

EUREKA SADDLE CLUB RULEBOOK

Revised January 2026

2026 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President: – Justin Decker - 620.750.0581

Vice President: Cameo Kraft – 620-490-0424

Secretary: Lindy Knowles – 405.334.2939

Treasurer: Emily Brenton – 316.200.1818

Directors: Rob McDonald, Josh Butler, Matt Perrier, Mica Coulter, Reese Gugelmeyer, Latham Wiggins

GENERAL RULES:

1. The judge's decision is final in all instances. No parent or child may question the judge after a class. If this happens, that person or child will be banned from the class for the remainder of the season.
2. Any contestant being led by an adult or having an adult walking beside the horse without being led will participate only as an exhibition ride for no points or payback (entry fee to be the same as other contestants in the event and age group). Exhibitions in the older age groups will be allowed at a fee determined at the beginning of each year.
3. No vehicles with horse trailers are to be parked on the south side or east side of the arena.
4. Contestants are not to run horses behind the west bleachers.
5. No horses are to be tied to the pipe rail around the concession stand.
6. Any mistreatment of animals on the arena grounds will result in the forfeiture of points for the contestant involved. Extreme mistreatment of animals will result in removal of contestants from the arena grounds.
7. Any animal deemed lame, unsound, sick or unthrifty by three or more Board Members will be asked to leave the premises or tied to their trailer.
8. Membership meetings will be held prior to shodeos as deemed necessary by the board.
9. Eureka Saddle Club reserves the right to refuse membership to any participant.
10. Alcohol will not be allowed on club grounds.
11. If a shodeo is rained out, the make-up date will be set by the board.

BOARD & OFFICERS:

1. Officers will be elected each year at the Fall Awards Meeting for the following year including:
 - a. President – 1 year
 - b. Vice President – 1 year
 - c. Secretary – 1 year
 - i. Record minutes at every meeting and provide copy for each officer and director by paper or digitally.
 - d. Treasurer – 1 year
 - i. Give financial report at each meeting and provide copy for each officer and director by paper or digitally.
2. Board of Directors – five directors serve two-year terms with staggered elections.
3. Two signatures will be required for a check to clear the bank. Any of the four officers may be allowed to be on the signature card at the bank.

ENTRIES & FEES:

1. Shodeos will start at 5:00 P.M. unless otherwise stated. Entries will close at 4:30 P.M.
2. Event order will be posted on the fliers at the beginning of the shodeo season. Each event, besides reining, will begin with the youngest age group.
3. Annual membership fees for the club will be decided and posted each year by the board of directors.
4. Entry fees per event will be decided at the spring meeting each year and posted. Entry fees are to be paid in the announcer's stand. No entries will be taken for an event in which the class has begun.
5. Once entries are closed, fees will not be refunded if a contestant chooses to draw out for any reason.
6. Contestant's age will be determined by how old they are on January 1 of the current year.
7. Waivers releasing the club from liability in case of accidents will be signed by parents or guardians of each contestant before each shodeo for non-members and before the first shodeo for members. Contestant's name must be listed on the form to be eligible for year-end awards.

WESTERN ATTIRE

1. Western attire will be required. Long-sleeved collared shirt (shirt tail tucked in), western hat, boots and jeans. No riding shoes will be allowed. This rule may be waived at the judge's or board's discretion.
2. Hats are not required during timed events.

POINTS & AWARDS:

1. To be eligible for year-end awards:
 - a. Each contestant must participate in THREE of the FIVE scheduled shodeos.
 - b. Each Family or Single Membership must provide workers for at least one concession stand for its included members to receive year-end awards.
 - c. Each Family or Single Membership must pay a \$50 facility maintenance fee or complete a scheduled mowing of the grounds.
2. If shodeos are unable to be held for any reason, attendance requirements will be at board's discretion.
3. Club points toward monthly and year-end awards accumulate only after membership has been paid.
 - a. Points are awarded as follows: 1st - 4 points, 2nd - 3 points, 3rd - 2 points, 4th - 1 point
4. If a nonmember places 1st-4th in a class, points will roll down to the next paid member.
5. Participants in the 6 and Under age group may ride in either the Lead-In class or speed events for points. They must designate which before the shodeo season starts.
6. Participants in the 7-9 age group may only earn points at each shodeo in either Walk-Trot Western Pleasure or Western Pleasure. Points cannot be earned in both classes at the same shodeo.
7. Events in which year-end awards will be given will be determined before the start of each year. These awards are based on points, not age. All-around awards will be given in each age group.
8. Total time in speed events will be used as a tiebreaker for monthly high-point awards. If two contestants tie for a year-end award, the contestant with most points accumulated at final shodeo will win the tie.
9. Awards will include:
 - Monthly Shodeo – One all-around award will be presented in each age group based on the points for the night in all events combined.
 - Participation – An award will be presented to any member who enters (even if no points are earned) in three of the five monthly shodeos and completes concessions and mowing requirements.
 - Year-End All-Around – Awards will be presented to the top four point-earners in each age group and in the Lead-In Class.

CLASS RULES:

LEAD-LINE:

1. Five shortened events (barrels, poles, flags, goats, dummy roping) will be lined up in the arena for 6 & Under contestants to be led in.
2. Entry fee will be \$10.00. Contestants will be awarded \$5 at the end of the shodeo.
3. Must be dressed in western attire.

6 & UNDER LEAD-IN WESTERN PLEASURE:

1. Contestants will be led at a walk in both directions around the ring.
2. Judged on horsemanship, dress, equipment that fits, split reins required, and control of horse.
3. Judge will ask all horses to back.
4. Riders will not be asked to dismount

WALK-TROT WESTERN PLEASURE:

1. Horse will be shown at a walk and trot only.
2. Horses must work both directions in the arena at both gaits.
3. Judge will ask horses to back.
4. Riders will not be asked to dismount for any reason.
5. There will be no reverse at a trot.
6. Tie downs, hackamores, and leg protection are not allowed in this class. Split reins are required.

WESTERN PLEASURE:

1. Horse will be shown at a walk, trot and lope.
2. Horses must work both directions in the arena at all three gaits.
3. Judge will ask horses to back.
4. Riders will not be asked to dismount for any reason.
5. Tie-downs, hackamores, and leg protection are not allowed in this class. Split reins are required.

REINING:

1. Ages 7-9, 10-13, 14-18, 19 & Over
2. Riders will not be asked to dismount for any reason.
3. Riders will execute the designated pattern provided prior to start of shodeo.
4. Split reins are required. Tie-downs and hackamores are not allowed in this event.
5. Leg protection is allowed.

WORKING RANCH HORSE

1. Ages 7-9, 10-13, 14-18, 19 & Over
2. Riders will not be asked to dismount for any reason
3. Riders will execute the designated pattern provided prior to start of shodeo.
4. The judge has the option of asking for rail work.
5. Split reins are required. Tie-downs and hackamores are not allowed in this event.
6. Leg protection is allowed.

POLE BENDING:

1. Six poles will be placed 21 feet apart, the first pole to be 21 feet from the starting line.
2. Knocking down a pole carries a five-second penalty.
3. Disqualifications include:
 - Breaking the pattern
 - Breaking the time barrier before completing the pattern

BARREL RACING:

1. Barrels will be set in a cloverleaf pattern as suitable for the arena conditions.
2. Knocking over a barrel receives a five-second penalty.
3. Disqualifications include:
 - Breaking the pattern
 - Breaking the time barrier before completing the pattern

FLAG RACING:

1. Flag will be placed in a small can on a barrel at the opposite end of arena from the starting line.
2. Rider must go around barrel when picking up the flag. Rider may go around the barrel multiple times or stop to pick up the flag. Rider may not back up or turn horse in the opposite direction to pick up the flag.
3. Disqualifications include:
 - Knocking over the barrel
 - Using the flag as a bat
 - Backing up or turning in opposite direction

GOAT TAIL UNDECORATING (6 & UNDER):

1. Rider must ride horse to goat, dismount, remove ribbon from the goat's tail and run on foot across the white line to stop time. The white line will be placed ten feet from the stake.
2. Ribbon must be in contestant's hand when crossing line. It is permissible to drop the ribbon and pick it up before crossing the line.
3. A five-foot rope must be used to hold goat to the stake.

GOAT FLANKING (7-9):

1. Rider must ride horse to goat, dismount, and flank the goat to the ground to stop the time.
2. Goat must be thrown by contestant. If goat is down prior to contestant touching the goat, the goat must be elevated high enough to regain its feet, then be thrown.
3. The contestant may go on to tie the goat for practice however will not be included in the time.
4. A five-foot rope must be used to hold goat to the stake.

GOAT TYING (10-13, 14-18, 19 & OVER):

1. Goat must be thrown by contestant. If goat is down prior to contestant touching, the goat the goat must be elevated high enough to regain its feet, then be thrown.
2. Any three legs of the goat must have at least one wrap around with simple knot, hooley, or half hitch.
3. Disqualifications include:
 - Horse crossing goat rope
 - Touching the goat after calling for time
4. A ten-foot rope must be used to hold goat to the stake.
5. Goat must stay tied for six seconds after contestant calls for time.

MEMBER USE OF THE ARENA:

1. Adult club members with a current signed release form and paid membership may use the arena except in the event gates are locked at the main entrance. This will occur anytime it rains or there is an event scheduled at the arena.
2. No one is allowed to turn on the lights at the arena unless an officer or director has given prior permission.
3. Anyone using the arena must pick up trash and help to keep the arena clean.
4. If barrels, poles, trail class items, stripping chute, etc. are set up in the arena, they must be removed before leaving.
5. Club will NOT provide insurance for any event held at the arena.
6. The entry gates to the arena grounds are to be kept closed at all times.

RENTING THE ARENA:

1. All outside renting groups will sign a facility rental agreement for each event. The agreement will outline the fees charged by ESC, which will be the greater of 20% of any gate charge/ sponsorship/ profit or \$100 per event day. Alternatively, the board can approve to itemize fees if only certain items are needed for rental. The rental agreement will be agreed upon by the board and signed by two officers and the rental party.
2. The club will always have the first chance to have the concession stand at any outside event.
3. All damages to the Eureka Saddle Club property are the responsibility of the renter and any damage must be returned to original state as found by the renter at the renter's expense.