

SOUTH BAY GYMKHANA RULEBOOK: 2019



South Bay Gymkhana Series

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2019 Rules

These rules are specific to the South Bay Gymkhana Series

I. SBGS Goals

The South Bay Gymkhana Series has specific goals it tries to meet to be successful.

- 1.1 Promote the equestrian lifestyle in the South Bay.
- 1.2 Provide a fun family event for both equestrians and non-equestrians.
- 1.3 Provide a supportive platform for all levels of equestrians to grow.
- 1.4 Above everything else, we want you to remember why you got into the sport, to have fun.

II. Rider Expectations

- 2.1 Have Fun!!!
- 2.2 Be supportive of your fellow riders.
- 2.3 Be Ready. Please be at the gate ready to go when you hear your name.

III. Crowd Expectations

- 3.1 Have Fun!!!
- 3.2 This is not a normal horse show. You can get loud and cheer for all the riders. In fact, it's encouraged.
- 3.3 If you know a song that's playing, we want to hear you sing it.
- 3.4 Get involved. If you see a pole or barrel get knocked down, don't hesitate, jump right in and but it back up. We won't yell at you. It helps make the day go smoother.

IV. Entry Rules

- 4.1 Entries will be due the Wednesday at 6:00PM before the competition date. Entries after that date will be charged a \$25 late fee.
- 4.2 Online entries will still be accepted up to Saturday at Noon. Late fees will still apply if submitted after due date.
- 4.3 If you filled a printed form, please do not mail them, if they will not be received by the due date. If received after due date, they will be considered late, no matter when you filled the form out.
- 4.4 Printed forms may also be dropped off at Martin Performance Horses. Address is 2 Empty Saddle Rd. Rolling Hills Estates.

- 4.5 Sign Ups will close after the end of the third (3rd) event of the competition. Rider balances must be closed out by the end of sign ups. Any balances not closed out will be charged a \$25 late fee.
- 4.6 Unpaid rider balances must be paid five (5) business days after competition. Unpaid rider balances after that date. Will result in a rider disqualification for that competition and any points rider earned that day will be forfeited. Rider will also be ineligible to enter the next competition until balance is paid.
- 4.7 If issue explained in *Rule 4.6* occurs three (3) times. Rider will not be eligible to ride in South Bay Gymkhana Series.

V. Ratings/Classifications

It is important to the South Bay Gymkhana Series to provide a fair system for all levels of riders to be competitive. Riders are rated 1-9 based on the average of their times that they run during competitions. The faster riders run, the more likelihood their rating will go up. Only Beginner and Novice Divisions will be split into age groups. Due to the fact age has nothing to do with how fast a rider runs, when a rider reaches a certain level. Riders fastest three times for Birangle, Big T, Skill Barrels, and Cloverleaf are used to determine a riders rating.

- 5.1 The Beginner rider is a rider that has not run times to get an average time on the rating chart (please see chart below). Beginner is split into two categories. Beginner, which is ages 17 & Under and Beginner Adult, which is ages 18 & Over.
- 5.2 The Novice or #9 Rider has average times based on what the average times for Novice in the rating chart (please see chart below). Novice is split into two categories Novice, which is ages 17 & Under and Novice Adult, which is ages 18 & Over.
- 5.3 Novice Intermediate B or # 8 Rider has average times based on what the average times for Novice Intermediate B in the rating chart (please see chart below).
- 5.4 Novice Intermediate A or #7 Rider has average times based on what the average times for Novice Intermediate A in the rating chart (please see chart below).
- 5.5 Intermediate B or #6 Rider has average times based on what the average times for Intermediate B in the rating chart (please see chart below).
- 5.6 Intermediate A or #5 Rider has average times based on what the average times for Intermediate A in the rating chart (please see chart below).
- 5.7 Amateur or #4 Rider has average times based on what the average times for Amateur in the rating chart (please see chart below).

5.8 Open or Riders rated 1-3 in the rating chart (please see chart below), are the top riders of the series.

SBGS Rating Chart

RATING CHART					
	OPEN			AMATEUR	INTERMEDIATE A
EVENT	1	2	3	4	5
BIRANGLE	<14.999	15.000-15.799	15.800-16.799	16.800-17.999	18.000-18.999
BIG T	<16.999	17.000-17.799	17.800-18.799	18.800-20.599	20.600-21.599
SKILL BARRELS	<16.999	17.000-17.799	17.800-18.799	18.800-20.599	20.600-21.599
CLOVERLEAF	<18.999	19.000-19.799	19.800-20.799	20.800-21.999	22.000-22.999
	INTERMEDIATE B	NOV/INT A	NOV/INT B	NOVICE	BEGINNER
EVENT	6	7	8	9	
BIRANGLE	19.000-19.999	20.000-22.999	23.000-24.999	25.000-27.999	28.000<
BIG T	21.600-22.999	23.000-24.999	25.000-27.599	27.600-30.599	30.600<
SKILL BARRELS	21.600-22.999	23.000-24.999	25.000-26.999	27.000-29.999	30.000<
CLOVERLEAF	23.000-23.999	24.000-25.999	26.000-28.999	29.000-31.999	32.000<

Here is an example of how we determine our ratings.

SHOW RECORD						
SHOW DATE	BIRANGLE	BIG T	SKILL BARRELS	CLOVERLEAF	RIDER RATINGS	
Aug-17	19.145	18.134	20.239	19.33	OPEN	1,2,3
Sep-17	15.917	17.934	18.656	NT	AMATEUR	4
BFTS-17	19.507	21.651	20.381	21.63	INTERMEDIATE A	5
Apr-18	16.673	NT	19.197	19.796	INTERMEDIATE B	6
Annamay-18	16.285	27.941	18.801	22.341	NOV/INT A	7
Jun-18	16.23	19.447	18.098	20.48	NOV/INT B	8
Jul-18	15.386	20.21	18.345	20.309	NOVICE	9
Aug-18	15.753	24.113	19.031	20.564	BEGINNER	Unrated
Aug-18	15.652	19.304	19.011	NT		
BFTS-18	15.31	18.777	19.615	19.833		
	BIRANGLE	BIG T	SKILL BARRELS	CLOVERLEAF		
#1 Fastest Time	15.31	17.934	18.098	19.33	Total Event Rating:	10
#2 Fastest Time	15.386	18.134	18.345	19.796	Divided by rating events:	4
#3 Fastest Time	15.652	18.777	18.656	19.833	Rating Average:	2.5
Average Time	15.44933333	18.28166667	18.36633333	19.653	Current Rating:	2
Rating	2	3	3	2		

Based on this rider's show history. You can see the rider's fastest three (3) times for the Birangle, Big T, Skill Barrels, and Cloverleaf were entered in the bottom gray boxes.

Those fastest times were then averaged out to give us an average time for each event. Based on that average time when we look at our rating chart to tell us what the riders rating is for each event.

Those ratings are added up and totaled for the Total Event Rating (Bottom, Right Corner), which is 10, then we divided by the number of rated events, which is four (4) events (Birangle, Big T, Skill Barrels, & Cloverleaf). That

gives us a rating average of 2.5. At 2.5 we round up to 2. So that tells us this riders rating should be a 2.

- 5.9 A rider's previous ten (10) shows will be used to calculate ratings.
- 5.10 If a rider has competed in more than ten (10) shows, those shows will be removed from their show record. Starting with the oldest record. Those times will also be removed from the show record. As well as any fast times that were recorded from those shows.
- 5.11 *Rule 5.10* is in place because we understand, things change. We feel that it is fair that a riders rating should change along with those changes.
- 5.12 Rider's straight time will be used to calculate ratings, even if a rider's run had a penalty. The penalty will be deducted, and straight time will be used to determine rating. This deduction will be only for rating calculations.

VI. SBGS High/Series Points

- 6.1 SBGS uses a point system from 9-0.5
- 6.2 Points will be given out accordingly based on a rider's placing for each event.
 - 1st – 9
 - 2nd – 8
 - 3rd – 7
 - 4th – 6
 - 5th – 5
 - 6th – 4
 - 7th – 3
 - 8th – 2
 - 9th – 1
 - 10th – 0.5
- 6.3 Those points will be totaled for all five events. High point winner for each division will be determined by the rider with the most amount of points.
- 6.4 Those total points will then be applied to the rider's series points.
- 6.5 If there is a tie in points for daily high point. The tie breaker will be which rider had the fastest time in the Fifth (5th) Event or the Extra Event.
- 6.6 If there is tie in series points. The tie breaker will go to the rider that received the less NO TIMES. If by chance riders had the same amount of NO TIMES. Times for all the competitions for the Fifth (5th) Event or Extra Event will be calculated up and the tie breaker will go to the rider that had the fastest total time.

VII. General Rules

- 7.1 Rider must be in good standing with Martin Performance Horses.
- 7.2 Competitors must be 'on deck' in the waiting area and ready to enter the arena when their name is called. If a rider is having problems with his/her horse, it is their responsibility to inform the gate crew of their intentions. A rider may be disqualified for causing unnecessary delay in any event. Rider will have two (2) minutes to begin their run once their name is called. After two (2) minute time limit is up, rider will be given a No Time.
- 7.3 We understand multiple riders, might ride different horses and saddle changes occur. Show management will do their best to space out those riders. But it is the rider's responsibility to make sure they tell show management ahead of time of those issues. It is also the rider's responsibility to make those changes run smoothly. If adequate time was given and rider is unable to make those changes in a timely manner. *Rule 7.2* will take effect.
- 7.4 The gymkhana judge reserves the right to excuse any lame or sick horse. All refunds will be at the discretion of the show management.
- 7.5 If a riders' horse is lame or has other issues making it unfit for the event, either a veterinarian's note is required or show management, rider, trainer and owner must meet to discuss, what is in the best interest of the horse.
- 7.6 Whips, bats, over-and-unders, and spurs are allowed, but the gymkhana judge reserves the right to disqualify anyone abusing their horse, in or out of the ring.
- 7.7 If a horse causes difficulty entering the arena, the rider may choose to lead the horse in and mount in the arena. Please do not try and school your horse and try to get it through the gate. We agree it is best to school your horse. But there is a time and place and during a competition is not, the best place or time.
- 7.8 ABSOLUTELY NO RUN-INS or RUN-OUTS will be allowed. Horse and rider must enter/exit arena under control.
- 7.9 It is mandatory for all youth under 18 years of age to wear an approved safety helmet while mounted anywhere on Empty Saddle Club grounds. Helmets must be proper fitting with the safety harness correctly fastened and meet safety standards.
- 7.10 Riding double is not permitted on Empty Saddle Club grounds.
- 7.11 Horses are not permitted around the spectator area. They must remain outside designated spectator areas.
- 7.12 Spectators may enter horse area at their own risk.
- 7.13 Please do not feed or pet any horses without owner's permission.

- 7.14 Spectators are not allowed to sit on top or on fencing around competition area of arena.
- 7.15 Please help us finish up at the end of the day by making sure you throw away your trash.
- 7.16 Outside alcohol is prohibited on Empty Saddle Club grounds.
- 7.17 ALL DECISIONS MADE BY JUDGE OR SHOW MANAGEMENT ARE FINAL.

VIII. Timing and Penalties

- 8.1 Timer starts when horse crosses the timer/start line and ends when the horse crosses back over the line. If the timeline is crossed before the pattern is completed a NT (no time) will result.
- 8.2 If timer does not start and back up timer is unavailable. Rider will be given a re-ride. Any penalties obtained in the first ride will be carried over to the re-ride.
- 8.3 Re-Ride will be given if it is determined that an outside distraction occurred at a crucial part of a rider's run. It will be up to show management to make that call. Any penalties occurred before the distraction will be carried over to the re-ride. Show management's decision will be final.
- 8.4 If the rider breaks the pattern in any event, they may correct it by turning in to avoid crossing their path. If the path is crossed and the pattern is broken this will result in a NT.
- 8.5 Any barrel or pole knocked down by the competitor, a 5 second time penalty per item will be added to the time. The rider may use his/her hand(s) to keep the item in place without penalty. If barrel or pole is moved from its original position, it will be a 5 second penalty.
- 8.6 If an element of the pattern should fall down after the competitor has crossed over the finish line, no penalty will be incurred.
- 8.7 Running over or striking timing equipment, starting line markers, or correctly positioned arena personnel while competing shall be cause for elimination.
- 8.8 Time Limit: Riders have two (2) minutes to complete run. If rider is unable to complete the run in the time allotted. Rider will receive a NT (No Time).

IX. Event/Series Awards

- 9.1 Ribbons will be awarded at every competition from 1st-10th.
- 9.2 High point prizes will be awarded on a case to case basis based on show management's decision.

- 9.3 High Point Buckle will be awarded to every division for the Annamay Classic.
- 9.4 Riders must ride in four (4) out of six (6) shows to be eligible for series awards.
- 9.5 The Amateur, Intermediate, Novice Intermediate Divisions with five (5) or more eligible riders will be awarded with a saddle to the series champion.
- 9.6 Open Series Champion will be awarded saddle, no matter how many eligible riders there are in the division.
- 9.7 Novice and Beginner division series champions be awarded with buckles.
- 9.8 Any division with five (5) or more eligible riders. Series prize line will be up to three (3) places. Any division with less than five (5) eligible riders, series prize line will be two (2) places.
- 9.9 Any year end awards that require voting. Family and friends of a rider may not vote for that rider. Voting must be fair and not bias. Votes that seem bias will not be counted.

X. Battle For The Saddle

- 10.1 The Battle For The Saddle will no longer be awarded for gymkhana events.
- 10.2 The Battle For The Saddle will transition into an All Around South Bay Champion.
- 10.3 All Around Champion will be determined by cumulative points riders that compete in the South Bay Gymkhana Series, South Bay Trail Challenge Series, and Ranch Sorting Series earn.

XI. SBGS Attire

- 11.1 Riders must wear collared, button down shirt. Long or short sleeve. No cutoffs.
- 11.2 Jeans or riding breeches.
- 11.3 Riding Boots (English/Western)
- 11.4 Helmets are required for anyone under the age of 18.
- 11.5 Helmets are not required for anyone over 18 but are recommended.
- 11.6 Shin guards are permitted.

XII. Tack

- 12.1 Western/English Saddle. No bareback entries.
- 12.2 Bridle
- 12.3 Tie Down Permitted
- 12.4 Leg protection encouraged.

XIII. Reasons For Disqualifications

- 13.1 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT –The South Bay Gymkhana Series reserves the right to disqualify any contestant who does not act in a sportsmanlike, reasonable or professional manner. Riders will also be disqualified, if a rider’s family or friends are also acting in an unsportsmanlike manner for the same reason stated above. This shall include is not limited to abusive schooling of horses. Disqualified contestants forfeit all fees. May also result in disqualification for high point prizes and year end prizes.
- 13.2 IN THE ARENA HORSEMANSHIP - Abusive schooling or treatment of horses will not be tolerated. Any contestant who is in violation of this rule will be disqualified.

XIV. Code of Conduct

The South Bay Gymkhana Series is here to promote the equestrian lifestyle here in the South Bay we appreciate the camaraderie of all who participate regardless of race, religion or politics. The majority of those who compete do it specifically for the fun and pleasure of improving their skills with their equine partners. They attend the events to show their improvement from lessons and practice. It is for these reasons that the South Bay Gymkhana Series has established a code of conduct and ethics.

While not every concern will be addressed, it is most important to consider that this series is and has always been about family. For that reason, the family values that we all have been taught to consider sacred, must remain as so.

During SBGS events, foul language will not be tolerated.

Unsportsmanlike conduct and/or physical altercations will not be tolerated, sexual harassment will not be tolerated and competing under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be tolerated. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as “engaging in, or attempting to engage in, any action threatening, berating, harassing, intimidating, assaulting or striking show management, a spectator, rider’s parents, family or friends, any official representative or employee of Martin Performance Horses, South Bay Gymkhana Series or Empty Saddle Club. Any unsportsmanlike conduct from riders, families or friends is unacceptable.

We are not here to fight; we are here to enjoy spending time with our friends, family and horses. Realize that every call will not always be in favor to your

skills or point of view, we acknowledge that sometimes we will win and sometimes we will lose. Sometimes it will be our fault, and sometimes it will be another's. We will strive to make the best call possible; wrong calls may sometimes fall in your favor and other times it may not. This is true in all sports. If at any time we can improve on rules, we are here to listen. Until then, all participants agree to adhere to the rules set forth without exception. If, by chance, you feel that the rules set forth were not followed, you have a right to bring it to the attention of those in charge in a respectful manner. The judge and show management will have the final say on any given day. If you feel that it needs to be brought to the attention, please do so in a respectful manner.

We want you to have fun with everyone while you're at our events, but unsportsmanlike conduct from anyone will not be tolerated and may result in a rider's disqualification from the event or series. You may not agree with that decision, but the simple solution is please don't put yourself in that situation, where it forces show management to make that decision.