



Event managers are responsible for ensuring that they identify and manage all risks associated to their event. This form will help event managers identify unsafe areas and sources of risk when hosting a ride and allow them to take precautions to manage them appropriately.

1. Volunteers

- The safety of volunteers has to be a top priority. They should all have basic knowledge of horse behavior and should be trained at their task.

2. Traffic

- Constricted conditions create hazards. Make sure that vehicle traffic and riders underway in competition are traveling well away from the vetting and P and R stations and holding areas and each other.
- Have distinct areas for both the Vets and the P and R cres
- In larger rides, it is best to have one person designated as the horse and rider mover to ensure that the flow works and that there is someone “on deck” waiting.
- Alternatively, the numbering system works well, so when participants come across the finish line they are given a card with a number on it for the post ride vetting.
- It is very important that midway is structured as carefully as the ride site.
- Vehicle traffic needs good signage and a traffic director.

3. Trail safety

- The trail map should be accurate. As much as possible have maps shown to scale, show north, indicate mileage markers on the map and on the trail for every 5 miles. Make sure to ride the trail on horseback to set timing. Consider use of GPS to help with mileage and map accuracy.
- Rides that are too fast or not properly timed are unsafe. The guidelines set maximum distances and speeds, which might not be the ideal for the terrain.
- Rides that are not marked carefully are unsafe because people get lost. A marking method is to use ribbons on clothespins, preferably on the right hand side of the trail. Two ribbons mark a turn and pie plates or paint on the ground can mark turns or trail blocks. Have a strategy for determining when someone is lost and for locating lost riders.
- The rulebook is very clear that all ride trail levels must be ridden in the time specified.

4. Dangerous horses

- BCCTRA scores and deducts for each infraction of bad behavior.
- Riders must not bring a horse to a ride that has known behavioral problems that could endanger a human or horse.

5. Be prepared

- Make sure one vet is prepared to handle emergency issues.
- Make sure that there is one truck and trailer ready to transport out of commission horses.
- The rules require that First Aid Kits be handy – again the volunteers should know this and know who has them and who is prepared to administer first aid.
- Have a written handout given to the ride organizers and volunteers to cover the names of people, cell phone numbers etc.