rider. With the exception of an injury occurring to the horse during the show and with a vet note, an exhibitor may only ride one horse per show.

SECTION D: A rider showing in a class for which he or she is ineligible shall forfeit any points, ribbons and prizes won in such class.

SECTION E: It is the responsibility of the team representative and trainer to accurately enter riders in the proper divisions, according to their individual skill and experience levels and in compliance with the definitions and descriptions of those levels as set forth in the Rules. Discrepancies may require proof from above associations.

SECTION F: Any division entered incorrectly may result in a penalty of \$50.

SECTION G: If a rider falls off, they may not remount in the ring.

RULE V CROSS ENTERING

SECTION A: A given Hunter, Jumper or Gymkhana horse or rider may only enter one division at a given show. (See Dressage Rules for Dressage Riders regarding cross entering.) The division entered must be declared at time of membership registration and is the division listed by the trainer on the “Eligibility Form.” **Only one division may be declared for the show year – there is no cross-entering between disciplines.** A rider may advance up a division but may not go back down. Division advancements must be declared in the show office prior to the start of the show by the rider’s trainer. The “Eligibility Form” must be changed, signed and dated by the trainer next to the new division. Exhibitors switching divisions will forfeit points earned in the originally declared division. In an emergency, any rider or horse with a different rider may be allowed to enter a second division with permission from the management. The 5 class maximum will still apply.

SECTION B: There are (2) regional non-profit chapters of the IEL: Los Angeles and Orange County. There will be no cross entering between the regions. Riders from other counties can choose which IEL they would like to show in and must remain showing in the region throughout the show season. The SDSEL is not associated with the above regional non-profit chapters. Memberships will not be accepted from SDSEL riders.

RULE VI COMPETITION OFFICIALS

SECTION A: Present at all competitions shall be:

- Manager
- USEF Judges
- Course Designer
- Announcers
- Farrier (On Call)
- EMT
- Member of the Rules Committee
- Veterinarian (On Call)

SECTION B: A Judge for an OCIEL show must be approved by the Board.

SECTION C: Any complaints must be discussed with **Show Management** first.

RULE VII CONDUCT AND APPAREL

- SECTION A:** APPAREL - GYMKHANA riders are required to wear an equestrian safety helmet.
- SECTION B:** It is expected that exhibitors, spectators, trainers and school representatives behave in a manner that reflects the dignity of the sport. Ill-mannered conduct will not be tolerated. Show management may expel from the grounds any person whose behavior is deemed dishonest, unethical, unsportsmanlike, or detrimental to the health, safety, or wellbeing of any horse, person, or the League during the progress of the show. USEF Rule 7, Chapter 1, Article 701, page 50 under “General Rules”.
- SECTION C:** NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED ON THE PROPERTY.
- SECTION D:** NO DOGS ALLOWED ON THE PROPERTY WITHOUT A LEASH. A fine of \$200 will be levied. No exceptions.
- SECTION E:** According to USEF Rules: No electronic devices are allowed in performance rings, i.e. cell phones, personal barn communicators. Judges will disqualify an exhibitor found to be carrying an electronic device on their person.
- SECTION F:** Cruelty and marked lameness will constitute class elimination.
- SECTION G:** No minors (under age 15) are allowed to operate any motorized vehicle i.e. motorcycle, ATV, scooter, golf cart. Minors (under age 16) with a permit AND an adult may operate a vehicle on the show grounds.
- SECTION H:** CDFA Drug Rule: The primary goal of OCIEL is to support and develop student equestrian athletes, to encourage knowledge of horsemanship and to promote good sportsmanship and team work in a fair and friendly competition. Because of this mission, OCIEL strongly supports the Equine Medication Monitoring Program administered by the California Drug and Food Administration. OCIEL will follow the rules as prescribed by the California Drug and Food Administration on drug use in all competing horses/ponies at an IEL horse show. We encourage all OCIEL riders, trainers and parents to go to the CDFA website to learn more. (http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/emmp/) In accordance with CDFA procedure there may be random drug testing administered by CDFA employees at any or all OCIEL horse shows. If any horse/pony is found to have a positive result from this testing, the CDFA will contact the owner and trainer of said horse/pony for further investigation. At the conclusion of that investigation OCIEL will be notified by the CDFA if the CDFA finds that a violation of the CDFA rules has occurred. If OCIEL is notified that a horse/pony has been found by the CDFA to be in violation of the California Medication Rule, the rider of that horse will forfeit all points accumulated at the OCIEL horse show where the sample was collected. OCIEL will not conduct any independent investigation and will rely exclusively on the findings of the CDFA.

**RULE VIII
TROPHIES, RIBBONS AND POINTS**

SECTION A: POINTS will be counted for Individual, Division and School. No rider shall be considered for Year-End Awards unless they attend a minimum of 3 show days.

SECTION B: Ribbons awarded to 12th place and prizes awarded to 1st place in each class.

SECTION C: Points shall be awarded as follows:

Gymkhana Division

Full points will be given for classes with 3 or more exhibitors. Half points will be given for classes with 1-2 exhibitors.

1 st	12
2 nd	8
3 rd	7
4 th	6
5 th	5
6 th	4
7 th	3
8 th	2
9 th	1

SECTION D: Only the top two rider's points from a school will count in each class, which will be used to determine Individual School and Overall School points. Individual points will be counted for all riders.

SECTION E: Show Division High Point Ribbons:

The following High Point Champion and Reserve Champion ribbons will be awarded:

- Gymkhana Individual
- Western School

SECTION F: Year-End Division Perpetual Trophies and Ribbons:

Year-End High Point trophies will be:

- Gymkhana Individual
- Overall School

All Perpetual Silver and Gold Cup Trophies must be returned to the show office **in December**. NO EXCEPTIONS!!

SECTION G: Year-End Class Awards: All OCIEL Classes will have a Year-End Champion and Reserve Champion **ribbon**.

SECTION H: Trainer of the Year Award: Trainers receive one point per student per show day. A trainer is eligible to win one division per season. If a trainer wins more than one division, the Award will go to the next trainer with the accumulative points.

**RULE IX
DELAY OF CLASSES**

SECTION A: Riders must be ready to enter the ring when called upon. Management reserves the right to eliminate a competitor after a one (1) minute gate call.

**RULE X
SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS**

SECTION A: It is the duty of the Board of Directors to award scholarships on an annual basis.

SECTION B: Any 12th grade rider who has been a member in good standing for two seasons or more in the OCIEL and has competed in the required number of **three (3)** shows during his/her senior year and meets all of the application requirements is eligible to apply for a Year-End OCIEL Scholarship. All forms are mailed to seniors **in November**.

SECTION C: The criteria for awarding scholarships is based on the following: essays, grades, test scores, years riding, character and sportsmanship, community service, extracurricular activities and other relevant factors.

SECTION D: Any Board member is eligible to serve on the Scholarship Committee as long as he/she does not have a 12th grader applying for the scholarship.

**RULE XI
CLASSES AND FEES**

GYMKHANA

ENTRY FEE \$25 PER CLASS

- 51. Big T
- 52. Speed Barrel
- 53. Pole Figure 8 Cowhorse
- 54. Wrangler Run
- 55. Cloveleaf

**OCIEL BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL MAKE THE FINAL
DECISION ON THE INTERPRETATION OF THE ABOVE RULES**

Updated 8/2021