



2019 Schedule

May 12, 2019 Oak Springs Farm 1060 Sandy Hook Road, Pontypool

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

Challenges open to everyone

Membership to IMTCA Canada is not required to compete





Dear Participants,

Welcome to the International Mountain Trail Challenge Association Canada Grass Roots Schooling Challenges here at Oak Springs Farm!

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 Grass Roots Schooling Challenges is open to everyone.

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





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.





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Ribbons 1st to 5th 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
<u>1</u> st	6 points	5 points	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point
<u>2nd</u>	<u>5</u>	4	3	<u>2</u>	1	
3 rd	4	3	2	1		
4 th	3	2	1			
5 th	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.

******<u>TACK CHECK WHEN YOU SIGN IN AT THE OFFICE, PLEASE BRING YOUR BRIDLES</u>

- 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 1st 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*****





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.



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ACKNOWLEDGMENT of RISK and RELEASE of LIABILITY – "For Participants Under 18 Years Old" Please Print Clearly

Youth Participant's Name	Dat	e of Birth		
Youths Address	City	Prov	Postal	
Guardian's Name	Dat	e of Birth		
Guardian's Address	City	Prov	Postal	
The Guardian must Read and Understand	prior to the Youth Participating in Equi	ne Activities		
TO: <i>Oak Springs Farm,</i> their directors, em collectively called the HOST) Initial each item below After Reading and				
for all legal purposes. 2. I Understand there are Inherent Dinjuries resulting from these "RISKS" 3. I Acknowledge that the Inherent "Equine Activities, including but not to potentially collide with, bite or king the unpredictability of an equine persons or other animals and haze the potential for other participant failing to act within their ability of the understand failing to act within their ability of the damage or loss which might result to the damage or loss which might result to the unpredictability of the damage or loss which might result to the unpredictability of	RISKS" of Equine Activities mean those Det limited to: behave in ways that might result in injury ck other animals, people, or objects. So reaction to such things as sounds, such the sards such as subsurface objects. Int (s) to act in a negligent manner that might to maintain control over an equine. All Responsibility for the Inherent "RISKS of the youth being a Participant. Sole Responsibility for the safety of the	ely called RISK DANGEROUS of The harm or dead den movement ight contribute The and the post youth Particip ctivity, I and re the "HOST"; and injury, or expending to any of	S) associated with Equations which are are the topersons on or are to injury to themselves ibility of personal injurant and for the youth my heirs, executors, and the second in the cause including any Nices in the including and including	uine Activities and in integral part of ound them and to unfamiliar objects, res or others, such as ury, death, property to Participate within dministrators and rarticipant or our EGLIGENCE ON THE
	which might result from the youth's Parti		, aamage er persenar	jay to the year
Before signing this form I read it (as indica				
this form, waives certain legal rights I and,	or the youth Participant and/or our "Leg	gal Representa	tives" might have aga	inst the "HOST".
SIGNED This	day of		20	
(Print Name of Witness to Signing & Initialing)	(Sig	nature of Participant)		
(Signature of Witness)	(Sign	nature of Parent/Guardi	an)	





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

Please Print Clearly

Particip	ant's Name:	Date of Birth:	_
Address	::		
City:	Province:	Postal Code:	
Every Pe	erson must Read and Understand this form b	pefore Participating in Equine Activities	
ГО: <i>ОАК</i>	<i>CSPRINGS FARMS</i> their directors, employees	s, officers, volunteers, business operators, and site propert	y owners. (all of them
collectiv	vely called the HOST)		
Initial ed	ach item below After Reading and Understan	iding the item	
1. I	Understand there are Inherent DANGERS, H	HAZARDS and RISKS, (collectively called RISKS) associated v	with Equine Activities and
inj	uries resulting from these "RISKS" are a com	imon occurrence.	
2. I	Acknowledge that the Inherent "RISKS" of E	Equine Activities mean those DANGEROUS conditions whic	ch are an integral part of
Eq	uine Activities, including but not limited to:		
*	The propensity of any equine to behave in v potentially collide with, bite or kick other ar	ways that might result in injury, harm or death to persons on the common in the common of the common	on or around them and to
*	The unpredictability of an equine's reaction persons or other animals and hazards such a	n to such things as sounds, sudden movement, tremors, vib as subsurface objects.	rations, unfamiliar objects,
*	The potential for other participant (s) to act failing to act within their ability or to mainta	t in a negligent manner that might contribute to injury to that in a negligent manner that might control over an equine.	hemselves or others, such a
dam	age or loss resulting from my Participation in	asibility for the Inherent "RISKS" and the possibility of person Equine Activities. onsibility to act in such a manner as to be responsible for n	
	icipate Within My Own Limits.	bilisibility to act in such a marrier as to be responsible for in	ny own salety and to
		rticipate in Equine Activity, I and my heirs, executors, adn	ministrators and assigns
	ectively called my "Legal Representatives")		strators and assigns
	To Waive All Claims that I might have again		
*	To Release the "HOST" from Any and All Lia	iability for any loss, damages, injury, or expense that I or m due to any cause whatsoever including any NEGLIGENCE C	
*	To HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY THE party which might result from my Participat	"HOST" from any and all liability for property damage or p tion in Equine Activities.	ersonal injury to any third
	signing this form I read it (as indicated by my legal rights I or my "Legal Representatives" m	r initials above) and I stated that I understand it. I know that might have against the "HOST".	t signing this form, waives
SIGNED	This	day of20	-
	(Print Name of Witness to Signing & Initialin	ng) (Signature o	f Participant)

(Signature of Parent/Guardian)

(Signature of Witness)



DEFINITIONS, INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION



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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.





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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.





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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-incompetition/

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.





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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.

Mountain Trail Schooling Challenge Registration Form

(Judged under IMTCA rules)



Oak Springs Farm

1060 Sandyhook Road, Pontypool, Ontario

Sunday, May 12, 2019

Start time 9:00am

The Saturday May 11 clinic is full but auditors are welcome, Fee \$10 (includes lunch)

Rider Name:			Name of Horse:		
IMTCA Member No			Equine Age: Equine Breed:		
Phone/Cell Number:			Email:		
Insurance:					
Circle I	_evel(s) you in	ntend to parti	cipate in	All Divisions; e.g. Adult, Jr. Horse, Sr. Horse	
In-Hand:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Novice Level 1	Mini/Pony, Youth; will compete together in either In-Hand or Riding. Rider/Handler will choose which level they are most comfortable.	
			In accordance with IMTCA rules you may compete in Level 1 & 2 or Level 2 & 3. Novice		
	Open		Open	may not enter Open classes.	
_	-			·····\$	
Optional Fed	ltiple levels & classes	on chanenge day i	or only - 500		
Overnight Se		ight		\$	
Stall Strippin staff will	\$				
	nic Auditor - \$10 fee includes lunch			\$	
Office Fee.				\$	
	e Fee before May 8, 2 ce Fee after May 8, 20				
	, ,			\$	
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International Mountain Trail Challenge Association Rules and Regulations on <u>www.IMTCA.org</u>

Contact: Anita Durant 705-344-9914 email: anita@oakspringsfarm.ca

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Info at www.OakSpringsFarm.ca