

BISHOP MULE DAYS COMPETITION HANDBOOK

RULES AND REGULATIONS

All participants, owners, and trainers agree to abide by the rules and regulations regarding the class descriptions as well as the information herein.

Upon entry every exhibitor, owner, trainer, person in care custody or control of an equine and all other Bishop Mule Days participants accept the facility and grounds including but not limited to the arenas, barns, stalls and track areas on an “as is” basis.

Bishop Mule Days Office Information:

Bishop Mule Days Celebration

1141 North Main Street

Bishop, California 93514

Email: info@muledays.org

Fax: 760 872 2328

Phone: 760 872 4263

Event Physical Location:

Tri -County Fairgrounds

475 Sierra Street

Bishop, California 93514

Entries

Entry forms can be found in the “contestant” section of www.muledays.org website. Please check the website for closing date of entries as well as the publishing deadline for entries. Entries may be done online by clicking the link for K&M Management or mailed to the BMD office. Entries that are sent by mail or faxed in will have a \$10 handling fee added.

Late entries will be accepted but will incur a \$30 late fee penalty, find those dates on the BMD webpage. Any classes with designated show or ride times might not be available for late entry. If a certain class is sold out, a waiting list will be created on a first come first serve basis. BMD show office will be accepting class entries, scratches, or changes during the show for equines that are currently entered. Apart from Pack Teams, Individual Packers, Steer Stopping and Roping classes that may be entered during the Divisions Meeting.

Exhibitor Fees

An office fee of \$50 will be charged for each equine entered. Office fees will also include one wristband per mule or two wristbands if it is a driving entry that requires a swamper. Office fees are non-refundable, no exceptions.

The wristbands are intended for people that will be physically interacting with the equines on the show grounds. Every person receiving a wristband must provide a signed liability release to the show office. These wristbands must be worn at all times by any person seeking access to the arenas or who is working with or around the equines. A wristband also serves as a general admission ticket to all arena seating during the entire event. A maximum of two additional wristbands may be pre-purchased by owner or exhibitor prior to the start of our event at a reduced fee of \$55.

State of California drug fee will be charged to each equine entry, if it is a driving team then two drug fees will be charged.

Cattle fees will be an additional charge to each entry and will be charged each time a class is entered involving cattle. Cattle fees are \$50 per class.

Jackpot fees are mandatory for each entry in a Jackpot class. All jackpots are 100% payback. Jackpot payouts will be issued to the equine owner on record at the time of entry deadline. Office will need a filled out IRS W9 form for all parties winning over \$650 before payouts will be issued.

Show Schedule

BMD tentative schedule of classes and events are listed at www.muledays.org and

Show Management reserves the right to change the schedule of classes before or during the show for the purpose of benefitting the overall operation of the event. Every effort will be made to maintain the schedule of classes as published. Should it become necessary to make any changes the show office will make every effort to notify exhibitors promptly.

Classes with three or less entries may be canceled or combined with another class at the discretion of show management. Entry fees will be reimbursed if management cancels a class.

It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to check in with gate officials on class start times and possible conflicts with other arenas. Some classes will have a drawn order of go while others will have an open order of go established by the gate official as the class proceeds. Any rail classes will take precedence over any drawn order of go or a class with a pattern.

Show Management can exclude any equine from a class should there be any unnecessary delay on the part of the exhibitor to bring their equine to the arena. Show management or the Judge reserves the right to excuse any exhibitor from a class that the equine appears to be unruly, unsafe, or injured.

Points

Ribbons will be given to 1st through 10th place. Prizes will be awarded to the 1st place winner in each class.

Point system is as follows: 1st place equals 20 points, 2nd place equals 18 points, 3rd place equals 16 points, 4th place equals 14 points, 5th place equals 12 points, 6th equals 10 points, 7th place equals 8 points, 8th place equals 6 points, 9th place equals 4 points, 10th place equals 2 points.

Results

Class results will be posted in a timely fashion at the show office and online. There will also be a binder where the Judges' sheets will be available. Please do not remove the pages. You may take pictures of the Judges' sheets. All Judges' decisions are final. Do not approach any of the Judges regarding their decisions or with questions without the approval from the Show Management or Show Chairman or Arena Steward during the event.

Amateur Division Eligibility

In order to compete in any amateur classes, exhibitors must fill out and submit the amateur declaration form found and listed on the BMD website. The amateur division is a one mule, one rider combination for the points to go towards the World Championship Amateur. An amateur exhibitor may show in non-Amateur classes if specific class requirements are met with the equipment.

Refunds

All sales are considered final. In cases of injury, illness, emergencies that prevent participation at BMD a partial refund may be considered. A written request needs to be sent to the BMD Office. Requests must be specific as to the circumstances and include any pertinent documents on the lack of attendance. The BMD Board of Directors will review the request at the next available meeting and make a decision. All decisions of the board are final and will be delivered within 30 days of their decision. Administrative fees are non-refundable, no exceptions.

Conflict of Interest

BMD Board members, staff and volunteers are not prohibited from owning, showing, training or otherwise being involved in competitive events. The BMD board of Directors will only become involved in protests or problem solving that the Show Management, Show Chairman is not able to resolve. If the BMD Board service is requested it will be done so in the form of selecting one or more Board Member that has no personal interest in the outcome of the dispute.

Protests

A formal protest must be initiated in the Show Office during the event. A form will be provided and must be completed, submitted as soon as possible but no later than 10:00 AM on the day after the conclusion of the show as well as \$100 must accompany any protest. If the issue cannot be resolved by the show management and show committee chairman then a committee of three or more with the Mule Days Board will convene to review and render decision of the protest submission. BMD will refund the protest fee only if the protest is successful.

Equine Housing

We offer box stalls, unshaded corrals, and shaded corrals. Requests for weekly equine housing must be submitted using the Equine Housing Reservation form found in the "contestant" section of the website, the stall map is available as well. www.muledays.org

If your Equine is staying on site overnight at any time during the event, you must purchase weekly equine housing. Equines may NOT stay the night in a trailer. Equines may NOT be tied at any time to the pipe corrals or hobbled in the barn or corral area.

Corrals are made of pipe, measure 12' x 12' and are connected without solid walls in between.

Packer Pens are large metal corrals that will house multiple equines.

Housing for Jacks must be a box stall. If box stalls become sold out, competitors shall forfeit a tack stall to accommodate.

Tack stall may be requested for use but are limited. Multiple contestants could possibly have to share a tack stall. Priority will be given for the purpose of equine housing in these stalls.

Specific stall/corals may be requested using the Equine Housing Reservation form and are to be turned in by a specific date noted on the BMD website. All other housing requests will be determined by a first come first served basis by submitting the housing form.

One person should submit group housing. Please list all equines that wish to stable together. Multiple payments will be accepted but all must be turned in at the same time as the housing form.

BMD will provide big roll off containers for the disposal of manure and bedding. Please do not put trash in the manure bins. BMD does not provide muck buckets, pitch forks or water hoses.

Feed and Bedding

Alfalfa/grass mix will be provided throughout the stall/corral area and is included in the housing cost. Hay is to be used to feed only the equines on site and not to be used as bedding. All hay on the show grounds is the property of BMD and is not to be removed at any time from the grounds.

Box stalls and shaded corrals will have bagged shaving provided. Shaded corrals on the asphalt will have rubber as well. Additional shavings will be available for purchase. Shavings on dirt or grass areas corrals is not permitted.

Arrival

Upon arrival at the fairgrounds all competitor should unload their equines in the assigned stall or corral then proceed to their camping or parking spaces. There will be no long-term parking in the barn area. Please display the parking pass given to you by BMD staff on your dashboard at all times.

Equine Health Requirements

Equines entering the state of California are required to show a proof of certificate of veterinary inspection completed within 30 days. All equines from out of state must show a negative Coggins test performed in the last 12 months.

All competitors will be asked to sign an **Equine Health Declaration** at the show office prior to picking up their show numbers.

BMD requires the proper care handling and treatment of Animals while on the show grounds. Owners are responsible for their animals and always keeping them under control. All equines and livestock on and the grounds are subject to examination by BMD designated staff or state official for determination of possible infection or inhumane treatment. Officials may examine the equine to see if it has been infected or exposed or are likely to be infected with an infectious or contagious disease. If after examination officials have reason to believe that the animals health condition places other animals at risk such officials at their own discretion may

quarantine such animals or if appropriate require that such animals be transported off the grounds.

Code of Conduct

BMD reserves the right to refuse entry to any contestant or equines. BMD reserves the right to disqualify any contestants or equines for not abiding by these rules or breaching the BMD code of conduct. We request our exhibitors, trainers, families, and staff behave in a businesslike manner during their time at BMD. This is necessary for all that are attending, working, or viewing BMD. We are a live feed production and the abuse of any animals or humans on the property shall not be tolerated.

Intentional or negligent treatment of any animal deemed by BMD officials as inhumane or abusive they may result in that person being removed from the show grounds for a period of time determined by the executive board committee including but not limited to a permanent ban from all future Mule Days events. All participants agree fully to cooperate with the officials and abide by their decisions and instructions. Failing to do so shall be grounds for the participants immediate expulsion from the grounds, disciplinary action by BMD and or possible action by local state or federal officials and agencies.

Operation of Vehicles

Vehicles must be operated by licensed drivers within a safe and reasonable speed limit on the fairgrounds. Fire lanes and access roads must always remain clear, along with any marked areas in which vehicle traffic is prohibited or controlled.

There shall be no personal golf carts, recreational vehicles, rhinos, etc. operated on the property, unless written permission is given by the Barns Stalls Manager. Mobility devices for handicapped persons must be operated at a walking speed only.

Equines and Dogs Management

No equines should be turned loose in any arena on the grounds at any time. Round Pens are available for exhibitor use in the barn area. Equines may be turned loose therein but should not be left unattended. Please be considerate and limit your time so others can use it.

Dogs are not permitted on the fairgrounds unless they are under leash control 100% of the time unless they are with the owner in a confined area in their assigned camping space. Dogs are prohibited at all times around any of the arenas during the competition.

Overnight Camping

There are designated areas for RV parking, camping, parking close to the barns and corral areas specifically for competitors, owners, and trainers within the fairgrounds. Spaces are sold once for the entire length of the event and the site opens at noon on the Sunday prior to the event starting. Showers are available on site. Please check the BMD website for types of dry camping

or priority overnight camping spaces available. Generators will only be allowed to run between the hours of 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM.

Tack-Up Trailer Parking

A limited number of parking spaces exist close to the barn and corral area for equine trailers intended for contestants who “tack up” from their trailer. These spaces must be requested using the exhibitor housing trailering form. They are assigned by BMD office staff based on need, availability and size. Overnight camping in the “tack up” area is not allowed at any time.

Trailer Parking Storage

Free parking for horse trailers is available on the grassy parking lot at the entrance to the fairgrounds. Equines are not allowed in this parking area or tied to the trailers in the free parking area.

Daily Haul-In Parking

Exhibitors who plan to enter fairgrounds daily with their equines in a trailer, must obtain a designated parking location and permit from the show office at a one-time \$40 fee. They should be requested in advance of the event starting using the exhibitor class entry form. No overnight parking allowed with this type of parking pass.