



RULES and REGULATIONS

Oregon Rescue Challenge 2019

PURPOSE

Oregon Rescue Challenge (“ORC”) has collaborated to design an event that brings professional-level training to rescue horses, both domestically-bred and wild, from Horse Rescues across the state of Oregon. The goal is to develop trust and skill sets which will make these horses adoptable and successful. ORC will offer a showcase to proudly present these horses to adopters at the culmination of the event.

These Rules and Regulations govern the conduct and structure of the event “Oregon Rescue Challenge”, from the introduction to the adoption of horses.

OVERVIEW

- Oregon 501(c)(3) horse rescues (“the Rescue”) and government entities are invited to enter and participate in Oregon Rescue Challenge.

- Documents and event information is available at www.OregonRescueChallenge.com.

- Trainers not associated with a rescue will request that ORC place them on a trainer list which will be made available to the Rescues. Trainers will be selected by the Rescue to train and represent their horse. Trainers will be notified after applications have been reviewed. Rescues and trainers are in charge of their own relationship, and applications to be a trainer must go directly to the Rescue.

- Horses and trainer teams will participate in a Compulsory, Handling and Conditioning, Obstacle Course and a Freestyle class. They will represent a variety of ages, conformation types, sizes, colors, breeds and training levels. In many cases, exact ages are not known.

Horses must be at least 4 years old to compete. If the exact age of the horse is unknown, the Rescue must have a veterinarian certify an approximate age.

- All horse assignments will be considered final unless extenuating circumstances exist, wherein the Rescue and Trainer may negotiate an exchange of the horse or some other solution.

- **A horse pick-up opportunity will be given to all trainers on February 28, 2019 (for 120 days of training) and it is strongly** encouraged that trainers transport their horses on or near this date. Pick up can be NO EARLIER than February 22, 2019 and NO LATER than March 9, 2019.

- During the event a panel of accomplished horse experts will assess horses and trainers. Event outlines for the event will be posted online or mailed to trainers on request.



- Cash prizes will be awarded to top Finalists. Amounts to be announced.
- The event organizers are committed to the promotion of rescued horses to the highest level of training appropriate for the individual horse.
- **All competing horses must be made available for adoption.** Pre-adoptions are not allowed, however ORC encourages the Rescues to allow potential adopters to meet the horses. All horses will be available for adoption by competitive bid at the end of the event. Trainers must bid on their horses if they are interested in adopting them. Trainers should have a proxy bidder available at the event. Buyers who are unable to attend the event for any reason must be represented by a proxy bidder, or can contact a member of the ORC board with their maximum bid for proxy bidding.

ENTRY

- Entry fee for the event is \$175.00 per horse/trainer team, to be paid by the Rescue.
- Applications for trainer/horse teams are due **NO LATER THAN JANUARY 15, 2019**. Mail applications to:
Sarah Hockett PO Box 1527 Bend, Oregon 97703 or
Sarah@OregonRescueChallenge.com
Fax: 541.706.9922

The application packet **MUST** include the following:

For RESCUE:

- Rescue application
- Liability forms
- Signed copy of the Trainer/Rescue agreement
- \$175.00 per horse. Checks should be made out to Oregon Rescue Challenge or paid through donation link on ORC website (www.oregonrescuechallenge.com)
- Logo, Mission statement and Rescue Bio

For TRAINER:

- Photo and bio of the Trainer (email photo or text photo)
- Trainer application
- Liability Forms

- Trainers may only train one (1) horse for competition. Rescues may only enter up to two (2) horses per rescue, with possibility of additional horses at ORC discretion.



After selection, the Rescue and the Trainer must negotiate additional terms including but not limited to:

- Additional payment to the Trainer
- Reimbursement for veterinary services
- Trainer showing the horse at events other than the Oregon Rescue Challenge
- Care, custody, and control liability
- Reimbursement for vet & farrier services and feed.
- For the purpose of the trainer's liability insurance, the rescue will be deemed the "owner" of the horse.
- Commission amount for adoption of horse.

A signed (by both Trainer and Rescue representative) copy of this agreement must be submitted to ORC.

COMPENSATION

- In addition to prize money, trainers competing in the Oregon Rescue Challenge should receive 25% commission of adoption price. A RESCUE may determine that a Trainer may receive more than 25% commission, but NOT LESS than 25%.

The minimum Adoptive Bid Price will start at \$750, BUT may not go below \$500. IF a horse is not adopted at \$500, then it will be returned back to the home Rescue

- ORC will not mandate a compensation required for the Rescues to give the Trainers; however, the ORC expects that the Rescue assist with the costs of feeding, medical care, teeth floating, farrier work, etc of the horse while it may be off their property with the Trainer, as the horse is still the property of the Rescue.

TRAINER REQUIREMENTS

- Trainers (Trainer of Record) must be 18 years of age or older as of February 1, 2019. However, trainers are encouraged to use a team approach as appropriate, to engage less-experienced persons, young people, and/or subject experts to achieve the highest success and adoptability of the horse. Minors may compete as trainers if they have a mentor trainer that is of the age of majority, and all the appropriate paperwork and liability forms are filled out.

- No substitution or replacement of approved Trainer of Record will be allowed unless by specific permission of ORC and the Rescue.

- If, for any reason, the Trainer is unable to complete the training and participate in the event competition, the Trainer is responsible for returning the horse to their Rescue.



- **Social Media & Update Requirements:** Trainers will also be required to submit updates on horses training progress and photos at 30, 60, 90, and 120 days, and as requested by ORC. A point system will be employed to encourage participation and will be rewarded in a manner to be announced at a later date.

REGULATIONS

- Participation in this event is by invitation only: ORC has the unqualified right to determine eligibility and can, at any time, remove an applicant or contestant from this event for any reason or for no reason.

- Any applicant, Rescue or selected trainer may be removed from the selection process or competition at any time if found to have any undisclosed alleged history of cruelty to animals or humans. Removal of any trainer from the application process or competition is at the discretion of ORC.

If a trainer has disclosed information of alleged cruelty or conviction, and has provided sufficient explanation and/or proof of expungement and/or sufficient time has passed with no additional incidents and has proven to the ORC Committee that they are training using natural horsemanship training methods with continuing education, then the ORC Committee can make a determination of participation.

- Any trainer or Rescue, by his/her agreement to the terms of the event, agrees to representatives of ORC conducting in-person welfare/progress checks at the trainer's premises or any property on which the horse resides for any period of time. Trainers will be offered professional mentoring at 30, 60, and 90 day marks, or as needed. Trainers can decline mentorship but not evaluation of their horse.

- ORC may at any time conduct a criminal background check on applicants/approved trainers/rescue or remove any applicant/approved trainer from the process for any reason or for no reason.

TRANSPORT AND TRAINING

- Trainers must meet all requirements listed below for hauling and stabling.

- **Trailer Requirements:** Approved trainers must provide transportation for their horse from the Rescue to their facility, and to the adoption event. While someone else may transport the animal, all trainers must meet these minimum standards: covered top, sturdy walls/floors, and a smooth interior free from any sharp protrusions; ample head room, removable partitions or compartments to separate animals by size and sex, if necessary; floor covered with a non-skid material; and adequate ventilation. Rear doors should be swing type; no drop ramps. Divided two-horse trailers and trucks with stock racks are not acceptable.

-**When Your Horse Gets Home – Property Suggestion:** Training facility can consist of a corral/



paddock/stall/round pen, with a combined 400 square feet minimum space to which horse has 24/7 access. Facility must be sturdy and constructed of materials such as poles, pipes, or planks (minimum 1.5 inch thickness) without dangerous protrusions. Barbed wire and stranded materials are unacceptable for fencing. The horse should not be released into a large open area, such as a pasture, since re-capture may not be possible in order to provide training or veterinary care. However, once the animal is gentled, it may be released into a pasture or similar large area. Shelter must be provided; minimally a 2-sided shelter with a roof, well drained, adequately ventilated and easily accessible. Tarps are not acceptable. Wild Horses require a minimum 6-foot height for all working pens until the horse is gentled. This may apply to Thoroughbreds and domestically-bred others according to their individual response to training. If 6-foot panels are not available, 5-foot panels can be extended to achieve more height. NO CURVED CORNER PANELS will be accepted in either working or holding pens, unless this danger is mitigated by placing 2 x 6s vertically in the joints or by other acceptable measures. ORC representative(s) may come to inspect training facilities after horses have been picked up.

- All aspects of horse training associated with this event must be humane and compassionate. Rescue horses typically bear the scars of abuse, which can make them more sensitive and reactive to conventional training methods. "Least resistance" techniques are strongly encouraged. Humane care and best interest of the horse are paramount. The trainer is responsible for the well-being and humane treatment of any horse entrusted to his/her care for the duration of the event and associated interaction and transport. Trainers are expected to contact the horse Rescue and ORC to report any health issues with the horse so that proper veterinary care can be administered. Any suspected inhumane treatment of horses should be reported to ORC immediately with potential consequences as outlined in our Humane Treatment Policy.

- ORC, their Executive Board, all affiliated persons and entities, and the Rim Rock Riders Event Center (RRR) and their Executive Board, shall be held harmless for any injury, death, or damage to persons, horses, or property as a result of participation in the Oregon Rescue Challenge Trainer Challenge or associated activities. Selected trainers must sign a liability release form.

COMPETITION

- The purpose of this event is to showcase the talent and ability of rescue horses and to provide an opportunity for trainers and horses to engage in safe competition for prize money, awards, and professional recognition. Therefore, all horses entered into the event competition should be gentle and safe to maneuver through the show grounds. Upon entry onto the show grounds, should a horse be deemed unsafe by ORC or ORC representative, that horse may be excused or uninvited to participate in the competition and adoption. The trainer should exercise their best judgment regarding the safety of their horse and should inform the ORC and the Rescue of any safety concerns.



- Trainers transporting horses across State lines are responsible for obtaining Coggins and Equine Passport and Brand Inspection (if applicable) test results and must submit these to ORC prior to the event competition. The rescue/ owner of the horse will must give permission for the horse to be transported out of state and will agree to pay for costs incurred.
- Upon entry onto the show grounds, competing horses may be examined by a veterinarian or knowledgeable individual to determine the health and condition of the horse. Should a horse be deemed in poor condition, that horse may be excused or uninvited to participate in the event competition. Trainers will be apprised of the elements of the veterinary exam so they may prepare their horses for elements such as rectal temperature and trot out, etc.
- One stall will be provided with one bag of shavings at the event. Additional shavings will be available for purchase from Rimrock Riders (“RRR”). The rescue will pay for additional shavings if deemed necessary. Additional stalls and tack stalls are available at \$20/night payable to ORC.
- Trainers are responsible for bringing all tack, feed, and supplies needed during the event competition, with additional hay to transition horse into new adoptive home.
- Competition schedule and additional details to be announced.
- Winners will be announced following the competition.



CONDUCT

- Conduct shall be orderly, responsible, sportsmanlike and humane in the treatment of horses, so as to promote the viability of rehabilitating abused and neglected horses and to reflect well upon the event coordinators and sponsors. This includes, but is not limited to: conduct while trainers have horses in their possession; conduct on the show grounds; conduct while trainers are wearing event-identifiable clothing off the show grounds; and includes the conduct of individuals traveling with trainers, spectators, or event managers and other persons being present on show grounds. Any alleged unsportsmanlike or irresponsible conduct or any form of misconduct, such as illegal, indecent or profane, and inhumane treatment of horses are prohibited and shall be grounds for disciplinary action against offending individuals. Further, event management may immediately expel offenders from the event competition or show grounds in order to preserve the decorum of the event.

HUMANE TREATMENT POLICY

Every horse and all animals shall, at all times, be treated humanely and with dignity, respect, and compassion. Any participant using abusive or excessive training techniques or being inhumane to a horse in his/her care may be removed from the event competition and/or all future contests and training programs. If a trainer's horse enters the event competition or if the trainer at any time presents a horse with questionable training/care related injuries the trainer may be removed from the event competition and/or all future contests and training programs. This policy is in addition to our event rules which are stated above. All trainers agree to this Humane Treatment Policy by their signature on the Trainer Application. The following list, while in no way exhaustive, includes examples of unacceptable behavior and training techniques:

- *No horse which appears to be emaciated, drawn, or injured may be exhibited.*
- *Use of inhumane training techniques or methods such as striking horse with objects, excessive spurring, and/or excessive jerking of reins.*
- *Any inhumane treatment which results in wounds.*