

Tasmanian Horsemanship and Agility Riders Association Incorporated



RULEBOOK

Version 2.0 – [7 July 2026]

Version control				
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2.0	THARA Secretary	THARA Board	7 Jul 2026	Differentiation into Horse Development Pathway and Rider Development Pathway (Sections 7.5.4 and 7.5.5); Expansion of Animal Welfare (Section 6.1)
1.0	THARA Secretary	THARA Board	7 Oct 2025	Not applicable (first version)

Rulebook

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Definitions and interpretations

1.1 Authority of this document

This Rulebook is written by the THARA Board of Directors in accordance with clauses 6.2 and 19 (By-Laws) of the THARA Constitution. It replaces all previous versions of Guidelines and Bylaws made by this Club's precursor (TEXCA).

1.2 Definitions

In this Rulebook, unless the context requires otherwise:

- i. **Board of Directors** means all or some of the Directors of the Club acting as a board.
- ii. **Challenge** means a physical obstacle, a task that may involve equipment, or a manoeuvre.
- iii. **Class** means a specific competition class at a THARA Show.
- iv. **Club** means the Tasmanian Horsemanship and Agility Riders Association Incorporated.
- v. **Competitor** means someone competing at a THARA Show, as a rider or on the ground.
- vi. **Constitution** means the Club's constitution, in its latest version, available on the Club's Facebook page.
- vii. **Director** means a director of the Club.
- viii. **Division** means a specific group of Classes at a THARA Show.
- ix. **Event** means any competitive or non-competitive event held by the Club.
- x. **Member** means a member of the Club.
- xi. **Nominate** ([Nominate](#)) means the on-line system used by the Club for managing Club memberships (Nominate Clubs) and Club Events (Nominate Equestrian).
- xii. **Official** means a Director at an Event or a member of a Show Committee (if the Event is a Show)
- xiii. **Show** means a competitive Event conducted by the Club.
- xiv. **Show Committee** means a committee established by the Board to manage a Show on the Board's behalf.
- xv. **Show Schedule** means the approximate running order of Classes at a Show.

1.3 Interpretations

In this Rulebook, unless the context requires otherwise:

- i. **(gender)** words stating any gender include all other genders.
- ii. **(singular includes plural)** the singular includes the plural and *vice versa*.
- iii. **(include)** the words **include**, **includes**, **including** and **for example** are not to be interpreted as words of limitation.
- iv. **(headings)** are inserted for convenience and do not affect the interpretation of this Rulebook.

- v. **(capitalised versions)** of common words are used as defined in this Rulebook.
- vi. **(hyperlinks)** are correct at the time of last amending this document (*rf.* date on page footer).

2. About us

2.1 Who are we, and what do we stand for?

The Tasmanian Horsemanship and Agility Riders Association Incorporated (THARA) is a small club, currently operating in the Central North of Tasmania. We are an incorporated not-for-profit association, run by a dedicated Board of Directors.

We are an inclusive club – we welcome all breeds and ages of horses (a stallion policy applies) and participants of all ages and abilities. We also cater for lead line riders, budding riders and aged riders as well as for green horses – young or old – that may benefit from being initially led over a Challenge course.

We're not about bling – you don't need expensive tack for our sport. Western as well as English gear is welcome; our focus is on safety.

We want people to have fun with their horses, and the horses to have fun as well, in a demonstration of partnership between human and horse. We want everyone to feel safe and supported in developing and showing your horsemanship skills.

2.2 Directors

In accordance with our Constitution, the Club's business is managed by a Board of Directors who are elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club. Directors are at least 18 years old and must be financial Members of the Club.

2.3 Financials

The Club derives its regular income from membership payments and funds raised through entry fees at our Events.

The biggest portion of our expenditure is for third-party public liability insurance as well as insurance for our obstacle trailer and its contents. Part of our income is regularly spent on upgrading and assuring the safety of our obstacles and trailer. In addition, funds are channelled back into the Club in the form of subsidising, for example, entry fees, venue hire and judges' fees.

Our Directors and volunteers do not receive any compensation for their time and efforts. We may recompense for fuel (obstacle trailer movements) on a case-by-case basis.

3. Our sport

3.1 What is our sport about?

Our sport is about good horsemanship when tackling a Challenge course, mostly ridden, but also In-hand or at Liberty. This can be done at leisure and in small increments at our come and try days and training days, or – for those competitively inclined – at our Shows.

Essentially, it is about a calm and happy horse being obedient to forward cues. A Challenge course consists of obstacles such as bridges in many modifications (long, short, straight, curved, flat, raised, ...), various arrangements of pool noodles (for example, as curtains, or as “shredders”), poles (as low jumps, or laneways), etc. In addition, the course requires the execution of manoeuvres such as accurate transitions, rollbacks, turns on the forehand or on the haunches, etc. Specific tasks may involve roping, archery, dragging, etc. The sky’s the limit!

We want to see an agile horse willingly working a course; what we don’t want to see is “hooning around” or forcing a frightened horse to do things it is physically or emotionally unfit to tackle.

In all of this, the Club considers the safety of riders and horses as paramount.

3.2 Sportsmanship

Participants in our sport should treat others as they like to be treated, including playing by the rules and showing fairness, appreciation and respect to fellow participants, organisers, volunteers, judges, and essentially anyone else present at an Event.

At all our Events, and especially at Shows, we heavily rely on input by volunteers. We encourage all our Members and other participants to contribute in whatever way they can to the running of our Club and the Events we stage.

If any Member has a grievance, they should discuss it with a Director. This should be done as soon as is practicable, preferably on the day the issue is noticed.

It is prohibited to use or administer to any horse a tranquiliser, stimulant, sedative, or drug of any kind, in any manner whatsoever, with the object of influencing the horse’s behaviour, at any Event.

3.3 Attire

Our primary consideration is your safety. Heeled boots (i.e. not sneakers) designed for horse-riding are therefore compulsory at all Events.

We also encourage you to wear a helmet (compulsory for anyone under 18 years of age, including for In-hand Classes).

We want you to be comfortable. Therefore, we won’t prescribe what you wear; however, there are limits: singlets, for example, or flannies with ripped-out sleeves are not an option! You should look clean, neat and tidy, and your clothes should be safe and suitable for riding. For example, if riding in a saddle with a horn, make sure no items of clothing can get hooked on the saddle horn when you lean over to open a gate or are asked to rope an obstacle.

For appropriate attire at our Shows, see section [7.5.2 Show attire](#).

3.4 Tack

Any type of saddle (Western, Stock, English) is welcome, if it is in good condition and fits the horse and the rider. Well-padded bareback pads are also acceptable.

Bitted as well as bitless bridles are welcome, except a bitless bridle that tightens under the chin and/or over the nose upon rein engagement. Bosals are fine in a traditional two-rein setup.

Both snaffle bits and shank bits are allowed.

Loop and split reins are fine, but split reins must not be so long that they risk trailing on the ground. Similarly, the free end of mecate reins must be securely tied.

Spurs may be worn.

A whip may be carried at come and try days and training day, but not at Shows.

Bell boots and leg wraps are recommended to protect the horse, should it – for example – slip off a bridge or trip over a pole.

Officials reserve the right to inspect a participant's gear at any time during an Event and act as deemed appropriate. This could mean, for example, ordering to change the bit or saddle.

Regarding animal welfare considerations and non-permitted tack, please see section [6.2 Tack](#).

For appropriate tack at our Shows, see section [7.5.3 Show tack](#).

4. Membership

4.1 Membership categories and fees

The Club membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st.

We offer different categories of membership, which may change from time to time. The current categories are:

- i. Individual adult (18 years and over)
- ii. Individual youth (17 years and below)
- iii. Family (two adults and two youths; any extra youth incurs an added fee)
- iv. Non-riding.

Age is as at the time of taking out membership.

The Club may also offer pro rata memberships or early membership renewal options.

Membership fees are determined by the Board and reviewed annually.

Membership fees are non-refundable, except under extraordinary circumstances as determined by the Board.

4.2 Member benefits

Member benefits are:

- i. coverage under the Club's third-party public liability insurance
- ii. reduced entry fees at all our Events
- iii. preferential booking at most come and try and training days (some training days may be exclusively for Members)
- iv. entitlement to vote (adult Members only) at our Annual General Meetings and by doing so, influence the direction the Club is taking.

An individual adult Member, including a non-riding adult Member, is entitled to one vote. In a family membership, both adult Members are entitled to one vote each.

4.3 How to become a Club Member

A person is eligible to become a Member of the Club if they agree to the requirements set out in these Rules (agreement will be asked on the Nominate [Clubs](#) entry screen);

To become a Member of the Club:

- i. A person must apply through Nominate [Clubs](#) and pay the membership fee specified for the relevant membership category.
- ii. The Board may accept or reject an application without giving reasons.
- iii. If an application is rejected, all membership fees accompanying the application shall be refunded.

A person is deemed to become a Member of the Club from the date when their membership fee has been paid in full and their name has been entered in the register of Members.

A Member shall cease to be a member if the Member:

- i. does not renew their membership when it is due; or
- ii. is suspended or expelled; or
- iii. resigns by giving written notice to a Director.

5. Safety and liability

5.1 General approach

Our principal consideration is the safety of riders, horses, and other participants at our Events.

Horse riding is a dangerous sport; participants are strongly encouraged to take out personal accident insurance before an Event.

As required by the Club's insurance provider, an Official will assess the safety of the venue before the Event gets underway, also considering the weather on the day, and fill in and sign a comprehensive assessment form. At any Event, there will be one or more Officials with a valid First Aid Certificate, and there will be a Club First Aid kit. In case of an incident, an incident report form will be completed and followed up as appropriate.

For everyone's benefit and safety, Events are no-alcohol, no-drugs and no-smoking/vaping.

Youth participants under 18 years of age must have a responsible parent or guardian present at all Club Events the minor is involved with; if under 7 years of age, there must be one-on-one parental/guardian supervision at all times. Any non-participating children present on the day must always be supervised.

Dogs are not allowed.

Riders and other attendees must comply with the instructions of Officials.

We encourage riders to wear a helmet while riding and for In-hand and Liberty Classes. Helmets are compulsory for anyone under 18 years of age, in any Class (including In-hand).

5.2 Waivers

Participants in our Events who are not Club Members at the time of entering will be asked – before the Event gets underway – to sign a risk warning and liability waiver (Club Members will have agreed to this waiver at the time of joining the Club through Nominate Clubs).

To be covered by our third-party public liability insurance, non-Members will be asked to fill in and sign a day membership form. Entry fees to events will be a little higher for such day members, to recoup a portion of the cost of our insurance.

Everyone who enters for an Event will also be asked through the Nominate Equestrian entry screen (Equest | Events) to – amongst other things – acknowledge that horse riding is a dangerous activity, agree to not drink alcohol or take drugs prohibited by law, and to release the Club of related liabilities.

The Club may also ask non-riding participants (for example, parents leading a child on a pony) to sign such waivers.

If you choose not to wear a helmet while riding (helmets are compulsory for anyone under 18 years of age including for In-hand Classes), you will need to sign a helmet waiver (this will be e-mailed to all participants, and it will also be available in hard copy on the day of an Event).

Most venues require a specific venue waiver to be signed; for some, this waiver will be valid irrespective of with which Club you participate – other venues require signing on an annual basis, or every time you visit the venue. We will advise participants of the specific requirements before an Event.

5.3 Stallion policy

We understand that most stallions are well behaved and are good ambassadors of their breed, but sometimes their behaviour – or a mare's reactions to them – can cause problems.

Our primary focus is to keep everyone at an Event safe so they can enjoy the day. A stallion may be well behaved and obedient, but others may not, so these are blanket rules that are not negotiable. Non-abidance by these rules may mean eviction from the Event.

This policy applies to stallions over 12 months of age.

- i. The owner of the stallion must advise the Club and discuss the stallion's attendance prior to the Event. The request should be put to a Director in writing.
- ii. It is at the Directors' discretion to approve a stallion's attendance.

- iii. If the Directors approve the attendance of a stallion, the following conditions apply:
- a. When staying overnight at an Event, a stallion handler/rider must advise a Director when entering and booking horse accommodation that they are bringing a stallion. The placement of stallions requires the consideration to mares and other horses when being allocated yards or stables.
 - b. The handler/rider must be at least 18 years of age.
 - c. The handler/rider must wear a high viz vest (supplied) at all times while with their stallion; the vest must be returned to an Official at the end of the Event.
 - d. The stallion must be wearing a bridle when handled at all times.
 - e. Where possible, a stallion must be stabled. If suitable stabling is not available, stallions must be double tied while at the float/truck/yard and not left unattended. Neck collar and head stall are preferred.
 - f. The stallion must not be tied to any object with bailing twine.
 - g. It is the stallion handler's/rider's responsibility to ensure that all possible safety precautions are taken.
 - h. Prior to an Event, warm-up must be away from other participants and their horses.
 - i. Any issues need to be reported to an Official immediately for investigation and referred to a Director if appropriate.
 - j. If a stallion is unruly during an Event, a Director may ask the handler/rider to leave the Event with the stallion.

6. Animal welfare

6.1 General approach

THARA considers the wellbeing of the horse above the demands of breeders, trainers, riders, owners, dealers, organisers or sponsors.

We require horses to be in adequate condition for our Events. This includes a sufficient body score, good muscling, a suitable level of fitness, and having their feet done (shod or trimmed). We also endorse Equestrian Australia's *Guide to Horse Capacity*¹. This Guide states: *"The maximum load that a horse is expected to carry should not exceed 20% of the horse's approximate weight. That is, the athlete and equipment should not weigh more than 20% of the horse's approximate weight."*

While the Committee will not be checking up on horses and participants with measuring tapes and scales, any Official has the right to refuse a horse to participate if one or more of the above conditions are visibly not met (for example, severe lack of muscling, grossly neglected hoof care, clearly visible upward deviation from the 20% horse/rider weight ration).

We want to see horses treated with kindness, patience and fairness. All horses attending Events must always be treated with dignity, respect and compassion, including in yards, tie-up and warm-up areas.

¹ [Horse Welfare | Equestrian Australia](#)

We think that a horse that is doing its job well ought to be encouraged and rewarded. We therefore do not at all object if during the course you pat your horse. You can also talk to it at any time.

At an Event, any Official has the right to examine horses, tack and other equipment and act at any time upon adverse findings (e.g. blood on horse, unsafe tack or gear, excessive spurring).

6.2 Tack

Regarding general rules on tack, please see section [3.4 Tack](#).

The Board does not condone bareback riding for extended periods of time without a well-padded bareback pad; a rider's seat bones can dig sharply into the horse's long back muscles, which is contrary to animal welfare.

Bell boots and leg wraps are recommended to protect the horse, should it – for example – slip off a bridge or trip over a pole.

Examples of non-permitted tack include:

- i. Tie-downs
- ii. Martingales and other types of running reins
- iii. Twisted mouth pieces
- iv. Gag bits
- v. Mechanical hackamores.

Officials reserve the right to inspect a participant's gear at any time during an Event and act as deemed appropriate. This could mean, for example, ordering to change the bit or saddle.

For appropriate tack at our Shows, see section [7.5.3 Show tack](#).

6.3 Zero tolerance towards inhumane treatment

THARA does not tolerate any inhumane treatment of horses. This includes any act that the general public would perceive to constitute inhumane treatment or abuse of a horse.

Officials will apply a zero-tolerance policy towards inhumane treatment or abuse. This covers acts occurring not only in the Event arena, but also those occurring anywhere at an Event venue, for example, the warm-up area, before, during and after the Event.

Examples of inhumane treatment include:

- i. Continuous and/or relentless pressure from the bit, legs or spurs
- ii. Breaking the skin and causing bleeding from the spur, bit or any other equipment
- iii. Placing an object, other than a legal bit, in a horse's mouth in a manner that may cause undue discomfort or distress
- iv. Placing a legal bit in a horse's mouth in an abnormal manner, or leaving a bit in a horse's mouth for extended periods of time, which may cause undue discomfort or distress, broken skin and/or bleeding

- v. Pulling a horse's head up (above the withers), back, or around in a manner that may cause undue discomfort or distress (the horse must be able to hold its head comfortably in a natural position including when ridden with contact)
- vi. Yarding or tying up a horse without access to food or water for an extended period
- vii. Continuing to work a horse that appears to be sullen, lethargic, emaciated, dehydrated, depressed, drawn, injured or overly tired
- viii. Riding or training in such a way that the horse is subject to periods of mental or physical distress.

Officials will assess any act suspicious of inhumane treatment, abuse or intent to abuse a horse and may act upon it with immediate expulsion of the participant from this Event and possibly future ones.

7. Our Events

7.1 Calendar of Events

The Board aims to run between approximately 10 events in a year, including a minimum of two Shows, in different locations in the Central North of the State, and alternating between Saturdays and Sundays.

The latest version of our calendar of Events is available on our Facebook page; it will be updated throughout the year.

You can also find our events – once they are announced (see below) – on Nominate by searching for “Tasmania” and “Horsemanship” on the drop-down menus [Equest | Events](#).

7.2 Announcement of an Event

All Events are announced on our Facebook page with a flyer that specifies the nature of the Event, the date, location, and all fees applicable. There will also be a direct link to the Nominate Equestrian entry page ([Equest | Events](#)).

7.3 Entries to an Event

Entries typically open 3 weeks before an Event and close a few days beforehand. THARA does not generally allow late entries or entries on the day.

Participants enter any Event through [Equest | Events](#). Confirmation of entry and payment is via email from Nominate.

Members receive a discount for every Event; this is automatically applied before payment.

After entries close, entrants will receive information via e-mail about the venue and the Event and any forms that may need to be signed.

Entrants wanting to scratch their entry must contact the THARA Secretary. A refund will generally only be issued upon presentation of a veterinary certificate for the horse entered, or a medical certificate for the entered participant.

7.4 Come and try days, training days

Come and try days are a good opportunity to try out our sport for the first time or to hone one's skills. Several Directors will be there to explain the purpose of each obstacle or manoeuvre, and to help participants. Typically, sessions are between 1 hour and 1.5 hours long. For safety reasons the number of participants on the arena at the same time will be capped, with the number depending on the size of the arena.

Most riders new to the sport will first approach the obstacles on the ground, with the horse in a halter and a sufficiently long lead rope. However, this is not compulsory, and starting in the saddle is fine.

Directors may run a mock race at the end of a session. Participants will be asked to tackle a course with a few obstacles and manoeuvres in a prescribed order and will receive feedback on their performance.

From time to time, Challenge practice will be combined with expert training in a particular aspect of horsemanship, for example, reining, roping, jumping, etc. Such training days may be conducted for Members only.

7.5 Shows

7.5.1 Format

Typically, Club Shows are one-day events; however, there may be a practice day immediately the day before the Show, or a large Show may be split over two days.

While a Show Schedule will be posted a few days beforehand, we request all Competitors to be present at the start of the day to ensure they do not miss the walk-throughs.

The Competitor draws (the order of Competitors within a Class) and course maps will be displayed on large A-frame boards outside the arena on the morning of the Event.

The judge will conduct walk-throughs (strictly without horses) before a Class starts. The judge may combine the walk-throughs for several Classes into one and point out varying requirements between Classes (e.g. details of how the Challenges are to be mastered). It also means that although a specific Class may be listed for the afternoon, its walk-through may be in the morning.

Competitors must be ready to enter the arena when their Class is called.

7.5.2 Show attire

Our primary consideration is your safety. Heeled boots (e.g. not sneakers) designed for horse-riding are therefore compulsory.

We also encourage you to wear a helmet (compulsory for anyone under 18 years of age, including for In-hand Classes). If not wearing a helmet, you must wear a wide-brimmed hat. Caps are not suitable for Shows.

We want you to be comfortable, but you should also look clean, neat and tidy. At a Show, you should wear a long-sleeved shirt and proper riding pants or jeans.

Western, Stock and English saddles are all welcome, but any gear should be clean and in working order regardless of type of gear.

Your horse's and your own presentation will be judged and scored (see section [7.5.9 Scoring](#)), so please make an effort (also for the benefit of those watching),

7.5.3 Show tack

Regarding general rules on tack, please see section [3.4 Tack](#).

Regarding animal welfare considerations of tack, please see section [6.2 Tack](#).

For a timed competition, a well-fitting saddle – whether Western, Stock or English – is critical. Well-padded bareback pads are also acceptable, provided the rider is competent in riding bareback over obstacles possibly including small jumps.

Spurs may be worn, but excessive spurring will be penalised.

Bell boots and leg wraps are recommended to protect the horse, should it – for example – slip off a bridge or trip over a pole.

Examples of non-permitted tack at Shows include:

- i. Nosebands, cavessons
- ii. Tie-downs
- iii. Martingales and other types of running reins
- iv. Twisted mouth pieces
- v. Gag bits
- vi. Whips
- vii. Mechanical hackamores.

Officials reserve the right to inspect a participant's gear at any time during an Event and act as deemed appropriate. This could mean, for example, ordering to change the bit or saddle.

7.5.4 Pathways, Divisions and Classes – An overview

First time Competitors at a THARA Show should carefully read the Division and Class descriptions. The Board may from time to time add or delete Divisions and Classes or modify the descriptions.

The Overview Table below is a good starting point – detailed information follows in section [7.5.5 Pathways, Divisions and Classes – Detail and Examples](#).

THARA operates two pathways at Shows: one to develop the horse, and the other to develop the rider.

Part A: Horse Development Pathway

Class #	Class Name	Competitor Age	Horse Age and Experience	Notes
In-hand Division				
01	Junior In-hand	Up to 10 years (incl.)	Any age and experience	
02	In-hand Training	Any	Any age; new to obstacle training	Can enter for 12 months from the first time
03	In-hand Open	Any	Any age and experience	Once entered, cannot enter In-hand Training anymore
Liberty Division				
04	Liberty Training	Any	Any age; little or no Liberty experience	Can enter for 12 months from the first time
05	Liberty Open	Any	Any age and experience	Once entered, cannot enter Liberty Training anymore
Ridden Division.				
06	Green Horse	11 years and over	3 years and over; no competition experience	Can enter for 12 months from the first time May also enter Rookie Horse during that time without losing Green Horse status If entered into any Rider Development Pathway Class (see Part B) before the 12 months end, cannot enter Green Horse again
07	Rookie Horse	11 years and over	3 years and over; some competition experience but little obstacle experience	Can enter for 12 months from the first time; then move into Rider Development Pathway Classes; May also enter a Rider Development Pathway Class (see Part B) during that time without losing Rookie Horse status

Part B: Rider Development Pathway

Class #	Class Name	Competitor Age	Horse Experience	Notes (see body of the document for more detail)
08	Junior, led	Up to 10 years (incl.)	Any	
09	Junior, ridden	Up to 10 years (incl.)	Any	
10	Youth	11-17 years (incl.)	Any	Ride up into Novice, Intermediate, Advanced (subject to competence and parental permission)
11	Novice	Any	Any	Ride up into Intermediate
12	Intermediate	Any	Any	Ride up into Advanced
13	Advanced	Any	Any	Not recommended for a horse just coming out of the Horse Development Pathway (see Part A)
14	Wise Ones	60 years and over	Any	
15	Open	Any	Any	

Part C: Special Division - Off the Track

Class #	Class Name	Competitor Age	Horse Experience	Notes (see body of the document for more detail)
16	Off the Track	Any	Must meet the OTT criteria	See Section 7.5.5 for the official OTT definition

7.5.5 Pathways, Divisions and Classes – Details and examples**7.5.5.1 General notes**

Not all Classes may be offered at every Show.

A Competitor may enter as many horses as they wish and compete with different horses in the same Class.

For animal welfare reasons, any horse must not be entered for more than 4 runs per day. The maximum of 4 runs includes In-hand, Liberty and ridden Classes. For example, on a single day, a horse may be entered for Class 02: In-hand Training, Class 04: Liberty Training, Class 12: Intermediate and Class 14: Open.

For fairness, any horse may only be entered once per Class (i.e. it cannot be presented twice in the same Class even if it would be presented by different Competitors, because it would have an advantage over the other horses when it does the course for the second time).

7.5.5.2 Detailed description Part A: Horse Development Pathway

The purpose of this pathway is to have a fair system for a horse to progress in increments through increasing levels of Challenges. This pathway is **independent of rider competence**, although for rider safety reasons, inexperienced riders should not ride a Green Horse.

There are three Divisions: In-hand, Liberty, and Ridden, with several Classes in each.

1. Showing a horse **In-hand** is a great way to introduce a horse to obstacle Challenges. In addition to **“Junior In-hand”**, THARA offers two levels: “In-hand Training” and “In-hand Open”. **In-hand Training** is for horses that are new to obstacle training. Horses can be entered in this Class for a maximum of 12 months from their first entry in this Class. The Board of Directors reserves the right to remove a horse from In-hand Training prior to the end of this period. **In-hand Open** is a Class open to any horse. Once an In-hand Training horse is shown in In-hand Open, it cannot be entered as an In-hand Training horse again, even if the 12 months have not yet elapsed. Ridden or Liberty Class entries do not affect In-hand Training horse status.
2. THARA encourages competitors to enter **Liberty** Classes because this discipline is a great test of a horse’s trust in, and respect for, its handler. However, we realise that the threshold to “let go” can be very high for some people. We therefore offer a **“Liberty Training”** Class, valid for up to 12 months since the horse’s first entry in this Class. The Board of Directors reserves the right to remove a horse from Liberty Training prior to the end of this period. Also, once a Liberty Training horse is shown in **Liberty Open**, it cannot be entered as a Liberty Training Horse again, even if the 12 months have not yet elapsed. In-hand or ridden Class entries do not affect the Liberty Training status.
3. There are two **Ridden** Classes in this pathway:
 - **“Green Horse”** is an entry level for a horse that has never competed in any discipline.
 - For Green Horse, the horse must be 3 years or over. This is for animal welfare reasons; the Club does not encourage horses under 3 years of age to be ridden competitively.
 - A Green Horse does not need to be a young horse; older horses can also be green, for example farm horses that have never been taken to a competition.
 - Horses can be entered in this Class for a maximum of 12 months from their first entry in this Class. The Board of Directors reserves the right to remove a horse from Green Horse prior to the end of this period. Once the Green Horse status has lapsed, the horse can proceed to “Rookie Horse” status (see below).
 - To give a Green Horse the option of more than one ridden run at a Show, it may be entered into Rookie Horse during the 12 months’ period ends, without losing Green Horse status, but if entered into any Rider Development Class before the 12 months end, it cannot enter Green Horse again.
 - Showing a Green Horse In-hand or at Liberty does not affect its Green Horse status.
 - **“Rookie Horse”** is a ridden Class level for a horse that has some competition experience (for example, after it has completed its Green Horse period). Rookie Horse status is valid for a maximum of 12 months from that horse’s first attendance in this Class. The Board of Directors reserves the right to remove a horse from Rookie Horse prior to the end of this period. Once the Rookie Horse status has lapsed, riders will enter Classes based on rider competence levels (as shown in the Rider Development Pathway). To give a Rookie Horse

the option of more than one ridden run at a Show, it may be entered into a Rider Development Class before the 12 months' period ends, without losing Rookie Horse status. We do, however, not recommend entering that horse straight into the "Advanced" rider class. Showing that horse In-hand or at Liberty does not affect its Rookie Horse status.

Part A: Horse Development Pathway

in-hand Division

Class 01: Junior in-hand

Competitor Criteria: Up to 10 years (including)

Horse Criteria: Any age and experience

Notes on Handling and Tack: Horse to be unsaddled and unbridled; halter and rope only, no whips or sticks. A parent or other responsible adult may offer verbal support on the course but must not touch the horse, tack, child or the obstacles. Child must wear a helmet.

Number of Challenges: 6-8

Class 02: In-hand Training

Competitor Criteria: All ages and levels of competence

Horse Criteria: Any age; new to obstacle training

Notes on Handling and Tack: Horse to be unsaddled and unbridled; halter and rope only, no whips or sticks

Number of Challenges: 6-8

Notes on Progression: Horses can be entered in this Class for a maximum of 12 months from their first entry in this Class. The Board of Directors reserves the right to remove a horse from In-hand Training prior to the end of this period. Once an In-hand Training horse is shown in In-hand Open, it cannot be entered as an In-hand Training horse again, even if the 12 months have not yet elapsed. Ridden or Liberty Class entries do not affect In-hand Training horse status.

Class 03: In-hand Open

Competitor Criteria: All ages and levels of competence

Horse Criteria: Any age and experience

Notes on Handling and Tack: Horse to be unsaddled and unbridled; halter and rope only, no whips or sticks

Number of Challenges: 6-8

Liberty Division

Class 04: Liberty Training

Competitor Criteria: All ages and levels of competence

Horse Criteria: Any age; little or no liberty experience

Notes on Handling and Tack: May be shown in a halter and with a lead rope wrapped around its neck as an "emergency fallback tool", but every touch of the halter or rope incurs a 0.5 point penalty. Training stick and string allowed.

Number of Challenges: 6-8

Notes on Progression: Horses can be entered in this Class for a maximum of 12 months from their first entry in this Class. The Board of Directors reserves the right to remove a horse from Liberty Training prior to the end of this period. once a Liberty Training horse is shown in Liberty Open, it cannot be entered as a Liberty Training Horse again, even if the 12 months have not yet elapsed. In-hand or ridden Class entries do not affect the Liberty Training status.

Class 05: Liberty Open

Competitor Criteria: All ages and levels of competence

Horse Criteria: Any age and experience

Notes on Handling and Tack: Horses to be shown without ropes or halters; training stick and string allowed

Number of Challenges: 6-8

Ridden Division

Class 06: Green Horse

Competitor Criteria: 11 years and over

Horse Criteria: 3 years and over; no competition experience

Number of Challenges: 6-8

Notes on Progression: Horses can be entered in this Class for a maximum of 12 months from their first entry in this Class. The Board of Directors reserves the right to remove a horse from Green Horse prior to the end of this period. Once the Green Horse status has lapsed, the horse can proceed to "Rookie Horse" status. However, to give a Green Horse the option of more than one ridden run at a Show, it may be entered into Rookie Horse during the 12 months' period ends, without losing Green Horse status, but if entered into any Rider Development Pathway Class before the 12 months end, it cannot enter Green Horse again. Showing that horse In-hand or at Liberty does not affect its Green Horse status.

Class 07: Rookie Horse

Competitor Criteria: 11 years and over

Horse Criteria: 3 years and over; some competition experience

Number of Challenges: 6-8

Notes on Progression: Horses can be entered in this Class for a maximum of 12 months from their first entry in this Class. The Board of Directors reserves the right to remove a horse from Rookie Horse prior to the end of this period. Once the Rookie Horse status has lapsed, riders will enter Classes based on rider competence levels (as shown in the Rider Development Pathway). However, to give a Rookie Horse the option of more than one ridden run at a Show, it may be entered into a Rider Development Class before the 12 months' period ends, without losing Rookie Horse status. Showing that horse In-hand or at Liberty does not affect its Rookie Horse status.

7.5.5.3 Detailed description Part B: Rider Development Pathway

The purpose of the rider development pathway is to allow riders to be tested for their competence at increasing levels of Challenges. It allows for a level playing field, so that less experienced riders do not need to compete against advanced ones. There are only ridden Classes in this pathway, and the levels are targeting rider age and competence.

1. Riders should first enter the Class that a) matches their age, and b) best describes their riding abilities (“designated Class”)
 - At an Event, the judge will make recommendations to the Board as to whether a Competitor should remain in their designated Class at the next Event, or whether they should be moved up or down.
 - The Board will annually review Competitor placements at Shows. If a Competitor has placed consistently over a spread of Shows in a field of more than 5 Competitors, that Competitor may be moved to the next Class at the Board’s discretion. The Board will also consider a judge’s recommendations (see above). The Competitor will be notified in writing of the Board’s decision.
2. A rider may “ride up” into the next level. “Riding up” means riding in a higher than the designated Class without losing the designated Class status. For example, a designated Intermediate rider may ride up into Advanced but still be able to ride in Intermediate at the next THARA Challenge. Exception: “Open” is open to anyone; it’s not called “Riding up” into Open, because Open is not a competence designation.
3. For young Competitors, the two designated Classes are Junior (up to 10 years including) and Youth (11 to 17 years including).
4. For Competitors 18 years and over, the choice of designated Classes is Novice, Intermediate and Advanced. Upon request, Directors will advise those who are unsure about their designated Class.
5. “Competitor age” is age as on the day of the event.
6. Upon entries received for a Show, the Board reserves the right to review the capabilities of a Competitor and move that person to another Class if deemed appropriate. This shall be done in consultation with the Competitor before the Show.

Examples:

- i. A 12-year-old Competitor has the default designated Class of Youth, but – subject to parental permission – may also ride in other Classes, depending on their ability, and they may show their horse In-hand or at Liberty.
- ii. A 40-year-old Competitor with a basic knowledge of, and competence in, walk and trot (but little (if any) equestrian competition experience would be a Designated Novice. The rider may ride up into Intermediate. They may also ride in Open, but that is a more difficult course.
- iii. A 62-year-old Competitor with a good knowledge of, and competence in, walk, trot and canter, and in simple manoeuvres such as turns on the hind, but with limited equestrian competition experience, would be a Designated Intermediate. They may also ride in Wise Ones (based on their age), ride up into Advanced, and ride in Open, but they would not be allowed to ride into Novice.

- iv. A 42-year-old rider with the designated Class of “Advanced” has recently bought a horse that is new to Challenge work. THARA rules would view this horse as a Green Horse. The rider can ride this horse in Green Horse and Rookie Horse (see Horse Development Pathway) at its first Show, but not yet in any Rider Development Classes. Once ridden out of Green Horse, this horse – now a Rookie Horse – can be entered in a Rider Development Class, but the Advanced rider may choose to ride this horse in “Open” rather than in Advanced, because of the lower challenge level in “Open”.

Part B: Rider Development Pathway

Class 08: Junior, led

Competitor Age: Up to 10 years (including)

Competitor Competence: Rider must be able to access stirrups of a saddle or bareback pad.

Horse Criteria: Open to all ages and levels of competence

Notes on Handling and Tack: A parent or other responsible adult must lead the horse over the entire course. Horses must be led from a halter under the bridle, not from the bit. Child may be touched for reassurance.

Number of Challenges: 6-8

Class 09: Junior, ridden

Competitor Age: Up to 10 years (including)

Competitor Competence: Must ride independently

Horse Criteria: Open to all ages and levels of competence

Notes on Handling and Tack: A parent or other responsible adult may offer verbal support on the course but must not touch the horse, tack, child or the obstacles

Number of Challenges: 6-8

Ride up possible into: Youth (subject to parental permission)

Class 10: Youth

Competitor Age: 11 to 17 years (including)

Competitor Competence: Must ride independently

Horse Criteria: Open to all ages and levels of competence

Number of Challenges: 10-12

Ride up possible into: Novice, Intermediate, Advanced (subject to parental permission)

Class 11: Novice

Competitor Age: Any age

Competitor Competence: Riders with a basic knowledge of, and competence in, walk and trot but little (if any) equestrian competition

Horse Criteria: Open to all ages and levels of competence

Number of Challenges: 10-12

Ride up possible into: Intermediate

Class 12: Intermediate

Competitor Age: Any age

Competitor Competence: Riders with a good knowledge of, and competence in, walk, trot and canter, and in simple manoeuvres such as turns on the hind, but with limited equestrian competition experience

Horse Criteria: Open to all ages and levels of competence

Number of Challenges: 10-12

Ride up possible into: Advanced

Class 13: Advanced

Competitor Age: Any age

Competitor Competence: Riders with competition (any equestrian discipline) experience and/ or ability to perform more complex manoeuvres such as rollbacks

Horse Criteria: Open to all ages and levels of competence except for Green Horses

Number of Challenges: 10-12

Class 14: Wise Ones

Competitor Age: 60 years and over

Competitor Competence: Any level of knowledge, competence and experience

Horse Criteria: Open to all ages and levels of competence

Number of Challenges: 10-12

Class 15: Open

Competitor Age: Any age

Competitor Competence: Any level of knowledge, competence and experience

Horse Criteria: Open to all ages and levels of competence

Number of Challenges: 10-12

7.5.5.4 Special Division – Off the Track²

Class 16: Off the Track

Competitor Age: Any age

Horse Criteria: *“Standardbred or Thoroughbred horses bred for racing in Tasmania, irrespective of whether they made it to the track or training, **OR** Horses bred in alternate (sic) states but raced and retired in Tasmania”³*

Number of Challenges: 10-12

² Offering this class at a Show is contingent upon “Off the Track Tasmania” sponsorship.

³ [Home - Off the track](#)

7.5.6 *Hors Concours* policy

At the Board's discretion, *Hors Concours*⁴ (HC) runs may be permitted at Club Shows.

- i. The purpose of riding HC is not about having practice runs. HC is about bringing injured or upset horses back into competition without the stress of aiming for a placing.
- ii. It is not allowed to ride a horse HC at a Show, then ride it competitively at the same Show. Put simply, a horse stays in HC for the entire Event.
- iii. In HC, horses may be ridden down from the Competitor's designated Class. For example, a rider designated as Advanced may ride a horse in Intermediate as HC.
- iv. A horse may be ridden HC in several Classes at the same Event; the total number of runs must not exceed 4.
- v. HC horses are ridden together with competitive horses in a Class. They are ridden last in that Class, and they do get scores; however, the scores do not translate into placings.
- vi. If a rider competes on more than one horse in a Class, the horse(s) ridden HC in that Class must come last; otherwise, there would be an unfair advantage because the rider would have ridden the course before their competitive run.
- vii. Permission to enter a horse as HC is entirely at the discretion of the Board. The judge must be informed that permission has been given.
- viii. The rider is subject to the same rules as other riders at the Show, except as provided in this policy.

7.5.7 The course

A standard course will have between 10 and 12 Challenges, with some Classes having fewer (between 6 and 8). Challenges may be obstacles in the narrower sense (e.g. bridges, curtains, trash boxes, small jumps), tasks (e.g. roping, archery), or they may be manoeuvres (e.g. transitions, speeds within a gait, rollbacks).

The course for higher-level Classes may look the same as the one for beginner levels; however, the demands may be different. For example, an obstacle consisting of two drums may mean backing straight through for the Novice rider, but an Advanced rider may be asked to go around backwards in a figure of eight.

The course for Wise ones will cater for age-related declines in mobility and agility that would present an impediment to, for example, roping or reaching down. The level of difficulty would generally be set at Intermediate.

Open is open to any age and level of rider competence. The course is set at a high level of difficulty.

Course maps will be displayed on A-frame boards on the morning of the Show.

The course Challenges must be tackled in a prescribed order. The obstacles – or spots where manoeuvres are to be performed – will be marked by numbers to minimise the risk of competitors going off-course.

Callers are not allowed.

⁴ From French; means "outside of competition"

7.5.8 Judging

The judge will look for good horsemanship and an agile horse willingly working the Challenge course. They will assess the approach to a Challenge, execution of the Challenge and departure from it. Together, these 3 elements are called Challenge Execution (see below and **Attachment A**). Ideally, the 3 elements are a flowing movement, but it is quite normal for a horse to stop and want to look at or sniff an obstacle before going over or under (blatant disobedience, however, is not desirable). Competitors who master such situations without upsetting the horse or merely rushing it through will be scored favourably on Challenge Execution as well as for Overall Horsemanship.

There is a list of errors that will incur penalty points. These are subtracted from the Challenge Execution Score at each Challenge where they occur. The sum is the Combined Challenge Score (see section [7.5.9 Scoring](#) and **Attachment A**).

For the entirety of a run, the judge will also give an Overall Horsemanship Score, and a Horse and Rider Presentation Score (see section [7.5.9 Scoring](#) and **Attachment A**).

The runs over the course are timed, with fast completion of the course scoring extra bonus points. However, speed without control will be marked down.

At a Show, the judge's decision is always final. Any challenges to a judge's decisions must be made within fifteen minutes of the end of the Class. Competitors should have read and understood these rules before questioning a judge's decision.

Because we are a new and independent Club, we do not currently have formal qualification provisions for our judges. However, the judges who have kindly agreed to work with us hold previous judging qualifications with very similar Clubs.

Finally, a Show is not a training day! If a horse really does not want to tackle a Challenge, the Competitor should move to the next Challenge and remember to practise at home.

7.5.9 Scoring

A typical THARA Score Sheet is provided at **Attachment A**. The Board may modify the score sheet from time to time.

Challenge Execution Score

The Competitor shall start the course with a default score of 5 points as the Challenge Execution Score for each Challenge. The individual Challenge Execution Score could be as low as 0 and as high as 10, however, these are extremes; a smooth run will typically mean 5 points.

Here are two examples on how to be awarded more or fewer points:

Example 1: Ride through a pool noodle curtain

- Default points: 5, for a smooth approach without hesitation, quiet execution at a walk, and smooth departure; attentive horse.
- Additional points for:
 - approaching in trot, trotting through
 - approaching in canter, cantering through, at the lead that follows the flow of the course

- Fewer points for:
 - Hesitation upon approach
 - Multiple attempts to go through the curtain
 - Tail-swishing, head-shaking, or other signs of irritation

Example 2: Opening a gate with your left hand

- Default points: 5, for a smooth approach without hesitation, quiet execution at a walk, and smooth departure; attentive horse.
- Additional points for:
 - approaching in trot, smooth opening and walking through, departure in trot
 - approaching in canter, going straight into a stop next to the gate in position to open it, departure straight into a canter at the best lead to head to the next obstacle
- Fewer points for:
 - Approaching from the wrong side, or trying to open with wrong hand
 - Horse doesn't stand still at the gate
 - Walking through but then swinging hindquarters too far out (doesn't end up parallel to the gate)
 - Tail-swishing, head-shaking, or other signs of irritation

Errors

Judges may also apply penalty half-points for certain errors; a list of errors typically incurred is shown on the score sheet at **Attachment A**, but a judge may identify additional errors on the day.

Some errors and tips on how to avoid them are explained in more detail here:

- **1 to 2 hands:** means if a rider chooses to ride one-handed, they may not switch to two hands at any time during the test (or *vice versa*). To do so will cause an error each time and applies regardless of whether using a curb bit or shank bit. If you're not sure whether you can maintain a nice ride with one hand, it's better to ride two-handed throughout.
- **Broke gait:** means changing the gait when it's not asked for, be it up (e.g. from walk to trot) or down (e.g. from canter to trot). While a fast run gives you time points, if your horse breaks from a canter into a trot, you accrue error points every time this occurs. It may be safer to stay in a fast trot. Similarly, hurrying up a walk may lead to the horse breaking into trot – you'll get error points for this, too.
- **Loss of direction:** means not executing the next obstacle in the outline as intended (and as explained in the walk-through), but perhaps with a wobble or berth to one side, for example, riding too wide around a barrel. This is an error incurred within a Challenge.
- **Off course:** means, for example, riding past an obstacle without acknowledging it at all, approaching an obstacle after having first ridden past it, going into the wrong direction between obstacles, or doing the obstacles out of order. Depending on the "severity", this may

incur zero points and a 30 seconds penalty, or it **may lead to a disqualification!** In the latter case, the judge may allow the rider to continue the course for training purposes only. Memorise the order of obstacles from the walk-through and the course map. Stay focussed on the next obstacle. The numbers at the obstacles will also help.

- **Rider falls off:** This literally means falling off – not deliberately dismounting to, for example, entangle a rope that has become twisted around the horse’s legs, or catching a horse that has walked away from a ground-tie. If a rider comes off their horse, it is the judge’s discretion to offer the rider to remount and continue (if the rider and horse look unharmed and a remount is possible within 60 seconds), but for training purposes only. If the rider or horse look injured, the judge will advise the rider to leave the course with their horse – this will be a **disqualification**.

Combined Challenge Score

This is addition of the Challenge Execution Score and the errors incurred.

In the pool curtain example above, a rider may have acquired a Challenge Execution Score of 6, but the reins were judged to be very tight (Code TR) (minus 0.5 points). The Combined Challenge Score is then 5.5 points.

In the gate example, a rider may have acquired a Challenge Execution Score of 7 for a nice trot-up, gate opening and closing, and trot off. However, in departing the gate, the horse bumped against it (Code KO) and the rider dropped the gate handle/ rope (Code DO) at the last second. The Combined Challenge Score is then 7 minus 2x0.5 = 6 points.

Total Points Score

The judge will add an overall Horsemanship Score and a Horse and Rider Presentation Score to the Combined Challenge Score, giving you the Total Points Score. As above, the default for both the Horsemanship Score and the Presentation Score will be 5 points.

Regarding the Horsemanship Score, grinding of the teeth and wringing of the tail are signs of tenseness or resistance on the part of the horse and would lead to a lower score. Any rider who hangs or bangs on a horse’s mouth, rides with their horse’s head behind the vertical, or with over flexion would also be penalised this way.

Riding bareback or on-handed may give a higher Horsemanship Score; however, if bareback riding becomes a wobble, or the rider changes from one-hand to two-hands, the Total Point Score could quickly become lower than it would have been had the “safer” option of a saddle or two-hands been chosen.

Regarding presentation, the judge is not looking for bling but for clean and neat appearance of both competitor and horse, and clean and tidy tack.

Time Score:

The time limit for an individual Challenge is 30 seconds. The Judge may warn the Competitor at that time and ask them to move on. The default time for completing a course is 7 minutes (it may be less for shorter courses).

Two timekeepers will take the time. The shorter time will be used for scoring, unless there is a marked discrepancy between the two times taken, in which case the matter will be investigated by the Show Committee.

The time used for scoring will be subtracted from the 7 minutes' default; for example, if the time is 4:45 minutes, the resulting time score will be 2:55 minutes. This will be added to the Total Point Score. It means that a shorter run will score better than a slower run, but it should not come at the expense of horsemanship!

8. Disputes and Mediation

- i. The grievance procedure set out here applies to disputes between:
 - a. A Member and another Member; or
 - b. A Member and the Club.
- ii. The parties to the dispute must meet and discuss the matter in dispute, and, if possible, resolve the dispute within 14 days after the dispute comes to the attention of all parties.
- iii. If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute at the meeting, or if a party fails to attend the meeting, then the parties must, within 10 days, hold a meeting in the presence of a mediator.
- iv. The mediator must be:
 - a. A person chosen by agreement between the parties; or
 - b. In the absence of agreement, a person appointed by the Board.
- v. A Member of the Club may be a mediator.
- vi. The mediator cannot be a Member who is party to the dispute.
- vii. The parties to the dispute must, in good faith, attempt to settle the dispute by mediation.
- viii. The mediation must be confidential and without prejudice.
- ix. If the mediation process does not result in the dispute being resolved, the parties may appeal to the Board for resolution.

9. Suspension or expulsion

- i. The Board may, after failed mediation, call a meeting to consider suspension or expulsion of any Member of the Club whose conduct remains, in the opinion of the Board, prejudicial to the interests of the Club. Any action shall be decided by a majority vote of the Directors present.
- ii. The Member whom it is proposed to suspend or expel may attend this meeting for the purpose of being heard.
- iii. Any Member who is suspended or expelled shall be notified in writing of the decision by the Board within 7 days.
 - a. There shall be a right of appeal against a decision to suspend or expel a Member.

- b. Any request for appeal must be in writing to a Director within 14 days of notification of the decision.
- c. An extraordinary general meeting shall be called within 30 days of receipt of the written request.
- d. The extraordinary general meeting shall hear the Member's appeal and may confirm, vary or reverse the Board decision.

10. Contact

You can contact us via e-mail (texca.tas@gmail.com) or on our Facebook page [Tasmanian Extreme Cowboy Assoc \(TEXCA\) | Facebook](#).

11. Attachments

Attachment A THARA Score Sheet

Attachment A: THARA Score Sheet

EVENT		DATE	
CLASS		LOCATION	
COMPETITOR'S NAME		HORSE'S NAME	
JUDGE'S NAME		SCRIBE'S NAME	

Challenge Number and Name	a) Challenge Execution Score (0-10 points; default is 5)	b) Challenge Errors incurred (up to 4 per challenge) – use codes on the right-hand side	c) Combined Challenge Score subtract ½ point for each error at b) from the score at a)
<i>Example only</i>	8	BG, KO, HE	$8 - (3 \times \frac{1}{2}) = 6.5$
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
Total 1-12			

Errors (examples)	Code
1 to 2 hands (for snaffle and shank)	1to2
Broke gait	BG
Charging	CH
Dropped obstacle	DO
Gaping mouth	GM
Heavy hands or high hands	HH
Hesitation	HE
Knocked obstacle	KO
Loss of control	LOC
Loss of direction	LOD
Loss of straightness	LOS
Off course*	OC
Overshot	OS
Poor stop	PS
Poor transition	PT
Refusal	REF
Rider falls off**	RO
Stepped on/ off obstacle	SO
Tight reins	TR
Wrong lead	WL

d) Horsemanship (for entire course)	Default is 5; comment here if required:	Score:
e) Horse and Rider presentation	Default is 5; comment here if required:	Score:

CALCULATING TOTAL SCORE AND PLACING:

f) Total Point Score – add up totals under c), d) and e)	g) Time as taken (e.g. 4.45 minutes)	h) Time Score – 7.00 minus time taken at g) (e.g. 7.00-4.45=2.55)	i) Total Score – add f) and h)	Place in Class – To be determined when all runs are in

* "Off course" may incur zero points and a 30 seconds penalty for that obstacle, or it may lead to a disqualification (the Competitor may finish the course for training purposes).

** If a rider falls off their horse, the judge will either ask them to exit safely (disqualification) or suggest they may remount and continue for training purposes.