

# KIT CARSON RIDING CLUB

## 2023 GYMKHANA RULES

**Season:** May thru October. See club calendar for actual event dates. Note that canceled events will be rescheduled to the following Saturday if there is no conflicting club events or as long as it is not a holiday weekend.

- Event is open to the public.
- Gates will open at 3:00PM.
- Registration will begin at 3:15PM. Online registration may be available.
- Start time will be at 4:00PM for LEAD LINE followed by drill team and opening ceremonies. Individual classes begin at 5pm.
- Registration for each event will be discontinued at the start of that particular event.
- After 4:45PM, the event registration will be moved to the announcer's booth.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> event, (if run), will be a No Charge Event.

**Prices:** The following prices are the same for all classes:

- \$3.00 per event per rider for club members.
- \$5.00 per event per ride for nonmembers.

### **Entries:**

- Your age as of January 1<sup>st</sup> is the age group you will be entered in.
- Entries per event will close when the first rider of that class/group enters the arena.
- Only two horses per rider will be allowed—a separate registration form is required for each horse. As a KCRC member, it is the rider's responsibility to specify which horse is running for points for end of year awards when registering. Non-Members will be responsible for specifying which horse is running for the ribbon points that night. The announcer that night MUST be notified of a change of horses before the event is run, or there will be no points awarded for that run. There will be arena helpers with radios available for contacting the Event Director if needed.

**Placing and Points:** Points will be given first place thru sixth place. Ribbons will be awarded in the same manner.

**Year End Awards:** To qualify for the Year End Award, the following must be met:

- A. Individual must be an approved club member on or before the KCRC board meeting the month before the series begins of that competition year.
  - B. Must ride in correct age group—age as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of current year.
  - C. Points acquired thru the whole season will determine the Year End High Point and High Point Reserve winner(s).
  - D. You must participate in at least 50% of the seasons held Gymkhanas to qualify for buckles.
- NO EXCEPTIONS FOR ANY REASON.

**Events:** Please be at the start gate for the start of your age group. The announcer will call you 3 times. If you fail to be at the gate within 30 seconds of the 3<sup>rd</sup> call you will not be able to run the event.

The standard events will be:

- A. Barrel Racing

- B. Flag Race
- C. 75 up and Back
- D. Pole Bending

A fifth event may be added at the Gymkhana/Event Director's discretion.

**Warnings:** Contestants will have three warnings they are up next. At the time of the final call, the rider has 30 seconds to enter the arena. Rider's failure to do so will result in disqualification for the event.

**Electronic Timer:** Electric eye timer is the official time and cannot be challenged.

**Re-runs:** A re-run will only be given if due to an electric eye failure. A re-run must take place before the end of the event being rerun or as Announcer/Event Director deems appropriate.

**Arena Area and Grounds:** Contestants must keep alleyway and gate area clear at all times, unless they are up for their run. Horses should be kept clear of the storage shed and grandstands at all times. Do not tie horses to the arena fence. Horses must be kept a minimum of 15ft. from the East Side and West side arena fences, excluding the N/W Corner of the arena.

**ALL PERSONS ON HORSEBACK ON THE K.C.R.C. GROUNDS, WHETHER OR NOT  
COMPETING, WILL SIGN A HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT.**

Nonmembers will sign this agreement at each event. K.C.R.C. Members need only the agreement that was signed on member application.

**Parking:** Trucks, trailers, and all other vehicles need to be parked clear of all alleyways and gates.

**Helmets:** Helmets and other protective equipment are not required, but are highly recommended.

To avoid any serious accidents, the Gymkhana Committee requests the following guidelines are observed at all times:

1. Any contestant who, through lack of control or poor sportsmanship, endangers the safety of other contestants will be penalized or disqualified for the event, at the Event Director's discretion.
2. Abuse of one's mount, excessive whipping, jerking of the reins, excessive spurring or kicking, striking the horse with any object etc., is strictly prohibited. Violation of this rule will result in the disqualification for that event. Repeat offenses may result in disqualification for the entire evening,
3. Riding carelessly around the grounds is prohibited. Trotting, cantering, loping, or galloping is allowed in either of the two arenas and the round pen. Trotting outside an arena is allowed along the North fence line only. .
4. Footwear with an appropriate heel must be worn.
5. When passing, pass well off to the side. In any event, warn the rider ahead and pass slowly.
6. Check and tighten all tack before entering the arena.

7. No bicycles will be allowed to be ridden in the vicinity of the horses or horse trailers.
8. Members are to present themselves in a respectful and professional manner at all times pursuant to the KCRC Code of Conduct set forth by the Board of Directors for Kit Carson Riding Club. These rules can be obtained from the club by request to any board member.

### **Weather-Temperature Policy.**

Starting earlier and finishing later in the season may have some temperature issues. Our event is family oriented and there are a lot of young and old ones having fun, so we need to look out for everyone.

· Wunderground <https://www.wunderground.com/> will be the primary weather app used to gather the information.

Main Principles:

- (1)· Forecasted temperature at start time (4pm) must be a minimum of 50 degrees factoring in wind chill.
- (2) · Forecasted temperature 1 hour after sunset must be above freezing (33 degrees or higher) factoring in wind chill. Sunset times are listed on Wunderground as well as temperatures. Times will be rounded back to the nearest hour if 29 minutes or less or rounded up if 30 minutes or more as forecasted temperatures are based on hourly numbers. For example, if sunset is 8:15pm—and you add the hour after sunset, that takes you to 9:15pm so the temperature at 900pm will be used. If sunset is 8:31 and then add the hour to make 9:31pm so the 10pm temperature will be used.

· BOTH temperatures should be within the above stated ranges—the final decision will be that of the gymkhana chair and/or event director for that event if there are other considerations.

The forecasted temperatures will be reviewed using the closet station to KCRC which I have as KCOCOLOR1855. <https://www.wunderground.com/.../colorado.../KCOCOLOR1855>

The time of the temperature review will be at 11am *on Saturday* and a decision will be announced on the *Facebook* page and by eblast.

**Rain Checks:** Rain checks will be given to participants if severe weather dictates cancellation of the evening's events. Rain checks will only be given out to those riders that did not have a chance to ride *in any events* that they signed up for. They will not be given if 3 "points" events have been finished. All rain checks will be honored for future events for the duration of that season only.

**Classes:** The following classes are designated:

#### **Ribbons only-Non buckle classes.**

**Leadline:** No age designation This class is for those that will be led through the patterns by using a lead rope attached to the horse.

**Walk/Trot:** No age designation. This class is for those that choose to walk and or trot through the

patterns. In the event the horse lopez, the first time there will be a warning issued. Any additional occurrences may result in a five second penalty.

### **Buckle and Ribbon Classes**

10 and Under  
11 thru 14  
15 thru 18  
19 thru 39  
40 thru 59  
60 and up

### **Event Rules**

**Barrel Race:** Three barrels shall be placed 75 feet apart in a triangle formation conforming to accepted standards. The rider will cross the start line, ride to #1 barrel, circle to the right, ride to the #2 barrel, circle it to the left, ride to the #3 barrel, circle it to the left and ride across the finish line, passing between barrels #1 and #2. Or, rider will cross start line and ride to #2 barrel, circle it to the left, ride to #1 barrel, circle it to the right, ride to #3 barrel, circle it to the right and ride across the finish line, passing between barrels #1 and #2. The pattern may be run in a reverse manner if requested by the rider.

Disqualifications:

1. Loss of forward motion—broken pattern.
2. Not crossing finish line between barrels #1 and #2.
3. Crossing start/finish line before pattern is complete.

Penalty: A five (5) second penalty will be assessed for each barrel knocked over. Contestants are allowed to touch barrels.

**Flag Race:** The flag race version is usually decided by polling members at the beginning of each season and is announced on *Facebook*, by eblast to members and at the General Membership meetings. Both versions are shown for explanation purposes.

**Flag Race Version 1 (barrels only):** Two containers (preferably 55 gallon drums) will be placed 75 feet apart, and 30 feet from the start/finish line. A five-gallon bucket filled with sand or soft dirt should be placed on top of each drum. The rider starts with flag in one hand and deposits it in bucket #1, proceeds to bucket #2, removes the flag from bucket #2 and proceeds to the finish line or the rider starts with flag in one hand and deposits it in bucket #1, proceeds to bucket #2, removes the flag from bucket #1 and proceeds to the finish line.

**Flag Race Version 2 (w/pole):** Two containers (preferably 55 gallon drums) will be placed 75 feet apart, and 30 feet from the start/finish line. In addition, there will be a pole placed at the 3<sup>rd</sup> barrel position. A five-gallon bucket filled with sand or soft dirt should be placed on top of each drum. The rider starts with flag in one hand and deposits it in bucket #1, then proceeds to the go around the pole and then proceeds to bucket #2, removes the flag from bucket #2 and proceeds to the finish line or the rider starts with flag in one hand and deposits it in bucket #1, then goes around the pole and then proceeds to bucket #2, removes the flag from bucket #2 and proceeds to the finish line.

Disqualifications:

1. Loss of forward motion—broken pattern.

2. Flag not remaining in bucket
3. Rider misses picking up other flag or drops it before the finish line.
4. Rider circling the barrel.
5. Knocking over bucket and/or barrel/pole.
6. Crossing start/finish line before pattern is complete.

**75 Up and Back:** One barrel will be placed 105 feet from the start/finish line. Rider rides to the barrel, turns either to the right or left and rides to the finish line. During the course of the evening the barrel will be moved left and right of center to allow for less grooming time.

Disqualifications:

Loss of forward motion—broken pattern.

Crossing start/finish line before pattern is complete.

Penalty: A five (5) second penalty will be assessed for knocking over barrel.

**Pole Bending:** Six poles should be placed 21 feet apart with the first pole set 21 feet from the start/finish line. The rider crosses start line, rides to either side of pole #6, turns around pole #6 to the left or right and then weavers (bends) around the opposite side of each pole to pole #1, turns around pole #1 and weavers (bends) around the opposite side of each pole to pole #6, turns around pole #6 and rides across the finish line. Contestants will not be disqualified for stopping motion unless it exceeds 30 seconds.

Disqualifications:

1. Loss of forward motion-broken pattern.
2. Riding across start/finish line when circling pole #1.
3. A five (5) second penalty will be assessed for each pole knocked over.

**Optional Patterns:** (The Keyhole and Stake race events are NOT included in the year end points calculation for awards.

**Key Hole:** Pattern will be 105 feet from start/finish line. Neck of keyhole will be 6 feet long and 6 feet wide, opening into a 20-foot diameter circle. Poles, cones, or other will be used to mark neck and circle of pattern. The rider crosses the start line, rides into the neck of the circle (all four of the horses feet must be inside the circle) turns the horse and rides back out of the keyhole to the finish line.

Disqualifications:

1. Violating general rules
2. Stepping on or over keyhole pattern (including neck)
3. Not entering keyhole through neck.
4. Not exiting keyhole through neck.
5. Crossing start/finish line before pattern is complete.

**Stake Race:** The course shall be laid out the two poles, 75 feet apart, and 30 feet from the start/finish line to pole #1. The rider must cross the start line, ride around pole #2 to the left, continue to pole #1, around pole #1 to the right, back to pole #2 to the left, and return to the finish line. Or, the rider must cross the start line, ride around pole #2 to the right, continue to pole #1, around #1 to the left, back to pole #2, around pole #2 to the right, and return to the finish line.

Disqualification:

1. Violating general rules.

2. Circling pole completely. (Stake Race).
3. Crossing start/finish line before pattern is complete.
4. Horse stepping out of the circle inside the keyhole

Penalty: A five (5) second penalty will be assessed for each pole knocked over  
The Event Director can make the decision of which event, the Keyhole Race or the Stake Race will be run on any given night.

Gymkhana participant input is acceptable in making the decision.

In the event of a late finish for the night's events, the Event Director may decide not to have the 5<sup>th</sup> event.

Violations of the K.C.R.C Code of Conduct, as set forth by the Board of Directors, per the decision of the Event Director, or the announcer can be grounds for disqualification from the event in question and /or dismissal from remaining events or removal from the K.C.R.C. grounds as a last resort.

Participants deemed to be riding under the influence of drugs or alcohol anywhere on K.C.R.C. grounds will not be allowed to ride their horses or participate in any K.C.R.C. sponsored event scheduled for that day or evening. This decision is to be made by the Event Director or any K.C.R.C. Board member available. That decision is FINAL and NOT NEGOTIABLE.

Violent, aggressive or demeaning behavior will not be tolerated in any situation.

The K.C.R.C. Code of Conduct, for full rules, can be obtained from the Board of Directors upon request.