

RULE CHANGES FOR 2008

1. Page 5-1, Section 5, C3

Reads:

3. After a day's ride, riders may handle and care for their horses at their discretion, with any time restraints to be announced by management and/or judges.

Change to read:

3. After a day's ride, riders may handle and care for their horses at their discretion, **unless specific restricted hours were specified and** announced by management and/or judges **at the previous day's briefing prior to the start of the day's ride.**

Purpose: *Makes the verbiage "restricted hours" consistent and clearer.*

2. Page 5-2, Section 5, F 2

Reads:

2. Trail gear and horse feed desired by the competitor during the day (i.e., at lunch stop) will be carried on the horse. No part of a rider's wearing apparel is considered trail gear.

Change to read:

2. Trail gear desired by the competitor during the ride will be carried on the horse. No part of a rider's wearing apparel is considered trail gear.

3. Feed:

- a. Riders are responsible for providing all feed for their horses unless management has indicated on **ride information** that feed will be available.
- b. The use and choice of feed is at the discretion of the rider.
- c. **Feed may be provided by management to horses at lunch or other locations on the trail. The availability will be indicated on all ride information.**

Purpose: *Requested because many rides where there is no grazing available have provided hay for all horses at lunch. This practice is again in the best interest of the horse. This will also allow the rider to share their lunch with their horse without a rule infraction.*

3. Page 6-1, Section 6, A4

Reads:

4. Morning Examination: Prior to the start of a day's ride, there will be an examination of all horses by at least one judge. The manner of examination is at the discretion of the judges.

Change to read:

4. Morning Examination: Prior to the start of **the second and subsequent days of a multi-day ride**, there will be an examination of all horses by **the veterinary** judge. The manner of examination is at the discretion of the judges.

Purpose: *According to the current rule, it mandates that there be some check of all horses by at least one judge on the first day of the ride as well as for the second and/or third day of Class A and AA rides. This does not usually happen—this is not making it a requirement on the first morning, but is for subsequent days.*

4. Page 4-1, Section 4, A2c (2)

Reads:

- (2) Total mileage in this division is 15-24 miles for a "B" ride and 30-40 miles for an "A" ride.

Change to read:

- (2) Total mileage in this division is 15-24 miles for a "B" ride and 30-40 miles for an "A" ride.
In steep and rugged terrain this distance may be shortened.

Purpose: *If it is desired that Novice and Competitive Pleasure can be shortened in steep and rugged terrain, then this change is needed. The Rule Book does say "Exception to this rule shall be at the discretion of the Sanction Chairman," but it would be more consistent to word it the same as for Open.*

5. Page 4-1, Sections 4, A2b(1)(a) and 4, A3b(1)(a)

Reads:

- A.2.b.(1)(a) Registered horses will be considered 48 months of age as of actual foaling date on registration papers.

Change to read:

(a) Registered horses **are** considered 48 months of age as of actual foaling date on registration papers.

Reads:

A.3.b.(1).(a) Registered horses will be considered 48 months of age as of actual foaling date on registration papers.

Change to read:

(a) Registered horses **are** considered 48 months of age as of actual foaling date on registration papers.

Purpose: “Are” is “stronger”, makes the rules less ambiguous and in the present tense.

6. Page 6-1, Section 6, A2a

Reads:

- a. For the purposes of scoring trail ability/manners, soundness and horsemanship, the horse and rider shall be considered in competition from the moment that the horse is presented to the judges for preliminary judging.

Change to read:

- a. For the purposes of scoring trail ability/manners, soundness and horsemanship, the horse and rider shall be considered in competition from the moment that the horse is presented to the judges for preliminary examination.

Purpose: *Consistency*

7. Page 8-1, Section 8

Add:

A. Informal Concerns, Inquiries, and/or Suggestions

1. Most concerns, inquiries, and/or suggestions are questions of a general nature and are most appropriately directed to ride management, judges, Regional Board members, or the NATRC Executive Administrator. They should be handled diplomatically and informatively on a case by case basis. This can usually be done at the ride where a question arises and without triggering a “formal process.”
2. Concerns, inquiries, and/or suggestions that cannot be answered satisfactorily in this manner may be referred to the NATRC Executive Administrator (NEA) for possible referral to the appropriate NATRC Committee.

B. Letters of Concern

1. **Letters of Concern** addressing issues, other than those which are appropriately handled as either Complaints or Protests per Rule Book Section VIII, may be submitted by any member, competitor, judge, ride management or ride official.
2. A letter of concern must be in writing, signed by the author, and mailed to the NEA.
3. The NEA shall inform the involved parties. These individuals may reply to the NEA within 21 days with any information that they deem relevant regarding the concern.
4. The NEA will then forward the information received to the Chair of the Committee he/she deems most appropriate to receive the letter of concern. Copies shall be sent to the President. The Committee to which the letter of concern has been referred shall render a written conclusion in a timely manner and forward that conclusion to the NATRC Executive Administrator. The NEA, or the Committee Chair as assigned by NEA, shall then notify all affected parties of that conclusion. A copy of the notification will be sent to the NEA.

Purpose: *To spell out procedures on dealing with concerns.*

8. Page 4-4, Section 4, C. **Change HDC to DO through out**

Change: C. **Distance Only (DO):** outside of the competition

1. Horses and riders participating **DO**, for any reason, will be judged in all ride activities as are other competitors, but will be eligible for mileage only.
2. Horses and/or riders participating **DO** must obey all NATRC rules (except the exemptions specified in paragraphs 3-9 below) and any ride rules. The **DO** horse/rider team must ride in an acceptable manner and not disrupt the ride for other competitors.
3. (No change)
4. A rider may ride **DO** in any class or division in horsemanship.
5. A horse may participate **DO** in any class or division only if the rider also competes **DO** in Horsemanship.
6. **One day option: only available if both horse and rider are riding DO**
 - a. The **DO** team has the option of riding one or two days of an ‘A’ CTR. When choosing to ride one day only, the team must ride the first day. A **DO** rider must notify ride management of their intent not to ride a second day after post ride checkout, but before 8:00 p.m.
 - b. The **DO** team will receive the standard mileage allotments for each day ridden.
7. **DO** horses/riders will not count as a competitor in the Class.
8. same as #7 in Rule Book, renumber rest and change HDC to DO

Purpose: *to change HDC to “Distance Only” class in the rule book for 2008. This also allows the DO team to compete only one day of a two day ride and still earn mileage.*

9. Page 9-2, 3, Section 9, B2c and B2e

Reads: B2c(4) Every ride which the horse officially starts during the year shall count, regardless of placing or finishing, provided it is entered in the declared class.

Change to read: (3) Only rides officially started in the same Open class will count.

(4) Every ride which the horse officially starts during the year shall count, regardless of placing or finishing, provided it is entered in the same Open class.

Reads: B2e(4) Every ride which the horse officially starts during the year shall count, regardless of placing or finishing, provided it is entered in the declared class.

Change to read: (3) Only Open Junior class rides officially started will count.

(4) Every ride which the horse officially starts in Open Junior during the year shall count, regardless of placing or finishing.

Purpose: *Since the declaration requirement was removed, the wording needs to be clarified.*

10. Page 3-2, C. Trail Supervision:

Add: 5. Arrangements must be made for transporting the Rules Interpreter so he/she can adequately observe trail conditions and the conduct of the ride.

Purpose: *Keep in line with the Management Manual and make sure arrangements are made to get the RI out on the trail.*

11. Page 6-2, B.1.f.

Reads: A horse may be removed from competition for failure to meet recovery criteria as set forth by the veterinary judge(s).

Change to read: If a horse has not met both recovery criteria simultaneously after two 10-minute holds (a total of 30 minutes recovery time including the initial P&R), the horse shall be pulled.

Purpose: *Clarify P&R recovery criteria for pulling a horse.*

12. Page 5-4, J.8.b.

Reads: In the event that a horse is held for additional recovery time at a P&R stop, that time must be added to the rider’s minimum and maximum ride time.

Change to read: In the event that a horse is held for additional recovery time at a P&R stop, the hold time (10 or 20 minutes) must be added to the rider’s minimum and maximum ride time.

Purpose: *Clarification, no where in the Rule Book is hold time listed and defined.*

13. Page 6-4, F.3.

Reads: Judges, the trailmaster or the ride chairman have the authority to pull a horse or rider for the following reasons:

Add: 4. The P&R Captain has the authority to pull a horse at a P&R stop for failure to meet pulse and respiration criteria as specified by the veterinary judge.

Purpose: *In the case where the others are not present at a P&R, the captain needs to have the authority to pull a horse for failure to recover.*