

2019 Grand National Rodeo Drill Team Competition

Drill Team Competition Rules and Expectations

Welcome to the Grand National Rodeo Drill Team Competition This competition is based on overall winner, with that in mind we will not have division break down such as Junior; Senior; or mixed. We will have division break downs which will go towards top scores, scores based on team performance in **Freestyle, Patriotic, and/ or Theme**. * You will be scored on only two divisions, Freestyle being mandatory, with Patriotic or Theme being the other top score your lowest score out of Theme and Patriotic will be thrown away out of those 2 divisions, so if a team opts to do only 2 Freestyle and Theme or Patriotic, the other division will be an automatic 0 thus the lowest score and thrown away. There will be a division for new teams that will not go towards the major prize but will be to encourage new and reformatted teams called the Novice Division, (**Novice teams** consist of a team that is 65% newly constituted or newly formed current drill year December 2018 to December 2019.) Novice division will have an overall winner which will include top scores from **Freestyle mandatory, Patriotic and or Theme**, . Freestyle being mandatory then teams have the option of doing both theme and Patriotic taking the top score from one of those and combining with Freestyle and discarding lowest score. Or perform only one and combining with Freestyle and receiving and automatic 0 on the other thus your lowest score which will be tossed. New this year will be the Pee Wee Division this is for teams with riders under 12 years of age who are relatively new to the riding world they will be judged on Freestyle 6 minutes, Theme 5 minutes. Or Patriotic without flags 5 minutes. Overall Division, Novice Division, Pee Wee division will be given awards up to third place and ribbons up to 6th place in Overall category; Freestyle; Theme; and Patriotic.

Deductions for all divisions:

Broken tack or dropped equipment	-5 for each infraction
Fall of horse or rider from collision	-300
Collision without a fall	-100
Fall of horse or rider no collision	-50
Time penalty for each minute under	-25 *Freestyle only does not affect pee wee
Time penalty for each minute over	-5 * free style only, other -2
Regroup for any reason	-100
Rider off course per rider and occurrence	-10
Restart	-100
Un-Sportsmanship penalty	-25 up to disqualification

Teams will be judged on the following but not limited to:

Execution

Alignment: lines straight both vertically and horizontal, circles evenly aligned and spaced, maneuvers centered in arena, executed in a working manner by all team members.

Spacing: uniform throughout each maneuver, remain consistent throughout the performance.

Timing/coordination: timing good and uniformed, no riders racing or stopping during a maneuver, no collisions or near misses, connections between maneuvers good flow

Briskness: execution of maneuvers by all team members with precision, alertness, and over all good attitude, all team members ride in same gait together through maneuvers.

Performance and Manner of HORSES: horse well mannered, suitable to drill, no bucking-rearing-biting-refusals-kicking-breaking gait, correct lead, enjoy their work and sound. HORSES will not be marked down for ear pinning.

Originality, Variety, and Attractiveness

Degree of Difficulty: Teams performing a more difficult drill should be scored higher than teams using a relatively easy drill. Large teams choosing to ride as a large team, all their members should be up to the same caliber of difficulty, maneuvers having clean execution. If using speed, maneuvers should be executed with good alignment-spacing-timing-briskness-and clean. Speed doesn't necessarily mean more points especially if you have riders not able to perform the task.

Crowd Appeal: Drill presented to be pleasing to the crowd, maneuvers flow from one to the other without a lot of set up, the music suitable to the drill routine, tempo is pleasing, moves presented in the best viewing for a crowd and the overall look of the team is pleasing.

Horsemanship: rider presents a pretty picture, hands quiet, posture correct, cuing correct, overall handling of the horse by the rider using correct equitation adapted for drill.

General Impression: Costumes, horses and equipment clean and neat, horses healthy looking, equipment in working order and not broken-worn-torn, overall look pleasing and suitable for drill.

Freestyle:

Teams will be judged on 6 minutes of performance, 25-point penalty for each infraction being under time 5 points for each infraction over. This division is Mandatory- NO FLAGS Pee Wee 6 minutes max no time penalty for going under -2 for over * clarification for time limit on Freestyle ..for all teams except pee wee division time limit for Freestyle will be 6-7 minutes ...with a minus 25 for each minute under 6 and -5 minutes for each minute over 7..

No horse or rider shall leave arena once music starts, in case of medical emergency teams will be given 5 minutes for a substitute, no coaching from outside.

Theme Division:

All rules the same as *Freestyle* except for the following:

Theme of the drill: unique, fun, costumes original, music suitable to the theme, obvious that thought went into the skit and performance, and time of drill will be performed in 5 minutes no going under penalty and -2 for each minute over.

Theme- drill riders may enter and exit arena if it goes with the skit.

Patriotic:

All applies the same as Freestyle and Theme except for the following: teams must carry flags, more points will be given for teams patterning American, California, and team flag using proper flag protocol **No flag shall be taller than American flag, American flag should NEVER be dipped, American flag carried with a 90 degree angle in the arm and pole held straight, ornament on the flag pole facing forward, no flag will be ahead of American flag, no flag or rider to the right of American flag except for circles, music appropriate for the carriage of the American Flag.*

Teams will be judged on flag protocol and carriage

This is a 5 minute drill, no penalty for going under deduction of 2 points for each minute over 5.

No horse or rider shall leave arena once music starts, in case of medical emergency teams will be given 5 minutes for a substitute, no coaching from outside.

Please note animal abuse will NOT be tolerated in any shape or form, horses showing obvious signs of lameness or severe injury will cause a team to be pulled.

Questions are welcome at the Judges/Captains meeting prior to the beginning of the competition and judges will be available after competition to answer questions regarding your scores. ONLY ONE of these person's the coach or assistant coach will be allowed in the room to speak to judges.

Judges/Coaches meeting ONLY designated coach and assist coach will be allowed in this meeting.

All teams are expected to partake in the Grand Entry Friday night opening of the rodeo. Special rules apply to the top 3 teams. Riders who rode the winning drills are to be in the Grand Entry unless given approval not to ride by Drill Chair, any top 3 team that does not adhere to this rule will lose their placement and, if it's a top 1 or 2 team the ability to perform in the rodeo.

SPORTSMANSHIP:

Drill is a team sport and Grand National feels that all teams and individuals associated with teams should conduct themselves always when associated with the sport of drill in a sportsman like manner. Teams failing to do so, or individuals associated with teams will cause the team to be reprimanded. With that expectation the following applies,

All teams are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanship type manner, any team that conducts itself or any of its members that conduct themselves in a behavior that is deemed to be unsportsmanlike by Drill Chair or judges will be disqualified from receiving awards or placement. Any team or persons found behaving unsportsmanlike after the competition while on competition grounds or on social media will be stripped of their placement and awards. In addition to losing placement said team or individuals that constituted the unsportsmanlike behavior may be banned from future competitions.

Any team, team member, or individual associated with said team that behaves badly at any other competition, that behavior will be noted for Grand National and team will receive bad sportsmanship penalty ranging anywhere from -25 to -100 points depending on the severity, and times of the infraction. We will be working in conjunction with other cooperating drill competitions and their event coordinators to deter unsportsmanlike conduct including but not limited to the cross reporting of infractions resulting in potential disqualification or penalization.

Any top 3 teams that do not partake in the Grand Entry will be deemed unsportsmanlike and will suffer the consequences. All teams are to partake in the Grand Entry and failure to do so will forfeit their award.

Any person associated with a team be it friend, relative, boyfriend, husband and that said person behaves in an unsportsman like behavior may forfeit the teams' standings.