

# Mesa County Sheriffs Posse Gymkhana Rules

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**PARENTS:** It is your responsibility to keep your children and horses out of harm's way on the Posse grounds. Have your children warm up their horses away from populated areas of the Posse grounds – especially close to the arena and arena gate. **DO NOT ALLOW YOUR CHILDREN TO LOPE THEIR HORSES THROUGH THE PARKING LOTS AND WALKWAYS.** Due to safety concerns, parents, children, and spectators will be restricted from crowding the gate area. If a contestant is found loping their horse(s) in a crowded area they will be fined \$25.00 which must be paid by the end of the gymkhana that day. No exceptions!

## **GYMKHANA STARTS AT 9:00 AM**

The gymkhana dates posted on the flyer and MCS Posse web site are subject to change due to weather conditions, arena conditions, or other problems that may arise. However, if a change should occur, every effort will be taken to contact participants as early as possible. Sign-ups will be open from 8:00 am to 9:00 am the day of the gymkhana.

## **ARENA:**

Gymkhanas will be held at the Mesa County Sheriffs Posse Arena, 648 25 Road, Grand Junction, CO. All families and participants are expected to keep the Posse grounds clean and to be respectful to the community.

## **EVENTS:**

- Barrel Racing
- Flags
- Special Event TBD
- Pole Bending
- Key Hole

## **ENTRY FEES:**

The fee is \$5.00 per event per contestant with one exception. The fee rate for goat tying will be \$10.00 due to the extra expense of the goats. We will have plenty of entry forms in the crow's nest. Insufficient funds checks will result in a \$35.00 fee. The debt must be cleared in cash, cashier's check, or money order before the contestant may compete in any future gymkhanas or receive any awards. ***After ONE (1) Returned Check, the MCS Posse will ONLY accept cash, cashier's check, or money order for the remainder of the season for that specific contestant.***

## **AWARDS ELIGIBILITY:**

Contestants **MUST** participate in all events of the day. The person with the highest points at the end of the year in their age group will be eligible for the saddle or buckle or end-of-season reward. There has to be a minimum of three contestants in an age group in order for the end-of-year award to be given out for high point. If less than the minimum number of contestants in an age group participates, there will be an alternate award given.

## **AGE GROUPS:**

- 0-6 years
- 7-10 years

- 11-14 years
- 15-18 years
- 19-49 years
- 50 and older

#### **HIGH POINT SYSTEM:**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> place = 60 points
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place = 50 points
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place = 40 points
- 4<sup>th</sup> place = 30 points
- 5<sup>th</sup> place = 20 points
- 6<sup>th</sup> place = 10 points

#### **RULES:**

1. Alcoholic beverages are NOT allowed on the Posse grounds.
2. Dress code will be enforced for all participants. Riders are to be dressed in suitable western attire. Long-sleeve shirts, tucked in, properly buttoned or snapped western jeans, cowboy hat, and cowboy boots. Riding helmets may be worn in place of the cowboy hat. Boots should have a ½ inch heel and come above the ankle.
3. Riders may use any humane bit including a snaffle or hackamore.
4. Riders may use only **one** of the following: standard bat, spurs, or over and under.
5. Abuse or improper treatment of horses will not be tolerated!
6. The three call rule will be enforced.
7. Hat or helmet **MUST** be worn during the event and cannot hit the grounds. If the hat or helmet comes off but is attached with a stampede string, a DQ will not be called so long as the hat or helmet stays attached to the rider.
8. Contestants will be disqualified in any event if they receive assistance once they have passed the starting line with the exception of Lead Line.
9. Event Directors are arena officials. All decisions of the arena officials will be final. Flaggers are only used for helping with back up times, not for making any judgement calls.
10. For safety reasons and to keep things running smoothly, we would like everyone to stay in the general assembly area and not ride off.
11. All complaints must be in writing on a complaint form which can be found in the crow's nest. Complaints must be made before the end of the event in question; otherwise it will not be addressed. The MCSP Gymkhana committee will determine if the complaint merits immediate attention. If deemed necessary, resolution will be made immediately with the assistance of arena officials. All other complaints will be addressed before the next scheduled gymkhana.

12. The MCS Posse is run by volunteers. Please be helpful with setting up equipment, opening the gate, timing, and scorekeeping. We are more than happy to have assistance with a short how-to session, if necessary.
13. Harassment of Gymkhana officials or volunteers by contestants, spectators, or family members will be cause for immediate disqualification of the contestant from the event and/or gymkhana, as determined by the MCSP gymkhana committee.
14. Contestants will be asked to leave the arena for any one of the following:
  - a. Use of foul, abusive, or inappropriate language
  - b. Harassment of another contestant
  - c. Mistreatment of livestock including their own

**The rules listed above apply anywhere on the Posse grounds.**

**\*\*\*\*\* Please Practice Good Sportsmanship \*\*\*\*\***

Good sportsmanship occurs when teammates, opponents, coaches, spectators, and officials treat each other with respect. Kids learn the basics of sportsmanship from the adults in their lives, especially their parents and their coaches. Kids who see adults behaving in a sportsmanlike manner gradually come to understand that the real winners in sports are those who know how to persevere and to behave with dignity – whether they win or lose.