

RULES AND REGULATIONS

SAN JUAN SKIJORING

San Juan Skijoring rules are designed to create a fair competitive event as well as to ensure safety for competitors, horse and human alike.

DIVISION AND COMPETITION CRITERIA

- OPEN CLASS: Teams are considered to be the highest skilled competitors with the fastest and most skilled horses. The open class will consist of all match teams.
- SPORT CLASS (Amateur): Teams are considered to be intermediate level skill participants riding horses that may not have the experience to be in the Open Class. The Sport class will consist of all match teams.
- NOVICE/EXHIBITION CLASS: Teams are considered to be new to the sport, have horses that may be brand new to the sport or do not have the skills yet to enter the Sport. Novice class will consist of 1 match, 1 draw format.
- SNOWBOARD CLASS: Teams consists of horse, rider, and snowboarder. The snowboard class will follow the 1 Match, 1 Draw format.
- JUNIOR CLASS (Kids 12 and under): Teams are considered to be kids not yet old enough for the Novice Class but who want to compete. This also helps build the sport for future years. Both the rider and skier must be 12 and under. There will be no mandatory gates or jumps for this class and all teams will be match format.
- SWITCH-A-ROO: (New in 2020) Team members must switch spots from Saturday to Sunday. If you ski/snowboard on Saturday, you have to ride on Sunday and if you ride on Saturday, you have to ski/snowboard on Sunday. The switch-a-roo class will consist of all match teams. The skier track will be set to accommodate all levels of skiers and snowboarders.

SKIER, RIDER FORMAT– MATCH & DRAW RULES

1. All teams in the Open, Sport and Switch-a-roo Class will follow a Match format. Skiers and Riders must have a team created to enter competition.
2. The Novice, and Snowboard Classes will follow the 1 Match, 1 Draw format. For every Match team entered there will also be a Draw team created for half the cost of the Match run. You are not required to enter the Draw in change to (un) less you want to participate in a second Match run in the same class.
 - a. If a Rider or Skier chooses to enter the draw his/her teammate must also enter the draw. We can not allow an odd number of entries for the draw.
 - b. Draw Teams will be drawn both Saturday and Sunday for those entered. Draw teams must be different then your match team. There will be a redraw if needed.
3. All teams in the Junior Class will follow the Match format. We will work to ensure every interested junior gets the chance to compete.

SKIER/SNOWBOARDER RULES

1. A skier/snowboarder can choose their division of competition and is not required to advance to the next class if they win their division.
 - a. However if they win a division more than once they must be able to take grief from other competitors for not moving up.
2. A skier may compete in only one Division Unless they compete as a snowboard or in the Switch-a-roo class.
3. A skier/snowboarder may compete up to four times, per division.
 - a. Skiers/snowboarders cannot compete with an identical team more than once.
 - i. In the Novice and Snowboard divisions there will be a redraw if any draw teams are the same as their original match team
 - b. Identical teams consist of all three heart beats the same. If any one changes it is a different team.
4. All skiers and snowboarders must wear approved snow sport helmets.
5. Protective Eyewear is recommended.
6. Any skier/snowboarder under 18 must have parent/guardian sign a parental consent form.
 - a. Parent or Guardian must be present during signup.
 - b. Protective Eyewear and helmet must be worn during competition.

RIDER RULES

1. A Horse cannot move between Open, Sport or Novice Classes.
 - a. Horses are allowed to move between any of the other classes.
 - b. For example, a horse can run in the Sport and Snowboard, Novice and Juniors or Open and Switch-a-roo.
2. A Horse may not run more than two times in a day.
 - a. Exceptions can be made for horses in the Junior, Novice, Snowboard and Switch-a-roo divisions.
 - i. All exceptions must be cleared by the San Juan Skijoring committee the night of sign-up.
3. Horse should be in physical shape to participate in the extreme sport of skijoring.

RULES OF COMPETITION – GENERAL

1. Races will start on time. Please be ready.
2. The Sparby Rule: Each team is allowed 3 minutes after the Start Judge has called for a clear course to complete staging and begin their run. After the allotted time has expired, the team will be asked to leave the staging area. They will have one more chance to start successfully or they will be disqualified for that run.
 - a. There will be no Sparby rule for the first team.
3. Substitutions are allowed for any team member (horse, skier or rider) prior to the competitor meeting on Saturday. After the competitor meeting on Saturday there will be NO substitutions for Open and Sport divisions. We will allow substitutions throughout the event in the Novice, Snowboard, and Junior class, but they must be approved by the field judges.
4. If a horse, rider, or equipment is deemed unsafe the rider and horse can be asked to leave at any time by the Start Judges or the Arena Judge.

5. If the Skier/Snowboarder drops the rope BEFORE crossing the start line, he/she will be allowed a restart. If the skier/snowboarder drops the rope on the second attempt to start the team will be disqualified for that run.
6. Skiers must finish in an upright position and on at least one ski, with rope in hand when crossing the finish line. Both skier boots must cross the finish line.
7. Both ski tips and both boots must go around a gate, or the gate is considered missed.
8. There will be a 5 second penalty added for every missed gate.
9. There will be a 2 second penalty added for every missed or dropped ring.
 - a. You must carry rings through the finish.
10. Timing Equipment that is knocked over by a horse will result in a disqualification for that run.
11. If a horse goes through the finish but does not hit the timing equipment a 5 second penalty will be added.
12. All performance-enhancing drugs are prohibited and will not be tolerated. Random drug testing may take place on either day immediately following the race. San Juan Skijoring will follow the same protocol as Skijoring America when it comes to performance-enhancing drugs.
13. Protests must be voiced by the skier or rider to the Finish Judge or Arena Judge before the start of the next run.
 - a. Judges will look at evidence in the snow while also watching instant replay to make the best decision based off of the evidence provided.
 - b. Competitors can call for a protest if they think a fellow competitor missed a gate while they were watching in person or on the Jumbotron. A Finish Judge or Start Judge must be notified before the start of the next run.
 - c. The Arena Judge will have the final ruling before the start of the next run.
14. The following will result in a disqualification:
 - a. Infraction of any state or federal law which exists pertaining to the exhibition, care, and custody of horses within the state or country.
 - b. Abuse of an animal on the track and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred at any time on the Ouray County Fairgrounds premises.
 - c. Failure to dismount and/or present horse and equipment to any official or Veterinarian.
15. All horse warm-ups will be done in the horse arena. Unless otherwise announced there will be no restrictions against horses inspecting the skijoring track.
 - a. Please do not open your horse up beyond a slow lope during inspection.
16. No horses are allowed on the racetrack.

HORSE SAFETY & TREATMENT

- Water for horses will be available and easily accessible at the race venue.
- The on-site veterinarian will have the authority to scratch a horse for health reasons or concerns pertaining to the safety of the horse. Any member of the organizing committee can require a horse to be examined by a veterinarian prior to racing.
- No person may abuse a Horse during an Event or at any other time. "Abuse" means an action or omission which causes or is likely to cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a Horse, including, but not limited to:
 - Whipping or beating a Horse excessively
 - Subjecting a Horse to any kind of electric shock device
 - Using spurs excessively or persistently

- Leaving a Horse without adequate food, drink or exercise

Any person witnessing an Abuse must report it in the form of a Protest, without cost immediately. If an Abuse is witnessed during or in direct connection with an Event, it should be reported as a Protest to an Official. If the Abuse is witnessed at any other time it should be reported to Skijoring America.

RACE EQUIPMENT

- San Juan Skijoring will provide ropes for competitors, though competitors are allowed to bring their own ropes.
- Any rope not supplied by San Juan Skijoring must be inspected and approved by the Start Master or his designee prior to the start of the race.
- Ropes cannot exceed 50 feet in length.
- Ropes must be 3/8" or larger in diameter.
- Handles are not permitted on ropes.
- Attachment must be to the saddle horn or behind the saddle. If the attachment is behind the saddle it must be secured to the primary rigging rings of the saddle by a non-elastic attachment so that the pulling rope is within 6 inches of the cantle excluding carabiner. Prior to the race, the Start Master, or his designee may inspect any attachment to the saddle. Quick release shackles are highly recommended.
- Electronic timing and backup timing will be provided to ensure accurate competition times.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Good sportsmanship is important to the success of every event. Registration signature pledges a competitor's word to the humane treatment of their horse and respectful relationships to all fellow competitors and volunteers hosting this exciting competition. Failure to comply with the spirit of friendly competition at any of the scheduled events may result in the disqualification of your team or banishment from future competitions.