



Brushy Creek Saddle Club



2024 Welcome Newsletter



Welcome to the Brushy Creek Saddle Club (BCSC)! We are excited about the year ahead. In hopes to get you up to speed on happenings and membership expectations we have put together a member packet.

Included in your member packet:

- General Rules
- Event Patterns
- Sponsorship Letter and Sponsorship Pledge

Within this letter and package, we have also provided dates for our planned activities, rule changes and reinforcements and a few other important updates for the 2024 season. Please read them closely and reach out to a BCSC officer if you have any questions.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Spring Fling (Membership Drive)

February 10, 2024

Series

#1 - March 9, 2024

#2 - April 13, 2024

#3 - May 11, 2024

#4 - June 8, 2024

#5 - July 13, 2024

#6 - August 10, 2024

#7 - September 14, 2024

Make-up Date - October 12, 2024

Other:

Buckle Challenge – October 5, 2024

Awards Banquet – December 8, 2024

2024 BCSC OFFICERS

President: Daryl Meinardus

Vice President: Ashley Morgan

Treasurer: Melissa Gates

Secretary: Albert Mersch

Award Chairperson: Scott Gates

Playday Chairperson: Daryl Meinardus

Royalty Chairperson: Melissa Gates

Past President: Lauren Ischy



RULE CHANGES AND REINFORCEMENTS

Providing a fun and safe environment for our members to promote Horsemanship, Sportsmanship and Citizenship is why we are here. Please be familiar with the BCSC General Rules and AASP&RC Bylaws. Below are new rules and reminders of the general rules that sometimes get overlooked. These rules will be strictly enforced this year, so please be familiar with them. Any questions regarding rules and enforcement should be directed to Daryl Meinardus (President) or Ashley Morgan (Vice President).

- **ALCOHOL POLICY:** At no time will alcohol be allowed in the arena or anywhere on the church property. Repercussions will be at the discretion of the BCSC officers, which could include:
 - disqualification or dismissal from the playday with no refund of playday registration fees; and/or
 - probation, suspension, and/or dismissal from the club for the remainder of the season with no refund of playday registration and club membership fees.If violator is family member of a rider or guest of member family, repercussions could include the disqualification or dismissal from the playday of all riders from that family with no refund of playday registration fees.
- **Judging:** Event judging will be conducted by those 16 years of age or older. This rule also applies to non-riders who judge on behalf of a rider.
- **Horse Rule:** Horses can be shared if the horse isn't entered in 2 saddle eligible/qualifying classes. Therefore, a horse can be shared by riders for 1 saddle eligible/qualifying event and 1 non-saddle eligible/qualifying event, OR 1 saddle eligible/qualifying ride per event if shared by 2 saddle eligible/qualifying contestants. A violation of this rule will disqualify all sharing riders for daily high point and end of year awards.
- **Horse Rule:** A rider may enter a different horse for each event provided they identify them and provide the proper documentation to the club during playday registration (Name, valid Coggins, etc), however the rider may compete in each event only once.
- Books open at 8:00 am (all events), close at 9:00am for Leadline (Assisted Super Pee Wee) and 9:30am for all other age groups. Leadline will start promptly at 9:30am.
- **Once the first event of the day begins, no registration fees - including office and arena fees - will be refunded.**
- **Work requirements:** Each rider or his/her designated delegate is required to work one "work event" during each playday. In the event the competing rider or their delegate does not work, his/her day points will be voided (i.e., no points for the playday). After each playday, a BCSC officer will validate that all riding members worked or had a designated person work for them. There will be a work roster to track this. This is an effort to minimize those who do not work at the playdays but receive awards at the end of the playday or season.
- **Work exemptions for the playday** can be obtained by paying \$50 per rider to one of the BCSC officers. This is in effect for each playday. If a family has more than one rider, then it is \$50 for each rider to obtain work exemption for the entire family for that playday.
- **Work Roster information:**
 - The only people authorized to be in the announcer booth will be the BCSC officers and others as approved by the BCSC officers on an as-needed basis. This is an effort to minimize distractions. If club members have concerns regarding the event times, they will present their concerns to the BCSC officers in a tactful manner. If it is deemed necessary, this may result in the members expressing this concern to be present in the

- announcer booth to review and verify the clock and point sheet for the entire playday – not just for their family members when they ride.
- The Alley Judge position will ensure nobody is standing at the entrance to the alley or in the alley itself while a rider is performing in the arena. The Alley Judge will also ensure no unnecessary people are in the arena while a rider is performing in the arena. There should be no excess people in the arena - immediate family members only while their rider is performing.
 - The Event Set-up/Break Down will be included in the responsibilities of the judges for each event. Therefore, the judges in each event will also be responsible for setting up and breaking down the event they are judging.
 - **Dress Code: Riding attire is the responsibility of the rider. For the safety of the rider, we require jeans, shirts, and heeled boots. Shorts and open-toed shoes are not permitted. If the officers believe your clothing is inappropriate, you will be asked to change your clothing or leave the premises. No bareback riggings or pads. Decision in all classes concerning competition attire, tack, or safety is final.**
 - **Alley Rules: The BCSC Playday Chairman may disqualify a rider if a horse and rider are not in control when exiting the arena. This includes horse and rider at a walking pace prior to exiting the alley after completing their run for the event.** This rule will be strictly enforced.
 - Cancellation/Weather Policy: In the event of severe or bad weather, the playday may be cancelled. Final determination of cancellation will be determined by the BCSC President and/or BCSC officers. If the playday has already started, and at least 3 events have been completed for all age groups, the playday will be considered completed. Points will be awarded on a pro-rated basis as if all 5 events were completed. If less than 3 events have been completed (for all age groups), the playday will be cancelled and rescheduled.
 - NO TOLERANCE POLICY for harassment of BCSC officers, judges, or club members (remember we are all volunteers). Misconduct may include profane language; public display of drinking or drunkenness; not following facility use rules; cruelty to horse or rider; or lack of horsemanship, sportsmanship, or citizenship at any BCSC activity, and will not be tolerated. Repercussions will be at the discretion of the BCSC officers based on the circumstances, which could include:
 - disqualification or dismissal from the playday with no refund of playday registration fees; and/or
 - probation, suspension, and/or dismissal from the club for the remainder of the season with no refund of playday registration and club membership fees.

Protests: Any rider (if minor, then legal guardian) may file a protest for review against a judge's call in any of the events. The following rules must be followed for consideration of any formal protest:

- Rider must file protest immediately following their ride (not several events later).
- Rider must first put up a \$25.00 protest fee which is refundable to them if protest is in their favor. If protest is not in their favor, protest fee will be applied towards year end awards.
- Protests must be filed with the BCSC Playday Chairman or BCSC Secretary.
- All formally filed protests require conference with BCSC President and/or the BCSC Secretary and both event judges present during the run under protest. The conference will not be hosted in the presence of the protester or other members.
- The BCSC President or BCSC Secretary is responsible for final determination of the protest and will deliver the results of the protest to appropriate parties

The BCSC officers spent a lot of time watching our members and listening to our members during past seasons. Your input has helped prioritize some changes. Please be familiar with these changes.

Sponsorship and Fundraising

Sponsors are needed for the 2024 season!!! Please seek out sponsors to help with the club end of year awards and other expenses.

All monies from sponsorships and fundraising are used to purchase high point awards for each of our playdays as well as the end of the year awards. A Sponsorship form is included with this welcome letter and will be available at the registration table or on the BCSC website.

Additional fundraising efforts will be coordinated for 2024. Please ask BCSC officers or royalty for additional details throughout the year. Suggestions are always welcome.

Helpers Needed

BCSC needs your help during the 2024 season. MANY HANDS, MAKE LIGHT WORK!!! Just a little help from everyone makes the day go much quicker! Please reach out to an officer if you would like to find out information on how you can go above and beyond to help.

Closing Remarks

In closing, a few other friendly reminders and FYIs:

- Registration tables will be disassembled once books close.
- Unassisted Super Pee Wee will be eligible for the same awards as older age groups if all other eligibility requirements are met. Class fees will also be modified to align with older age groups.
- Please be at the arena and ready within 3 riders of your scheduled run time. This includes exhibition runs. If we have enough volunteers, we hope to have someone assisting with contestant line up to keep things running smoothly.
- Ribbons will be available for pickup on a dashboard in a location designated by the BCSC officers. **Do not come to the tower for ribbons.**
- Registration, time keeping and announcing will take place in the announcer's booth. Only persons delegated for those efforts will be permitted in the announcer's booth.
- Please invite your friends to come ride with BCSC. We welcome all levels of riding and look forward to our club family growing!
- Trash: You must pick up trash and all major trash cans need to be emptied and placed in the dumpster before you leave for the day. If trash is not put in the big dumpster, the club will be charged from \$25-50 dollars per playday as a service fee.

We look forward to a fun 2024 season and are excited to get to know all of our new and returning families. As mentioned, if you have any questions or concerns about any existing or new rules, please reach out to a BCSC officer.

The BCSC website is www.brushycreeksaddleclub.com

The BCSC Facebook page is www.facebook.com/brushycreeksaddleclub/

