



Code of Conduct

The founding members of Rhythm Riders OPRC have attended many different types of equine events, and one thing we want to emphasize in all aspects of this club is safety. We want everyone to have the best time possible at our events, and as a beginner and adult amateur friendly club we think it is important to communicate our expectations early. Below is a list of rules/trail etiquette that we require everyone to follow. If someone is found to be non-compliant with any of the following rules, the Board of Directors reserve the right to dismiss any horse/rider from the event. Please understand we are not trying to make this difficult for anyone, we just want to reduce the risk of unnecessary injury to horses and riders so we can all have a fun and relaxing experience!

General Rules

1. Helmets and heeled footwear are to be worn at all events when mounted.
2. Saddles with stirrups (including treeless) and bridles (including bitless, sidepulls, and hackamores) are mandatory at all events (no halter and lead ropes).
3. We ask that any horse known to kick is to have a red ribbon tied in their tail.
4. Green horses are also asked to be marked with a green ribbon in their tail.
5. No drinking or smoking while riding.
6. No dogs allowed at any events unless specified by the board of directors.
7. Horses must be tied or inside trailers when not being ridden, loose horses are not allowed at any event.
8. Horses must have a copy of coggins and rabies on file and/or brought to an event to participate.
9. Please pick up after your horse at your trailer space. We do not want to leave a mess for others!
10. Rough handling/Abuse to any horse will not be tolerated.



Trail/Group Rides

1. When a trail ride is marked and at your own pace, trail etiquette is of the utmost importance to the safety and happiness of all of our horses and humans. Prior to passing, CALL OUT! Come to walk within 30 ft. Do not pass until the slower rider has given the OK , and do not move out until the slower rider has given the OK.
2. Maintain proper distance between horses, bumping or knocking a rider will not be tolerated, and you will be asked to leave. If a rider requests that you allow more space between your mount and theirs, please respect that request and either pass or slow down.
3. When on a guided group ride please respect your guide. There will be a designated guide for both faster riders and slower riders. The guides or field master will set the pace, do not pass your field master without expressed permission. The guide or master can dismiss any rider/he or she feels is putting other riders at risk.

Ring Riding

1. When riding in a group, FASTER HORSES WORK OFF THE RAIL, and SLOWER HORSES HAVE THE RAIL. It is important to maintain adequate spacing in the arena by circling, passing, or cutting across.
2. Pass with distance, any horse who kicks out will be asked to wear a red ribbon in their tail.
3. If you are riding in opposite directions for any reason, always ride left shoulder to left shoulder.
4. Always call your jump or obstacle. That way riders on the other side will have enough time to move out of your way.
5. If a horse/rider falls all other riders are to come to a complete stop until that rider/horse is back in control.
6. If your horse poops in the ring you are required to pick it up.