

Upper Hunter Team Penning

Appendix 4

Rules

February, 2013 v3

The Judges decision is final

These rules are to promote a positive competition that ensures safety of riders, livestock and spectators, consistency and appropriate sportsmanship in a fun environment

CONDUCT OF A JUDGE

At all times whilst at a UHTP event or in a representative role, the Judge should be respectful, honest, unbiased and fair. They should have a good (thorough) understanding of the club rules and be able to interpret those rules in competition. The judge is to facilitate an enjoyable, fun environment in which members may participate, and to ensure this is done in a safe, fair and consistent manner.

1. Within a 90 second time limit, a team of three (3) riders must cut from the herd and pen three (3) head of cattle with the assigned (same) coloured neckband. The fastest time wins. A warning must be given to the team working the cattle at 30 seconds prior to a final time being called. In the event a warning is not given, a rerun may be given at the request of the team. If a rerun is granted it will be given at a time appointed by the judge. Junior and juvenile's run at 2 minutes with warning given 30 seconds prior to final time being called.
2. All cattle will be herded on the cattle side of the half way line before time begins. Riders will be given their cattle neck band colour as the nose of the first horse crosses the starting (halfway) line. Riders are committed once they enter the arena. Any undue delay will result in disqualification. When cattle mob collars are all the same colour swatches will be drawn to determine the run colour and then displayed on the arena fence for the duration of the run.
3. Once committed to the cattle, the team of riders are responsible for the cattle. It is the teams responsibility, to pull up and call for a judges decision if, in their opinion, there is an injured or unusable animal in their colour banded cattle. Once the cattle are worked, no excuses are accepted. If the animal leaves the arena, either over or through the fence, the team can either be disqualified for unnecessary roughness, or can be given a rerun, depending on the judge's decision. If a rerun is granted it will be given at a time appointed by the judge.
4. To call for time, a minimum of one rider must have at least the nose of their horse across the line of the gate but no further than the front line of the saddle and raise a hand. (i.e. Time is considered called when the two things happen together). (A rider will not be disqualified for having their hand raised before the horses nose is in the pen) All undesignated cattle must be completely on the cattle side of the starting line or the run will be disqualified. If a team calls for time with only one or two of their cattle in the pen, the remainder of their designated cattle DO NOT have to be on the cattle side of the starting line. All riders must be mounted and on the pen side of the arena when time is called. The rider is not allowed to turn their horse in the pen/gateway. It will be the judge's discretion if cattle are forced into the pen.
5. A team may call for time with only one or two assigned cattle being penned. However, Teams penning three head of cattle place higher than two, and two higher than one regardless of time.
6. A team calling for time with any incorrect designated cattle in the pen will be judged disqualified.
7. Deliberate contact with cattle by hands, hats, ropes, or any other equipment is a disqualification. A team exhibiting any unnecessary roughness will be disqualified. No hazing of cattle with whips, hats or ropes is allowed.
8. A team will be disqualified by the judge for any action the judge feels to be unnecessary roughness to the cattle or horses.
Examples of unnecessary roughness include:
 - Jumping cattle or making them leave the arena.
 - Intentional contact with the cattle by hazing.
 - Rider forces cattle to slam into the arena fence.
 - Cattle bumping excessively at the entrance of the pen.
 - Causing cattle to slam into the rear of the pen.
 - Hitting cattle broadside.
 - Knocking cattle down.
 - Excessive jerking, spurring or any cruelty to horse.

Moved 6th August 2011 (AGM)
Rule 4 Modified at July 2012,
Rule 21 Modified at February 2013
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9. Fall of horse and/or rider shall not eliminate the team, however, any attempt by a dismounted rider to work the cattle before remounting will result in immediate disqualification. Outside help for any dismounted rider will result in disqualification, except for junior riders who may require a legup to remount. Assistance may only be given if requested by rider or judge.
10. If more than five cattle are across the starting line at any one time, the team will be disqualified. i.e. no part of any additional beast may cross the line. This is called by the judges and the time keeper ringing the cow bell signifying the breach. Pen is situated on a 45 degree angle from the halfway line, allowing judges clear vision of halfway/pen lines.
11. Disqualification of any individual team member results in the disqualification of the team for that run.
12. If a team is given a collar colour that has already been used within that particular mob, a rerun must be given immediately.
13. The optimum number of cattle per mob is 30, however a maximum of 45 is allowed and a minimum of 21 head. All cattle within a herd must be collar coloured in groups of three. There must be always the same number of cattle in each herd used during that day
14. Whilst in the competition arena the following equipment will not be permitted
 - Head Restraints eg tiedowns, rings, head checks, running reins etc.
15. All riders are advised that they are subject to gear checks by persons authorised by the committee of Upper Hunter Team Penning Association Inc. If gear is found to be defective it will be required to be rectified before further riding takes place. In the event of a dispute the President or his/hers nominee's decision will be final.
16. All riders are required to ride in appropriate smooth soled riding boots, long trousers and long sleeve, button up collared shirt with sleeves rolled down. Riding helmets are encouraged; Akubra style hats and baseball caps (peaks worn forward) are also acceptable.
17. All persons under the age of 18 years MUST wear an approved helmet whilst riding at a venue where Upper Hunter Team Penning Association Inc is conducting an event. All competitors in the Junior and Juvenile divisions must wear a helmet at all times whilst mounted.
18. All dogs are to be restrained and under control of a responsible person at all times, keeping a minimum of 5 meters distance from any warm up area or competition ring.
19. Animal cruelty or mistreatment will NOT be tolerated at any time and may result in disciplinary action.
20. Unsportsmanlike conduct by a team and/or rider will result in disqualification and / or disciplinary action. Unsportsmanlike conduct can be defined as abuse of one's horse or cattle, use of foul language and disrespect towards judges and Officials, Intoxication in the arena or any other conduct detrimental to Upper Hunter Team Penning Association Inc.
21. At no time during competition may a rider enter the pen (except for when calling time as per rule 4). Cattle should be moved out of the pen before foreign cattle can be cut out and returned to the mob across the foul line.
22. Children must be 5 years or older and be able to ride independently to compete in UHTP competitions. The committee reserves the right to assess the suitability of any rider and/or horse at any time. Riders must be in control and must not be on a lead inside the arena. Unbroken horses are not permitted to attend any UHTP events
23. Junior teams may be accompanied by a suitable adult rider who is there to instruct and ensure safety but must not work the cattle. If the adult rider gives assistance a no time will be recorded. The adult rider cannot exceed a trot at any time.
24. A rider/team may appeal within 10 runs of their disputed run in writing accompanied by the prescribed fee of \$50.00.
25. Teams/riders must nominate as advertised by the club. Cancellations must be notified by 7.30pm the Wednesday night prior to competition or payment of runs will still be required. Failure to notify two times in a row will result in the inability to nominate until fees are paid. Exceptional circumstances will be considered.
26. Members not adhering to club rules will face disciplinary action. (as per club disciplinary policy).
27. To run an Upper Hunter Team Penning event the following positions must be filled-
 - 2 Judges
 - 2 Time Keepers
 - 1 or 2 Gate persons (entry and exit if required)

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STALLION RULES

Stallions are not to be handled / ridden by anyone under 18.

Stallions must be double tied (head collar and neck strap) day and night and be in a stand-alone secure panelled yard a minimum of 1200mm high with 2 bars.

Stallions will be allowed to be unrestrained in a single horse, stand-alone panel yard through daylight hours ONLY.

For Stallions to be unrestrained the panels must be a minimum of 1500mm in height with a minimum of four bars.

Panels must be constructed using a minimum of 25mm box or pipe equivalent. Panels must be anchored securely to a solid object i.e. truck, post.

Merriwa Showground Special Note:

Stallions placed in the purpose built wooden stallion stables do not have to be double tied but a second gate latching method must be used. E.g. tying the gate closed with a lead rope as well as using the provided latch.

UHTP reserves the right to deem any stallion unsuitable for participation at club events.