

State Fair of Texas®
September 30 -October 23

STATE FAIR OF TEXAS
EQUESTRIAN DRILL COMPETITION
OCTOBER 17 - 18, 2016

SUPERINTENDENT
Barbara Knudson

Entry Deadline	September 1st
Earliest Arrival	October 16 8:00 AM
Must Be In Place	October 16 5:00 PM
Show Start Time	October 17 9:00 AM
Must Be Out By	October 18 10:00 PM

1. **RULES/REGULATIONS:** Entries made in this department shall be subject to and each exhibitor agrees to abide by the General Rules and Regulations as published in this premium list.
2. **SHOW APPLICATION/FEES:**
 - Small Team** (4 – 8 riders): \$75
 - Large Team** (9 or more riders): \$125ALL EXHIBITORS MUST COMPLETE A W-9 AND LIABILITY FORM.
Entries received after September 1 will incur a \$50 late fee per class entry.
3. **ADMISSION PASSES:** Complimentary passes are offered with the following restrictions: One pass per exhibitor.
4. **PARKING PERMITS:** Please see general rules for more information at www.bigtex.com
5. **HEALTH PAPERS: Certificate of Veterinary Inspection and Negative EIA (Coggins) will be checked upon entry of the fair grounds.** Please see general rules for more information.
6. **No smoking allowed in any barn or judging pavilion.**
7. **STALLS:** Stall fee of \$25 per stall, per night for the event. Limit one horse per stall. Stalls are mandatory. Shavings must be purchased from the show office.
8. **RV HOOKUPS:** Electric hookups only. \$75 flat fee.
9. **ARENA SIZE:** 100' X 180'
10. **AWARDS:** High point trophies, ribbons through 5th place
11. **ANIMAL ABUSE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED:** See General Rules.
12. **GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP IS EXPECTED AT ALL TIMES:** See General Rules.
13. **COMPETITION DIVISIONS**
 - a. **RODEO**
 - b. **FREESTYLE**
 - c. **THEME**
 - d. **4-H/YOUTH**
 - e. **FOUR/QUAD DRILL**
 - f. **COLOR GUARD**

RODEO COMPETITION CRITERIA

1. **RIDERS:** Small Team – 4 to 8 riders. Large team – 9 or more riders.
2. **TIME:** Four (4) minutes maximum
3. **MUSIC:** Music of choice. Points may be scored on how appropriate the music was to the maneuvers performed and the pace of the horses set to the music used.
4. **EXPLANATION:** Primary emphasis shall be placed on the drill. Allowances will be given to content, style, showmanship, entertainment and special effects. Announcers will be allowed and are part of the scoring.
5. **JUDGING CRITERIA:**
 - a. **Execution:** Spacing, Alignment, Timing, Coordination, and Briskness-
 1. Was spacing consistent? Were the lines straight and properly aligned, circles evenly round and centered in the arena?

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2. Was the timing good with no riders racing or stopping to make their position? Any missed holes or collisions?
3. Were the connections between maneuvers good? Was the overall attitude of the team alert and their execution precise?
- b. Performance and Manners of Horses:
 1. Were the horses well-mannered with no bucking or kicking? Horses are not to be penalized for having their ears back.
 2. Did the horses break gait? Were they suitable drill horses?
- c. Originality, Variety and Attractiveness of Patterns:
 1. Were original and varied patterns used or were the same patterns repeated several times? Was there variety in the patterns?
 2. Were the patterns presented to the best advantage of the viewing audience?
- d. Spectacularity and Crowd Appeal:
 1. Was the drill presented a manner pleasing to the audience? Did the drill flow from one maneuver to the next without a lot of set up moves?
 2. Crowd appeal can include the manner in which flags are presented, suitability of music to the maneuvers and the tempo of the drill to music.
 3. Also included are Showmanship, Entertainment, Special Effects and Announcer. The special effects that set a rodeo team apart from a regular drill team, the additional “pizzazz” and glitter of tack and attire.

FREESTYLE & 4-H/YOUTH DRILL COMPETITION CRITERIA

1. RIDERS: Small Team – 4 to 8 riders. Large Team – 9 or more riders.
2. TIME: Six (6) minutes maximum
3. EXPLANATION: The freestyle will be performed to the music of choice. Emphasis will be placed on the drill.
4. EXECUTION OF DRILL: Spacing, Alignment, Timing, Coordination and Briskness. Was spacing consistent? Were the lines straight and the circles evenly round? Was the time good with no rider racing or stopping to make his/her position? Were the connections between maneuvers good? Were there any collisions?
5. PERFORMANCE AND MANNERS OF HORSES: Were the horses well-mannered? No bucking or kicking? Horses are not to be penalized for having ear back. Did the horses break gait? Were they suitable drill horses?
6. ORIGINALITY, VARIETY, AND ATTRACTIVENESS OF PATTERNS: Were original and varied patterns used throughout the drill? Was the same pattern repeated several times? Were the patterns presented to the best advantage of the viewing audience?
7. SPECTACULARITY AND CROWD APPEAL: Was the drill presented in a manner pleasing to the audience? Did the drill flow from one maneuver to another without a lot of set up moves? Were most of the maneuvers centered in front of the viewing audience? Crowd appeal can include the manner in which flags are presented, suitability of music to the maneuvers and the tempo of the drill to the music. Flag protocol must be followed.
8. DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: Teams performing a more difficult drill should be scored higher than a team performing relatively easy maneuvers. Degree of difficulty can also be influenced by the correct flag protocol of the working flags in contrast to the posted non-working flags.
9. GENERAL IMPRESSION: Equitation as adapted for drill purposes, i.e., basic equitation position, hands and use of aids. Horses are clean and in healthy working condition. No penalty for team of mixed colors. Equipment should be clean, neat and in good repair. Saddles, bits and boots are excluded as to type and style but will be judged for cleanliness.

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THEME COMPETITION CRITERIA

1. RIDERS: Small team – 4 to 8 riders. Large team – 9 or more riders.
2. TIME: Eight (8) minutes maximum
3. MUSIC: Music of Choice. Pointed may be scored on how appropriate the music was to the maneuvers performed and the pace the horses set to the music used and appropriateness of the music to the theme of the drill.
4. EXPLANATION: Primary emphasis will be placed on the drill and it's appropriateness to the theme chosen by the team. Equally important is the theme of the team. The theme may be reflected in the costuming, music, tack and other special effects used by the team to convey the idea of their theme.
5. JUDGING CRITERIA:
 - a. Execution: Spacing, Alignment, Timing, Coordination, and Briskness-
 1. Was spacing consistent? Were the lines straight and properly aligned, circles evenly round and centered in the arena?
 2. Was the timing good with no riders racing or stopping to make their position? Any missed holes or collisions?
 3. Were the connections between maneuvers good? Was the overall attitude of the team alert and their execution precise?
 - b. Performance and Manners of Horses:
 1. Were the horses well-mannered with no bucking or kicking? Horses are not to be penalized for having their ears back.
 2. Did the horses break gait? Were they suitable drill horses?
 - c. Originality, Variety and Attractiveness of Patterns:
 1. Were original and varied patterns used or were the same patterns repeated several times? Was there variety in the patterns?
 2. Were the patterns presented to the best advantage of the viewing audience?
 - d. Spectacularity and Crowd Appeal:
 1. Was the drill presented a manner pleasing to the audience? Did the drill flow from one maneuver to the next without a lot of set up moves?
 2. Crowd appeal can include the manner in which flags are presented, suitability of music to the maneuvers and the tempo of the drill to music.

TEAM OF FOUR/QUAD DRILL COMPETITION CRITERIA

1. RIDERS: Each team will be allowed two (2) sets of four different riders.
2. TIME: Four (4) minutes maximum.
3. EXPLANATION: The competition will be performed to music of choice.
4. EXECUTION OF DRILL: Spacing, alignment, timing, coordination and briskness. Was the spacing consistent? Were the lines straight and circles evenly round? Was the timing good with no rider racing or stopping to make his/her position? Were the connections between maneuvers good? Did the drill a flow from one maneuver to another without a lot of positioning maneuvers?
5. DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: Consistency and accuracy of identifiable maneuvers taking into account overall balance of presentation, transitions and the pace at which they are executed.
6. FLAGS: If flags or pennants were carried, were they carried with shafts perpendicular to the ground with elbow bent and held close to the body? Was flag protocol followed if appropriate?
7. ORIGINALITY, VARIETY AND ATTRACTIVENESS OF PATTERNS: Were original and varied patterns used throughout drill or was the same pattern repeated several times? Did the drill flow from one maneuver to another without a lot of positioning maneuvers?
8. SPECTACULARITY AND CROWD APPEAL: Was the drill organized in a manner to please an audience? Were the patterns presented to the best advantage of the viewing audience? Crown appeal may include the manner in which the flags or pennants are presented.
9. SUITABILITY OF MUSIC: Did the music flow with the maneuvers?

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10. MANNERS OF HORSES: Were the horses well behaved? No bucking or kicking?
11. PERFORMANCE OF HORSES: Way of going, suitability as a drill horse. Responsive to riders cues. Both spacing and gait are maintained. Standing straight and quiet, start at the signal, no "jigging" or shying.

COLOR GUARD COMPETITION CRITERIA

1. FLAGS:

- a. Very important in color guard and so flag protocol is strictly observed in accordance with the U.S. Office of Protocol in Washington D.C. and they should be clean and in good repair. Flags that are dirty and/or torn or frayed will be penalized.
- b. "Clenching" (restraining the ability of the flag to remain unfurled) will be penalized. The Color Guard will consist of four (4) flags and they may be any combination of American, State organizational and other.
- c. The American flag (required) must always be carried at the extreme right. All other flags to be carried from right to left by position of importance out of respect for that country, state, or organization. American flag poles are to have eagle tops while the other poles must have matching spears or pikes or poles. Spears will be carried in a like manner, i.e. cutting the wind or flat against the wind. Only the American flag pole carries the eagle top and the eagle must face forward into the wind.
- d. A proper flag salute is expected and will be judged during the "line of march" portion of the competition. Flag poles and flag boots are to be clean and in good repair. Matching is preferable. Flag boots should be attached securely and properly and in a manner so that the top of the flag poles are all at the same height. Flag poles should be long enough that when the flag is attached, the bottom of the flag is just above the head of the rider.

2. MOUNTS:

- a. Although matching as to size, color and breed is preferable, the apparent level of applied horsemanship is imperative.
- b. Mounts should be healthy, in good flesh with a healthy hair coat, well groomed, clipped and whether shod or unshod, the feet must be in good condition. Note: if one mount is unshod, all should be unshod, or vice versa.
- c. Any corrective or orthopedic shoeing is allowable provided it can be explained if the rider is asked. Mounts should display good manners and soundness during all phases of the judging
- d. . Mounts can also be judged on confirmation and points can be deducted for any mount displaying a severe conformation defect if it impedes the national mobility of the animal.

3. TACK AND EQUIPMENT:

- a. All tack and equipment must be clean and in good repair along with proper application.
- b. Matching is preferable. Points can be deducted for any tack or equipment for any tack or equipment that is too loose, too tight, is improperly applied or improperly fits the mount.
- c. Training aids and illegal tack or equipment will be penalized. Calvary halter and alamars are allowable provided they are applied correctly. Matching is preferable.
- d. All mounts are expected to be shown in the bridle. Any difference "can" be penalized. Riders should be able to explain the difference if asked.
- e. All tack and equipment should represent one particular riding discipline, i.e. western, sidesaddle, English, Charro/Charra cavalry, etc. Combinations of the various disciplines can be penalized.

4. DECORATIONS:

- a. Tail-bobs and mane decorations such as flowers, streamers, ribbons and foreleg decorations, such as garters or ribbons are allowable.
- b. Matching is preferable and they should be securely and similarly affixed. Points will be deducted if they come loose, impede the natural movement of the mount or cause a safety hazard.
- c. Decorative clipping is allowable, matching is preferable.

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- d. Changing the natural color of body hair, mane or tail, will be penalized. The amount of points is at the judges' discretion. Any attempt to cover differences in color markings, confirmation faults or injuries can also be penalized.
5. INJURIES: Minor injuries are not necessarily penalized as long as it is obvious they are being properly treated and no attempt has been made to mask the wound with any foreign property in an effort to conceal it or which could cause it to fester.
6. UNIFORMS/ATTIRE:
 - a. Uniforms should be attractive and distinctive, clean, neat and pressed. Matching is preferable. Ties, hats, belts and riding boots are required and matching is preferable.
 - b. "Costumes" are allowable provided they are all the same theme.
 - c. Matching is preferable. Specific riding disciplines, professional and non-professional, or specific culture based teams are expected to wear their appropriate attire i.e. riding habit, sidesaddle outfit, uniform, costume of the culture depicted.
 - d. Gloves are preferable, chaps and jewelry optional and if worn should match and be worn by all four riders. Attention should be paid to small details such as the length of the pant leg, cut of the chaps and shirts should be long sleeved.
 - e. Any additional decorations such as tie clasps, hat bands, conchos on belts, belt buckles, chaps any hair or boot adornments should match and be worn by all four riders.
7. MANEUVERS: Maneuvers-In initial lineup judging: Color guards can be asked to spread (open) and close ranks. Maneuvers-In "line of march": Color guards are expected to move forward and execute at least two turns and one salute. Color guards are judged on their ability as a team to perform any maneuvers with precision and "alignment".
8. EQUITATION: Will be judged in the "line of march".
9. POINTS: Listed on a score sheet.