



SKIJØRING AT REBECCA FARM, DECEMBER 28-29, 2019
RULES - 2020 SEASON

RULES ARE FOR THE SAFETY OF HUMAN AND HORSE COMPETITORS, AND TO ENSURE FAIRNESS.

COMPETITION CRITERIA

Teams consist of horse, rider and skier/snowboarder.

Open Class – Teams are considered to be the highest skilled competitors with the fastest horses.

Registrants in this class may acquire points for Skijoring America's Point Series.

Sport Class – Teams are considered to be intermediate level skill participants riding horses that may not be fast enough to be in the Open Class. Registrants in this class may acquire points for Skijoring America's Point Series.

Novice Class – Teams are considered to be beginning level competitors riding horses that may not be fast enough to be competitive in the Open or Sport Classes.

RULES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

All riders and skiers/snowboarders must be members of Skijoring America or purchase Skijoring America weekend insurance coverage, and sign the Rebecca Farm Competitor Waiver and Release Form.

1. For MINORS:

All Competitors under 18 years of age are required to:

- Be accompanied to Friday's Team Registration by their parent/guardian,
- Provide parental consent on Competitor Waiver and Release Form,
- Provide proof of current medical insurance coverage.

Skiers under 18 must wear protective eyewear and helmets during competition.

Riders under 18 must wear helmets during competition. Protective vests are recommended.

2. For SKIERS/SNOWBOARDERS:

- a. A skier/snowboarder may compete in only one class
- b. A skier/snowboarder may compete up to four times in a day.
- c. A skier/snowboarder may run only once behind the same horse in a day.
- d. All skiers/snowboarders must wear approved snow sport helmets.
- e. It is recommended that all skiers/snowboarders wear eye protection.
- f. It is suggested that bindings be tested by a professional prior to competing.

3. For RIDERS:

- a. A rider may compete in more than one class, but must compete on a different horse in each class.
- b. A rider may compete up to four times in a day.
- c. All riders must be on time for their runs. Any rider that is not ready will be moved to the back of the order. Second failure may result in disqualification.
- d. The rider must be in contact with the horse when crossing the finish line.
- e. It is recommended that riders wear helmets & protective vests.

4. For HORSES:

- a. A horse may compete in only one class.
- b. A horse may not run more than two times in a day.
- c. Leg protection (boots/polo wraps) and bell/splint boots are strongly recommended.

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5. For EQUIPMENT:

- a. Ropes must be at least 3/8" in diameter and should be 33' feet in length for this course design.
- b. Loops and knots are allowed on skier end of ropes, but handles are not allowed.
- c. Any rope not supplied by the Rebecca Farm Organizing Committee must be inspected and approved by the Chief Starter or their designee prior to the start of the race.
- d. Attachment must be to the saddle horn or behind the saddle. If the attachment is behind the saddle, it must be secured to the primary rigging rings of the saddle by a non-elastic attachment so that the pulling rope is within 6 inches of the cantle, carabiner included. Prior to the race start, the Chief Starter, or their designee, must approve any attachment to the saddle. Quick release shackles are highly recommended.

6. Rules of COMPETITION:

- a. Rules are the same for all classes. Note: Entry in Costume Class does not count against maximum number of entries in other classes.
- b. If a horse, rider, or equipment are deemed unsafe, the rider and horse can be asked to leave at any time by the Arena Director or other race official.
- c. The skier /snowboarder must finish in an upright position with rope in hand when crossing the finish line. Both ski boots must cross the finish line and skier must be standing on at least one ski.
- d. Both ski tips, or entire snowboard, and both ski boots must go around a gate, or the gate is considered missed.
- e. Each team is allowed four minutes to complete staging and begin the race. The allotted four-minute time period begins upon the Arena Director's determination of a clear course. After this time has expired, the Team will be asked to leave the staging area. The Team will be allowed one more attempt to race at the end of the class. If the staging time is exceeded again, the Team will be disqualified from that day's competition.
- f. If a skier/snowboarder drops the rope BEFORE crossing the start line, he/she will be allowed a restart immediately after the false start. If there is a delay, or the skier/snowboarder drops the rope on the second attempt to start, that Team will be disqualified for that run. If the horse runs the course, the Team will be dropped down in the order, at the Arena Director's discretion, to allow for reasonable recovery time. If it is the last of the class, Team will be scheduled to run prior to start of the next class.
- g. Batons may not be used for ring spearing.
- h. No substitutions are allowed for any team member (skier, rider or horse). If for any reason any Team member cannot compete, the Team will be disqualified. No refunds will be made.

7. PENALTIES

- a. A two second penalty is assessed for each missed jump or gate.
- b. A two second penalty is assessed for any horse breaking the plane of any jump, hitting a gate, or hitting a timing device.
- c. A two second penalty will be assessed for each missed or dropped ring.

8. COURSE

- a. The course will have an early curve followed by a long straight-away, with a length of approximately 750-850 feet from start to finish gates. Note: Skiers will cross from side to side of track, so rope length should be 33'.
- b. There will be up to three jumps, approximately 3-4 feet in height for Novice Class and 5-6 feet in height for Sport and Open classes.
- c. Organizers reserve the right to make last minute changes to course design, based on an assessment of current weather and course conditions and with the goal of safety for all.

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9. SAFETY/MEDICAL

- a. The on-site veterinarian will have the authority to scratch a horse for health reasons or concerns pertaining to the safety of the horse. A member of the organizing committee, the Chief Starter or the Arena Director can require that a horse be examined by the veterinarian prior to racing.
- b. An ambulance and/or EMT crew will be on site. Service, if needed, will be charged to the benefactor of the service.
- c. The use of drones on the property is prohibited.

10. DISPUTES

If a team member has a concern regarding their run, that concern must be brought to the attention of the Arena Director as soon as possible after the run, but not later than the start of the next Team following the run being protested.

A Protest Committee consisting of three members, schooled in the rules and selected to have no conflict of interest, will consider the concern presented and make a decision not later than the start of the next class. A \$20 PROTEST FEE IS REQUIRED TO BE PAID TO THE ARENA DIRECTOR WHEN ANY PROTEST IS LODGED. IF THE PROTEST IS UPHeld AND THE PROTEST COMMITTEE AGREES WITH THE PROTESTER, THE PROTEST FEE WILL BE REFUNDED. The decision of the committee is final, and all parties involved are asked to accept their decision in the spirit of friendly competition.

11. CANCELLATION /WEATHER

The Race Organizer reserves the right to cancel this skijoring event at any time, due to extremely unfavorable weather conditions that could affect horse, rider, skier, spectator, staff and/or volunteer safety, or if the temperature at the venue is below 10 degrees Fahrenheit or the windchill factor is below minus 10 degrees Fahrenheit. Should the Organizer deem it necessary to cancel the competition for one or both days, Registration Fees will be refunded for the day(s) cancelled.

12. SPORTSMANSHIP

Good sportsmanship is important to the success of every event and to the image of the community. Your registration signature pledges your word to the humane treatment of your horse and respectful relationships with fellow competitors, volunteers, spectators and all those involved with presenting this weekend competition, including related off-site evening activities. Failure to comply with the spirit of friendly competition may result in the disqualification of your team or your banishment from future competitions.

13. RACE RESULTS

Race results will be announced and prizes will be awarded Sunday evening at approximately 6pm at First Avenue Taphouse, 139 1st Avenue W., Kalispell. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

Race results will be posted on competitivetiming.com.