

# SADDLE SORE RIDERS, Inc.

NORCO, CALIFORNIA

JANUARY 2007

## GENERAL TRAIL RULES

The Board of Directors of the SADDLE SORE RIDERS, Inc. adopted the following rules. These rules are intended to help make our riders safe, enjoyable and to promote trail etiquette.

- Stay on the trail between appointed lead (Trail Boss) and Drag Rider. Do not leave the ride or trail without notifying one or the other.
- Do not take short cuts. Trails can only be kept open and usable by their use, but short cuts help defeat this purpose. Heavy rains follow the ruts made by short cuts and wash out landscape and designated trails.
- Keep up the pace on the trail. Do not race or run your horse past other horses. Do not lag behind. When passing another rider, ask for permission to do so, or in some way notify the riders ahead that you wish to pass. As horses pull over to be passed, proceed at a walk or jog trot.
- Maintain a safe distance between horses. When horses crowd together, they may kick or bite. When riding up or down hill or on narrow trails, two (2) horse lengths spacing is strongly recommended. If you tailgate and are kicked, it's your fault. **IF YOUR HORSE HAS A TENDENCY TO KICK, TIE A RED RIBBON TO IT'S TAIL TO WARN OTHERS, OR BETTER YET, CORRECT THIS DANGEROUS HABIT.**
- Horses may be hobbled or they should be tied by a halter and lead line short enough to prevent the horse from rolling and strong enough to restrain the horse and avoid a "loose horse" wreck. Do not tie too close to another horse. Tie to fixed objects not apt to break or scare the horse if it pulls back. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE CAUSED BY YOUR HORSE.**

- Never throw trash on the trail. All refuse must be carried out with you. All we want to leave behind is hoof prints.
- Smoking while riding is strongly discouraged. If smoking while mounted is unavoidable, riders must take all precautions to ensure that their smokes are extinguished and butts are carried out as refuse.
- At watering places avoid being criticized for bad manners or being inconsiderate of other riders by allowing your horse to jump in and muddy up the water. Crossing streams on the “down-stream” side will help avoid this.
- Don’t stop on narrow trails, especially ledge trails. The Trail Boss will try not to stop unless it is safe for all riders.
- At no time, regardless of ownership, will anyone be allowed to neglect or abuse their horse. As members of the SADDLE SORE RIDERS, Inc. dedicated to the horse, our conduct as horsemen must be above reproach.
- When on the trail, questions or problems should be brought to the attention of the Trail Boss or Outriders. Concerning *safety* and the *comfort* of everyone on the trail, they are the ultimate authority and will have the final say in all matters.
- Only SADDLE SORE RIDERS in good standing may function as Outriders. When possible, Outriders should attend the event “pre-ride” to become familiar with trail routes and hazards.
- The Trail Boss, Outriders, Officers and Directors shall assist in ensuring safe conduct of all riding events.
- The Trail Boss may expel anyone from the riding event if the situation warrants. Should this unfortunate situation occur, the Trail Boss is requested to notify available SSR Officers or Board Members prior to the expulsion so that all parties understand the circumstances of the removal and provide witness to the action.
- Offensive behavior will not be tolerated. Members are responsible for the conduct of their guests.

- All horses must be under saddle and have a rider. ***“Ponying”*** will not be permitted. For clarification, bareback and saddle pads are inappropriate substitutes for a saddle and will not be permitted.
- Double riders in any combination will not be permitted.
- No stallions/studs allowed at any club event.
- Members are responsible for making their guest aware of the above General Trail Rules.