

# VALLEY CENTER VAQUEROS

## TRAIL CHALLENGE RULES

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### General Rules

- The Vaqueros **requires** helmets for riders under age 18.
- Unsportsmanlike behavior or abusive treatment of horses is not tolerated.
- Riders must have full control of their mounts at all times. Riding capability is determined by the show manager & Judge (with help from a parent for youth riders).
- Should a rider fall during while competing, he/she will have 45 seconds to catch and remount the horse unassisted. Assistance is allowed for the youth classes.
- Tack must be in good repair.
- Saddles are required, however any type may be used (Western, English, etc.).
- No martingales or tie-downs of any type may be used.
- This is a judged event, based on horse's attitude, rider's horsemanship, and overall performance.
- Each class has a set pattern to follow, which will be posted the day of the show.
- Riders have a time limit per obstacle: 30 seconds for adult classes, and 45 seconds for youth classes. Riders that are unable to complete the obstacle within the time limit will be asked to move on to the next obstacle. Zero points will be given for the missed obstacle.
- Going off course is cause for disqualification.
- Judge(s) make all decisions related to scoring. Judges' decisions are final.
- Riders may show more than 1 horse in each class, but 1 horse may **not** have multiple riders.
- You must be in attendance to claim prizes.
- "Scratched" classes will not be refunded after the show starts (9 AM).

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### Definitions

- **Green Horse:** a horse that is inexperienced, new to being under saddle, and/or still learning.
- **Green Rider:** a novice and/or new rider.
- **Amateur:** a part-time equestrian who does not earn wages for riding, driving, showing, training, schooling, or conducting clinics or seminars.

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### Buckle Series Requirements

- Buckles will be awarded at the last show of the series on November 4<sup>th</sup>.
- You must be a full-time Vaqueros member and attend at least 3 of the 4 challenges. If a rider has attended all 4 challenges, the top 3 scores will be used.
- Jackets/Vests will be awarded to the rider with highest score in each class:
  - Green
  - Youth under 18
  - Amateur age 18+
- Buckles will be awarded to the rider with highest score in each class:
  - Youth Jackpot
  - Open Jackpot

