



**CANADA**

## **IMTCA Canada Regional Qualifier Mountain Trail Challenge Series**

### **2019 Schedule**

<b>May 26, 2019</b>	<b>Dream Feather Horsemanship Centre 2657 Brock Road, Uxbridge ON</b>
<b>June 23, 2019</b>	<b>Oak Springs Farm 1060 Sandy Hook Road, Pontypool</b>
<b>July 21, 2019</b>	<b>Oak Springs Farm 1060 Sandy Hook Road, Pontypool</b>
<b>September 8, 2019</b>	<b>Dream Feather Horsemanship Centre 2657 Brock Road, Uxbridge ON</b>

**Ribbons awarded 1st to 5th place at each Trail Challenge**

**Challenges open to everyone**

**Membership to IMTCA is not required to compete**

**Competitor must be an IMTCA Member to collect Breed Points, Series Points and to Qualify for the IMTCA Mid West/North East Regional Mountain Trail Challenge being held at Creek Side Horse Park in August**



## **IMTCA Regional Qualifier Mountain Trail Challenge Series**

Dear Participants,

Welcome to the International Mountain Trail Challenge Association Canada Sanctioned Mountain Trail Challenges here at Oak Springs Farm and Dream Feather Horsemanship Centre!

We're glad you've decided to join us in the exciting sport of Mountain Trail riding and to participate in this exciting new Sport! Any rider can participate in the Challenge.

This discipline is open to all equines and riders of all skill levels. Mountain Trail Challenge is a unique way to help build a solid partnership between a horse and rider. When this partnership is developed, you can plainly see its results as horse and rider navigate obstacles safely, boldly and confidently.

**The IMTCA Canada Sanctioned Challenges is open to everyone.**

Please read the information carefully. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call or email.



## **IMTCA Regional Qualifier Mountain Trail Challenge**

### **About the Challenges**

#### **Refer to the IMTCA 2019 Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations**

What to expect at a Challenge. A competitive event for Mountain Trail is known as a “Challenge”. A Challenge tests a horse and rider’s ability to navigate both natural and man-made obstacles in a safe manner and with technical skills that demonstrate great horsemanship. Each Challenge has three levels of difficulty that are designed to challenge but not intimidate riders.

The overall purpose of a Trail Challenge is to promote good horsemanship skills and provide an educational venue for equestrians. A Trail Challenge tests a horse and rider on their ability to work as a team and navigate obstacles which they might experience on a trail. A Trail Challenges can be a lot of fun and improve the relationship of the horse and rider by introducing them to new experiences.

In IMTCA challenges, contestants are required to navigate a course with at least 6 approved obstacles and no more than 16 as set forth in this handbook. Sometimes they will encounter difficult trail situations which will better prepare the horse and rider in the real world. Through education and experience, riding becomes more pleasurable, while safety and fun are encouraged.



## CANADA

### **IMTCA Regional Qualifier Mountain Trail Challenge Series**

Ribbons 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> in each class \*\*\*\*\* High Point and Reserve Champion for All Divisions at Each Show

Placing	6 or more entries	5 Entries	4 Entries	3 Entries	2 Entries	1 Entries
1 <sup>st</sup>	6 points	5 points	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point
2 <sup>nd</sup>	5	4	3	2	1	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4	3	2	1		
4 <sup>th</sup>	3	2	1			
5 <sup>th</sup>	2	1				

Payoff for Money Classes – Entry fee plus any added money (if any) x 80% = Jackpot

A rider can enter up to 2 Levels. Within each Division, a rider can choose In Hand or Riding, or both. Novice are excluded from Money, Open classes.

### **RULES & REGULATIONS**

- Payments: No entries/stall reservations accepted unless accompanied with payment.
- Add/Drop/Change Class: Classes can be added or dropped by informing our office up until the first exhibitor in the class has started.
- Refunds: Requests for refund can be made up to 10 days prior to challenge and are charged a \$25 office fee.

Classes start 9:30 a.m. Sharp

RAIN OR SHINE

Office opens at 8:00a.m.

\*\*\*\*\***TACK CHECK WHEN YOU SIGN IN AT THE OFFICE, PLEASE BRING YOUR BRIDLES**\*\*\*\*\*

- ❖ ASTM Approved Headgear and Riders Number must be worn by all riders at all times while mounted
- ❖ Riders will not be able to compete without proof of Insurance
- ❖ Sorry dogs are Not Permitted on Farm Property
- ❖ Oak Springs is a smoke free facility;
- ❖ Pre-entries Close Wednesday 8:00pm prior to challenge date.
- ❖ Parking in designated areas only – please leave room for trucks and trailers when parking
- ❖ Age is taken as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year
- ❖ Horses are not to be left unattended while tied to trailers
- ❖ Unmanageable/lame horses will be excused from the ring and/or show grounds
- ❖ Warm-ups – Will take place in the Dressage Arena south of the Mountain Trail Horse Park.
- ❖ No cursing, poor sportsmanship or bad conduct will be tolerated and the participant will be asked to leave with NO refund of class fees
- ❖ Use of illegal equipment (i.e. bits, tack, etc.) in any class could be grounds for disqualification
- ❖ All Patterns will be posted on the website 1 month prior to challenge date and at the challenge
- ❖ Practice/Walk Through: Exhibitors will not be allowed to practice on the competition courses on the day of the event. An obstacle walk through (without horses) will be done at 8:30 am prior to the competition. Competition starts 9:30 minutes after the last walk through.
- ❖ Disputes not covered by rules: Any dispute not covered by the IMTCA will be referred to management, whose decision will be final. We reserve the right to adjust the schedule or to substitute judges if necessary. Changes and corrections will be posted in the office.

There will only be 2 COMPETITORS at one time waiting to enter the Mountain Trail Park. COMPETITORS are asked to exit at the back of the Mountain Trail Park when they are finished with their challenge. COMPETITORS that are waiting for their time will wait on the east side of the Park.

SPECTATORS are asked to view the challenge on the west and south side of the Mountain Trail Park. Spectator and Competitor Signs will be Posted.

The decision of the Judge is final. Judges have been asked by management to give comments freely. If you would like to know why the Judge placed you where he/she did there will be time for that when each class is presented with their ribbons. This is a Schooling Show and with that in mind we want you to go home knowing what you need to work on/or what you did right.

\*\*\*\*\*Food and Refreshments will be available thorough out the day\*\*\*\*\*



## **IMTCA Regional Qualifier Mountain Trail Challenge Series**

### **GAMBLERS CHOICE**

The rules are different. You have 2 minutes to show your skills. Navigating the obstacles is all that counts. However if a horse steps out with just one foot the obstacle does not count for a score. Each obstacle has a value which is given when show starts. You must be across the finish line when the 2 minutes are up or the score does not count.

**\*\*\* New this year, You may ride Bridleless in any Open Class Level 2 and 3 only.\*\*\***

### **LONG LINE CLASS**

Up to 7 obstacles keeping safety in mind of your lines. You will not be asked to do teeter totters, swing bridges, rolling bridges or cross bucks. Long Line Class is executed at a walk.

Long-Line/Ground Driving is completed with two lines with the handler on the ground.

It is an open to all Divisions. It is a Level 1 class.

Lines should be 15'-22' long (suggested) and can be connected to halter (leather or rope), a side pull (that will need to be inspected and passed at Tack Check) or bridle with a snaffle bit only. A surcingle can be used but is not compulsory. The horse/handler team should show a willing, bold and confident partnership and moving forward in a safe manner.



## CANADA

ACKNOWLEDGMENT of RISK and RELEASE of LIABILITY – **"For Participants Under 18 Years Old"**

***Please Print Clearly***

Youth Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Youths Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Postal \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian's Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Postal \_\_\_\_\_

**The Guardian must Read and Understand prior to the Youth Participating in Equine Activities**

TO: **OAK SPRINGS FARM, DREAM FEATHER HORSEMANSHIP CENTRE** their directors, employees, officers, volunteers, business operators, and site property owners. (all of them collectively called the **HOST**)

*Initial each item below After Reading and Understanding the item*

- \_\_\_\_ **1. I am the Parent and/or Legal Guardian of the Youth Participant** named above and am executing this form on behalf of the youth Participant in my capacity as parent and/or guardian and with **the intent that this form be binding on myself and Youth Participant for all legal purposes.**
- \_\_\_\_ **2. I Understand** there are Inherent **DANGERS, HAZARDS and RISKS**, (collectively called **RISKS**) associated with Equine Activities and injuries resulting from these **"RISKS"** are a common occurrence.
- \_\_\_\_ **3. I Acknowledge** that the Inherent **"RISKS"** of Equine Activities mean those **DANGEROUS** conditions which are an integral part of Equine Activities, **including but not limited to:**
  - ❖ The propensity of any equine to behave in ways that might result in injury, harm or death to persons on or around them and to potentially collide with, bite or kick other animals, people, or objects.
  - ❖ The unpredictability of an equine's reaction to such things as sounds, sudden movement, tremors, vibrations, unfamiliar objects, persons or other animals and hazards such as subsurface objects.
  - ❖ The potential for other participant (s) to act in a negligent manner that might contribute to injury to themselves or others, such as failing to act within their ability or to maintain control over an equine.
- \_\_\_\_ **4. I Freely Accept and Fully Assume All Responsibility** for the Inherent **"RISKS"** and the possibility of personal injury, death, property damage or loss which might result from the youth being a Participant.
- \_\_\_\_ **5. I Acknowledge** that it remains my **Sole Responsibility** for the safety of the youth Participant and for the youth to Participate within his/her own limits.
- \_\_\_\_ **6. In addition to consideration given for the youth to Participate in Equine Activity, I and my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns (collectively called my "Legal Representatives") agree**
  - ❖ **To Waive All Claims** that I or the youth Participant might have against the **"HOST"**; and
  - ❖ **To Release the "HOST" from Any and All Liability** for any loss, damages, injury, or expense that I, the youth Participant or our "Legal Representatives" might suffer as a result of the youth's Participation due to any cause **including any NEGLIGENCE ON THE PART OF THE "HOST"**; and
  - ❖ **To HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY THE "HOST"** from any and all liability for property damage or personal injury to the youth Participant or to any third party which might result from the youth's Participation.

Before signing this form I read it (as indicated by my initials above) and I stated that I understand it. I further state I am aware that signing this form, waives certain legal rights I and/or the youth Participant and/or our "Legal Representatives" might have against the **"HOST"**.

SIGNED This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name of Witness to Signing & Initialing)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Participant)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Witness)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)

**Do Not Sign until you Understand All Items Above**



ACKNOWLEDGMENT of RISK and RELEASE of LIABILITY – **"For Participants 18 or Older"**

*Please Print Clearly*

Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Every Person must Read and Understand this form before Participating in Equine Activities

TO: **OAK SPRINGS FARM, DREAM FEATHER HORSEMANSHIP CENTRE** their directors, employees, officers, volunteers, business operators, and site property owners. (all of them collectively called the HOST)

*Initial each item below After Reading and Understanding the item*

\_\_\_\_ **1. I Understand** there are Inherent **DANGERS, HAZARDS** and **RISKS**, (collectively called **RISKS**) associated with Equine Activities and injuries resulting from these **"RISKS"** are a common occurrence.

\_\_\_\_ **2. I Acknowledge** that the Inherent **"RISKS"** of Equine Activities mean those **DANGEROUS** conditions which are an integral part of Equine Activities, **including but not limited to:**

- ❖ The propensity of any equine to behave in ways that might result in injury, harm or death to persons on or around them and to potentially collide with, bite or kick other animals, people, or objects.
- ❖ The unpredictability of an equine's reaction to such things as sounds, sudden movement, tremors, vibrations, unfamiliar objects, persons or other animals and hazards such as subsurface objects.
- ❖ The potential for other participant (s) to act in a negligent manner that might contribute to injury to themselves or others, such as failing to act within their ability or to maintain control over an equine.

\_\_\_\_ **3. I Freely Accept and Fully Assume All Responsibility** for the Inherent **"RISKS"** and the possibility of personal injury, death, property damage or loss resulting from my Participation in Equine Activities.

\_\_\_\_ **4. I Acknowledge** that it remains my **Sole Responsibility** to act in such a manner as to be responsible for my own safety and to Participate Within My Own Limits.

\_\_\_\_ **5. In addition to consideration given for my Participate in Equine Activity, I and my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns (collectively called my "Legal Representatives") agree**

- ❖ **To Waive All Claims that I might have against the "HOST"; and**
- ❖ **To Release the "HOST" from Any and All Liability** for any loss, damages, injury, or expense that I or my "Legal Representatives" might suffer as a result of my Participation due to any cause whatsoever **including any NEGLIGENCE ON THE PART OF THE "HOST"; and**
- ❖ **To HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY THE "HOST"** from any and all liability for property damage or personal injury to any third party which might result from my Participation in Equine Activities.

Before signing this form I read it (as indicated by my initials above) and I stated that I understand it. I know that signing this form, waives certain legal rights I or my "Legal Representatives" might have against the "HOST".

SIGNED This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name of Witness to Signing & Initialing)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Participant)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Witness)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)

***Do Not Sign Until You Understand All Items Above***





CANADA

## **IMTCA Regional Qualifier Mountain Trail Challenge Series**

### **Definitions, Involvement, and Participation**

The following Levels and Divisions are recognized by the International Mountain Trail Challenge Association:. Within each Division there are 3 Levels:

**Partnership** is a horse/handler/rider team. A handler/rider may compete with different horses in different levels. Example, a handler/rider may have a new partnership eligible for Level 1, and a finished partnership at Level 3.

**Trainers** train horses and/or riders for remuneration, either monetary or in kind. Trainers shall compete only in Open Classes.

Each handler/rider/horse partnership may compete in two levels at a challenge. Examples: Levels 1 and 2. Levels 2 and 3. Show management may specify other participation parameters.

**Levels (Partnership) Level 1**—This is considered a new Partnership. Obstacles should be easy to explain to the team: basic maneuver or technique needed to complete the obstacle. The course will be at the flat-footed walk.

**Level 2**—This is considered an established Partnership. The rider and Horse are familiar with one another, exhibit trust when negotiating obstacles and are conditioned to ride a longer Course. May include some jog, trot, running walk, gait, or intermediate gait up to and between obstacles, forward ground covering is encouraged; 180, 270 or 360 degrees on certain obstacles.

**Level 3**—This is considered a Partnership where Horse and rider have established trust, can negotiate difficult obstacles and are conditioned to travel a longer Course. May include some canter or lope up to and between obstacles; 180, 270 or 360 degrees on certain obstacles.

### **Divisions (Handler/Rider)**

**1) Lead Line:** This is defined as anybody requiring a lead line from an adult by their side (e.g., a child or equestrian with disabilities). The rider shall be a minimum of 6-years old. A Lead Line Rider may not compete in classes without a Leader. The Leader shall be a minimum of 18-years old. Helmets are required for riders competing in Lead Line.

**2) Youth Division:** This is defined as participants under 18 years old based on age as of January 1st; minimum age to compete will be 6 years old. Youth classes may be separated into multiple age groups. Example: 6 – 13 and 14 – 17. Helmets are required, all youth must wear helmets at IMTCA sanctioned events. A youth cannot exhibit a stallion.

**3) Novice:** This is defined as the first year the handler/rider is competing trail obstacles in any organized trail or cowboy race competitions.

**4) Adult Division:** This is defined as participants 18 and older based on age as of January 1st.

**5) Open Division:** This is defined as all handler/riders. Novice may not show in Open Division. Participation Segments

### **Participation Segments:**

**In-Hand:** This is defined as a class where the handler leads the horse from the ground.

**Junior Horse:** This is defined as a horse 5 years and under as determined using the standard January 1st age progression. (A horse born April is considered 1-year old on January first). This is an Open Class.

**Senior Horse:** This is defined as a horse 6 years and older as determined using the standard January 1st age progression. (A horse born April is considered 1-year old on January first). This is an Open Class.

**Mini/Pony:** This is defined as a horse 13-hands and under. A mini/pony must follow the mini/pony pattern In-Hand. This is an Open Class.





## **IMTCA Regional Qualifier Mountain Trail Challenge Series**

### **OBSTACLE GUIDELINES**

The Handler may either send or lead the horse through the obstacle unless specified on the course pattern.

The Handler may be on either side or in front of the horse, changing sides during the pattern is acceptable with no break of gait. Stopping to change sides will be penalized as a break of gait.

No penalty is given for a hesitation on entry to acknowledge the obstacle, not to exceed 3-seconds. Hoof Check: Horse is to stand quietly.

**Water Crossing:** The Horse should walk through the water quietly in a continued forward movement. Break of gait deduction -1 for drinking if they stop.

**Step over:** Step over without striking the obstacle. Horses are not penalized for hopping over very tall obstacles as long as the action is done in a calm manner.

**Bridge:** The Horse should step up, walk across, and step off quietly.

**Drag:** Rider may hold rope or dally once. There is to be no tying hard and fast. At no time should the rider or horse get tangled in the rope. Horse should stand quietly during preparation and then pull or drag in control.

The judge has the right to ask the rider to by-pass an obstacle if he/she feels it will be unsafe. Control of the Horse must be maintained throughout the event.

Stallions may compete in adult classes. No youth shall exhibit a stallion in any class.

The minimum age of a horse to compete in hand is 6-months, and under saddle is 2 years, or Affiliate's Country standard, as determined using the standard January 1st age progression. (A horse born April is considered 1-year old on January first).

**Mounting and Dismounting:** A mounting block will be provided and may be used with no penalty. Rider must always check cinch before mounting; stirrup does not need to be laid over the saddle. Horse is to stand quietly and not move out when mounted and dismounted. A smooth mount and dismount does not unbalance the horse. Reins shall be held at all times.

While mounting and dismounting, the rider may hold saddle in a manner that results in a smooth balanced movement. Holding the cantle is allowed.

Allowing reruns is determined by the Judge, reruns may be allowed in instances of equipment failure. When equipment failure causes a delay or a run to be discontinued, the judge may disqualify the entry. Reruns are at the Judge's discretion and are not required.

Scoring is based on the partnership's ability to navigate the course. Each partnership starts with a 70 and earns points throughout the course. Each judge may award up to 5 points for horsemanship. First through fifth place ribbons are given in each class in each division offered at a challenge. Additional awards will be at the discretion of the event coordinator. The Partnership with the highest overall value is named 1st. All scored classes score sheets are to be posted at the end of the event.

A Rider cannot receive a greater deduction than -9 for any given obstacle where the rider acknowledges or tries the obstacle. A horse that receives a -9 for any obstacle for a complete refusal may NOT place higher than a horse with a score for each obstacle. Off course or missed obstacle will receive a deduction of -18 for each obstacle missed.

**Tie Breaker:** The senior judge will designate an obstacle as the "tie breaker obstacle". A second and third "tie breaker obstacle" will be chosen and used only if the first tie breaker obstacle does not break the participants' tied score. These will be designated before the competition commences. The participants will not know which obstacles are designated tie breakers.



**CANADA**

## **IMTCA Regional Qualifier Mountain Trail Challenge Series**

### **EQUESTRIANS WITH DISABILITIES**

Allowances for riders with permanent physical or mental disabilities are permissible at the discretion of the Senior Judge and show management. A rider with a temporary or permanent disability should advise the Senior Judge and show management prior to the riders meeting. A test reader may be allowed with prior show management approval for equestrians with disabilities. This rule does not apply to person(s) with a temporary cast, etc. which is not considered a disability and will be up to the property owner, senior judge and/or Trail Challenge management as to whether this person can compete. Final say will be based on the Trail Challenge Management and Senior Judge, and that decision will be final without recourse of any nature.

### **JUDGES**

Judges must be a knowledgeable horseman or horsewoman, and certified by the IMTCA under the Trail Challenge Judges Program. A judge must have the ability to evaluate horsemanship skills such as a rider's skill in controlling and maintaining the horse. Additionally, the judge should be familiar with the natural movement of different breeds of equines as well as various riding disciplines. Holding any special judging card from any other organization is not required.

The number of judges needed depends on the course, the number of obstacles, and the availability in the area for certified judges. Depending on the course, between one to four judges may be needed. Most courses tend to dictate the need for more than one judge due to time constraints and topography. The designation of a senior judge will apply to the appropriate judge if there is more than one judge.

### **JUDGING MOUNTAIN TRAIL AND TRAIL CHALLENGE**

#### **Attire and Tack**

Tack and Attire will be presentable, clean, and free from torn or frayed items. Tack and attire with decorations is allowed if it does not interfere with safe function. Tack and attire with decorations will be neither penalized nor be promoted. Riding boots with a closed toe and heel are required at all times when handling or riding. Splint boots are recommended and allowed. Youth and Lead Line must wear helmets at IMTCA sanctioned events.

#### **Equipment**

The senior judge or ride management shall have the authority to require the removal or alteration of any piece of equipment or accoutrement which is unsafe, or in his or her opinion, would tend to give a horse an unfair advantage or which he or she believes to be inhumane.

Halters and lead ropes will be rope, leather, or synthetic. Lead ropes shall be sufficient length to safely maneuver through the obstacles, 12' – 14' is recommended.

Lead chains and correction halters that tighten are not allowed.

Whips or crops of any style are not allowed In-Hand or bridleless.

Halters, cavessons, bosals, bosalitas, or nosebands are allowed to be worn under a bridle. Equipment must allow for two fingers to fit between the equipment and the nasal plate. Reference <http://dressage-news.com/2017/10/17/denmark-to-impose-limit-on-noseband-looseness-in-competition/>

A horse may be ridden bridleless with no penalty (Only for Open Classes Level 2 or Level 3).

When ridden bridleless the neck strap may be natural or synthetic material. Chain, prong, or spike neck straps are not allowed.

A horse may be ridden bitless with no penalty.

Bitless headstalls that apply compressive pressure and mechanical hackamores are not allowed.

When a Curb strap is used, it may be natural, synthetic, or smooth flat chain. Curb straps will be adjusted to allow a minimum of two fingers flat between the chin and the strap.

When a back cinch is used, a gap of no more than hand laid flat between horse and cinch is allowed.



## CANADA

### Special Item Rules

No rider will be allowed to ride double or bareback at any time.

No horse may be shown twice in the same class.

Gag bits, of any style, are not allowed.

Compression bitless headstalls are not allowed Mechanical hackamores are not allowed Standing and running martingales are not allowed.

Draw reins are not allowed.

Tie-downs are not allowed.

Use of treats while on course is not allowed

A Test Reader (only for Novice and Level 1), supplied by the handler/rider, may be used to call the next obstacle. The test reader may only say what the next obstacle is, they are not allowed to give detailed instructions for the obstacle. The test reader may not walk next to the participant, if the course is large, they may change locations if needed. An option is the use of electronic devices similar to hand held radios with ear piece for the participant. If an electronic device is used, the test reader shall be near a Challenge Official as the method to ensure detailed instructions are not given. If a test reader is used, a 1-point penalty for Horsemanship will be taken. Test readers are not allowed at Regional or National Events. Equestrians with Disabilities will not be penalized for use of a test reader if prior approval was obtained per Section 8.

### GENERAL SCOPE OF SCORING

#### **Objectives**

The epitome of perfection in Mountain Trail competition is having the horse display a bright expression and focus. It's satisfying to the rider and to the judges to watch a horse pick its way through a tough rock obstacle with boldness and confidence. Recognizing this is essential to accurate and fair judging. Overall Appearance: vigorous and fun with boldness and confidence – it's a pleasure to watch, a crowd pleaser and a sure winner.

**Leading:** Horse is to follow willingly, not lagging or crowding. Horse must be led by a lead rope.

When competing In-Hand, center may vary based on if the equine is sent over an obstacle, or if the Handler leads in front of, or next to, the equine. The obstacle is still split in thirds to visualize center.

--An equine sent over the obstacle should be centered.

--An equine following the Handler over the obstacle should be centered.

--If the Handler is side by side on the obstacle with the equine, center is between them

The Handler may either send or lead the horse through the obstacle unless specified on the course pattern.

The Handler may be on either side or in front of the horse, changing sides during the pattern is acceptable with no break of gait. Stopping to change sides will be penalized as a break of gait.

No penalty is given for a hesitation on entry to acknowledge the obstacle, not to exceed 3-seconds.

**Hoof Check:** Horse is to stand quietly.

**Water Crossing:** The Horse should walk through the water quietly in a continued forward movement. Break of gait deduction - 1 for drinking if they stop.

# International Mountain Trail Challenge Association

## 2019 High Point Competition



### Overall High Point Champion Buckle (1) Riding , (1) In-Hand

will be awarded to the IMTCA Horse/Rider combination in In-Hand and Riding whose **total score**, of required classes during the 2019 competition year, in either Riding or In-hand is the highest **world wide**.

Riding class #: 3,8,12-14,18-20,24-26 In-Hand Class #: 2,4-6,7,9-11,15-17,21-23

### Individual High Point Award

will be given to the wining top two IMTCA horse/rider combination per Region in the following divisions:

~**Miniature Equine/Pony In-Hand**~ ~**Youth**~ ~**Novice**~ ~**Junior Horse**~  
~**Adult**~ ~**Open In-hand**~ ~**Open Riding**~

### *Qualifying Classes for High Point Competition*

#### Miniature Equine/ Pony In-Hand

In Hand (only)(this is an Open Class)

Class #: (4) Level 1, (5) Level 2 , (6) Level 3  
Point combination of classes 4 & 5 or 5 & 6

#### Junior Horse

(5 and under) (this is an Open Class)

Class #: (7) Level 2 In-Hand & (8) Level 2 Riding  
Point combination of both classes

#### Youth

Class #: (9) Level 1 In-Hand & (12) Level 1 Riding  
Class #: (10) Level 2 In-Hand & (13) Level 2 Riding  
Class #: (11) Level 3 In-Hand & (14) Level 3 Riding  
Point combination of class:  
9,10,12,13 or 10,11,13,14

#### Adult

Class #: (15) Level 1 In-Hand & (18) Level 1 Riding  
Class #: (16) Level 2 In-Hand & (19) Level 2 Riding  
Class #: (17) Level 3 In-Hand & (20) Level 3 Riding  
Point combination of class:  
15,16,18,19 or 16,17,19,20

#### Novice

Class #: (2) Level 1 In-Hand & (3) Level 1 Riding  
Point combination of both classes

#### Open Riding

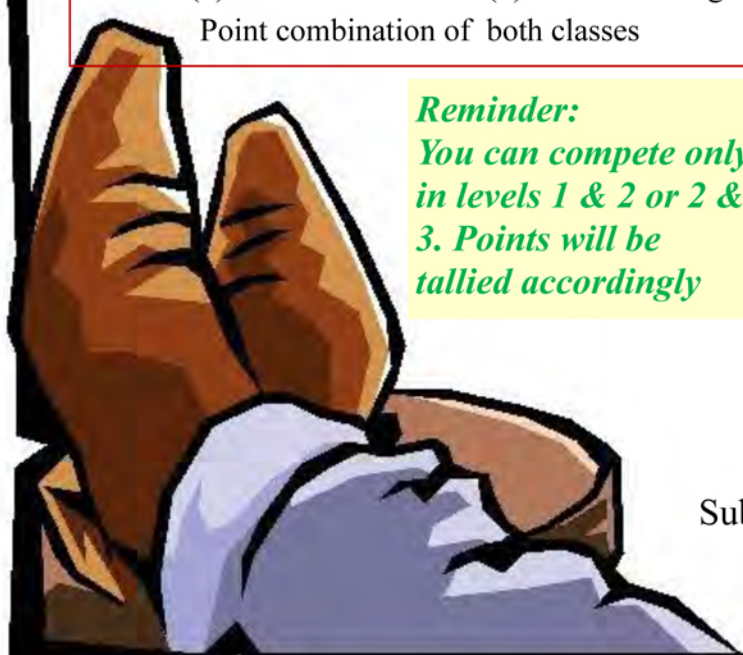
Class #: (24) Level 1, (25) Level 2, (26) Level 3  
Point combination of classes 24 & 25 or 25 & 26

#### Open In-Hand

Class #: (21) Level 1, (22) Level 2, (23) Level 3  
Point combination of classes: 21 & 22 or 22 & 23

**Reminder:**  
*You can compete only  
in levels 1 & 2 or 2 &  
3. Points will be  
tallied accordingly*

Organizers email your challenge results to:  
IMTCA.HighPoint@gmail.com  
Subject: **IMTCA High Point Competition 2019**





# International Mountain Trail Challenge Association

## 2019 High Point Competition Rules



### OVERALL HIGH POINT CHAMPION

One High Point Championship Buckle awarded in two categories; Riding and In-Hand. The champion of each receives, as their recognition of achievement, the Overall High Point Champion Buckle for that division.

One Riding buckle and one In-Hand buckle will be awarded to the IMTCA Horse\Rider combination for Riding and for In-Hand, whose total score is the highest worldwide. The total score is compiled from required classes during the 2019 program year.

### INDIVIDUAL HIGH POINT AWARD

The Individual High Point Award will be given to the top two winning Rider/Horse combination per Region/Country in the following 7 divisions:

Miniature Equine/Pony In-Hand	Adult
Youth	Open In-hand
Novice	Open Riding
Junior Horse	

### PARTICIPATING PARKS RULES:

- 1) Participating parks must offer the listed 25 classes shown in this flyer.
- 2) For consistency, the class number and name must be the same.
- 3) Parks must use the official IMTCA High Point Results form. Challenge Event Organizers should fill it out and submit it for their riders to be entered in the High Point competition. This form must be submitted no later than 2 weeks after each event date.
- 4) All participants must be IMTCA members.
- 5) While the 25 classes are required at each challenge, it doesn't mean others cannot be included. However, only the required classes will count towards the high point.
- 6) The duration of this program will be 12 months, March to March. We will post to the website all events results submitted including all rider/horse entries. At the end of the High Point competition only the top two competitor scores will be used towards final placings. The reason for this is that not all areas have multiple parks for a member to attend and this is our way to promote fairness.
- 7) All Level 1 & 2 classes have 10 obstacles, and all Level 3 classes have 15 obstacles. The reason for this is that the actual score for the rider and horse in each class will be used as a tie breaker. If the classes do not have the same number of obstacles, the scores would be impossible to compare.
- 8) The initial scoring will be based on the IMTCA scoring system noted in the rulebook under the section "Placing Points based on Number of Entries in the Class". One of the columns on the High Point form is to note the number entries in each class.

The IMTCA will provide the class list entry forms to be included in the challenge registration packets and the awards associated to the winners. The entry form must have the class list as presented but it can and will be personalized by IMTCA for each park event with names, dates, and logo. The results will be posted on the IMTCA website and updated as new event results are turned in so that everyone can monitor the standings.

Organizers email your challenge results to:

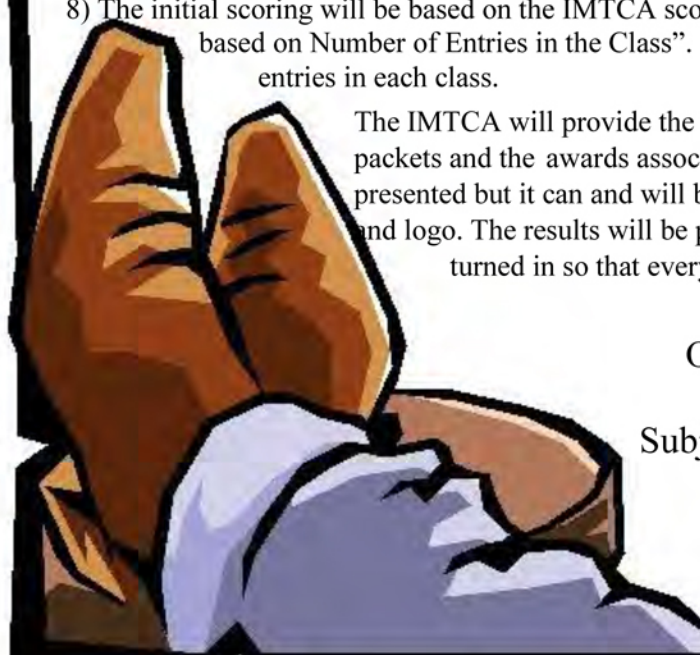
IMTCA.HighPoint@gmail.com

Subject: **IMTCA High Point Competition 2019**

#### *Reminder:*

*A Rider/Horse competitor can compete in levels  
1 & 2 or 2 & 3.*

*Points will be tallied accordingly*







Entry #



**2019 IMTCA Canada Mountain Trail  
Challenge Series  
Midwest/Northeast Region  
Qualifying**



**Oak Springs Farm Class List for Challenges: June 23 & July 21, 2019**

**Levels:**

**Lead Line:** Rider on the ground, horse on line with person in saddle.

**Novice:** Walking over obstacles/lesser degree of difficulty than Level 1

**Level 1:** Training, walk only, in hand or riding.

**Level 2:** Intermediate, walk and trot, in hand & riding. 180 & 360 degrees on some obstacles.

**Level 3:** Masters, walk, trot and canter, 180 & 360 degrees on some obstacles.

**Divisions:**

**Novice:** This is defined as the first year the handler/rider is competing trail obstacles in any organized trail or cowboy race competitions

**Youth:** Ages 6-12 and 13-18 years of age. Same class for each age group w/separate score sheets

**Adult:** 18 years of age and over.

**Open:** All riders qualified except for Novice

**Trainers:** Any rider who is paid to train or give lessons, can **Only** go in Open classes

**Junior Horse:** Horses 5 years and under (this is an Open class)

Within each Division, a rider can choose two Levels, In Hand or Riding, or both. See restrictions for Divisions within each box below. *Novice are excluded from Level 2, 3 and Open Classes.*

**Please circle the number of the class or classes you are entering.**

**This page must be filled out and included with registration form.**

**Lead Line Class**

1. Level 1 In Hand Only

**Miniature Equine/Pony Division**

In Hand (only) (this is an Open Class)

4. Level 1      5. Level 2      6. Level 3

**Age 6-12 Youth Division Age 13-18**

In Hand

Riding

9. Level 1      12. Level 1  
10. Level 2      13. Level 2  
11. Level 3      14. Level 3

**Open Division**

In Hand

Riding

21. Level 1      24. Level 1  
22. Level 2      25. Level 2  
23. Level 3      26. Level 3

**27. Long Line Class**

**Novice Division**

In Hand

Riding

2. Level 1 Only      3. Level 1 Only

**Junior Horse Division**

(5 and under) (this is an Open Class)

In Hand

Riding

34. Level 1      35. Level 1  
7. Level 2      8. Level 2

**Adult Division**

In Hand

Riding

15. Level 1      18. Level 1  
16. Level 2      19. Level 2  
17. Level 3      20. Level 3

**Senior Horse Division**

In Hand

Riding

28. Level 1      30. Level 1  
29. Level 2      31. Level 2

**Print Your Name:**

*Novice riders  
may not ride in any  
Level 2, Level 3 or Open  
class*

*Each rider/horse combo  
can enter up to 2 Levels.  
Novice—Level 1  
Level 1—Level 2  
Level 2—Level 3*

*Trainers  
Can **only** enter  
Open & Money classes*