

Trail Obstacle Challenge Championship

At The



Hosted by:

Southern Obstacle
Challenge Association

Saturday, November 14, 2015

WHERE YOU AND YOUR
HORSE CAN HAVE FUN!

Registration Open from 9:00 to 10:00 am
Course Opens at 10:00 a.m. and there will be a
posted order of go. If you want to ride out with
someone, please state this on your entry form.

Double Point Event toward
SOCA High Point Buckles!

The challenge consists of 15 obstacles such as
water crossings, side-pass, tarps, bridges, back
through and other interesting obstacles.
Horses will be scored on how well they negotiate
each one.



Divisions - Youth, Novice Horse & Rider, Non-Pro,
Posse, Open Elite and Green Horse.

Obstacles are spaced out so you can enjoy riding
with your friends in between, but they must be
done in numerical order! Come enjoy the day!!

Prizes & ribbons in all divisions, payback in all
divisions except Green Horse.
Open to all horses, mules, and riders.

Pre-entries suggested & appreciated!

SOCA Member Entry Fee: \$40.00
+ \$5 Grounds Fee Per Horse, if not stalled
Non-SOCA Member Entry Fee: \$50.00
+ \$5 Grounds Fee Per Horse, if not stalled

Negative Coggins and Signed
Liability Releases Required

Helmets required for all riders in
the youth division.

Limited Camping & Stalls Available
for overnight guests.

Proceeds from this event
will benefit the Marion
Therapeutic Riding
Association
(See Attached)



Florida Horse Park
11008 South Highway 475
Ocala, FL 34480

www.southernobstaclechallenges.com
Phone - 352-217-2448 or email
southernobstaclechallenges@gmail.com

CONFIDENCE

While many equestrian competitors believe that the rider instills confidence in the horse, at Marion Therapeutic Riding Association, we watch the horses transfer their confidence to our riders. Until you've watched a non-verbal autistic child utter their first words from horseback, or watched a PTSD veteran enjoying a quiet ride with a smile, you simply don't realize the true greatness in our special four-legged friends to transfer their strength and confidence to a human friend. Our volunteers have described these events as their most rewarding moments with us and the reason they keep coming back for more.

For over 30 years, MTRA has been fostering miracles with horses. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and sponsors, an amazing team of nearly 100 volunteers, and a devoted staff, we hope to continue this work for many more years to come.

Visit our website to learn the many ways you can lend a hand—it's easier than you think, and many small efforts combine to make huge things happen.

We would especially like to thank the **Southern Obstacle Challenge Association** for supporting us with the proceeds from this event.



Marion Therapeutic Riding Association, Inc.
6850 SE 41st Ct., Ocala, FL 34480
352-732-7300
www.MTRAocala.org

MTRA is Premier Accredited by



SOCA Trail Obstacle Challenge Championship Entry Form – 11/14/15
(one rider & horse/mule/donkey per form)

Rider's Name: _____

Horse/Mule/Donkey Name: _____

Breed of Horse _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Alternate Phone (____) _____ Riding with: _____

Age of Rider: _____

Age of Horse: _____

Circle one category:

Youth
Novice Horse & Rider

Non-Pro
Open Elite

Posse
Green Horse

Entry Fee: \$40 SOCA Members \$50 Non-Members \$ _____

Grounds Fee: \$5 Per Horse, unless you purchase a stall \$ _____

SOCA Membership (optional) Individual (\$10) \$ _____

Entry fee subtotal (add in membership fee if joining) \$ _____

Camping/Stalls Arrival & Departure dates: ___/___ to ___/___

_____ Campsites @ \$30 per night \$ _____

_____ Stalls @ \$40 per night (includes stripping) \$ _____

_____ Primitive Camping @ \$10 per night \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

Before November 9th:

Entry form and payment mailed to:

SOCA
PO Box 1479
Bushnell, FL 33513

After November 9th:

Email Entries to:

southernobstaclechallenges@gmail.com

or fax to:

352-568-3351

CURRENT NEGATIVE COGGINS REQUIRED for all equines to be admitted to Florida Horse Park property, no exceptions.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY: After the Challenge, we will refund camping, stalls or entry fees if notice is received before the start of the event.

Please sign the SOCA Release form attached - Thank you!!

For Office Use Only

Paid: \$ _____

Ck _____ Cash _____

Release Form

(one must be signed by each participant and mailed with entry)

I understand horseback riding & related activities are very dangerous & involve the risk of serious injury &/or death, &/or property damage, including injury &/or death to horses, spectators & others. I understand that our horse(s), by being on Florida Horse Park property, may be exposed to harmful bacteria & viruses, & I assume the risk of possible exposure. Attempting obstacles and participating in obstacle challenges can be dangerous and involve the risk of serious injury or death. Accordingly, I agree any activity engaged in by me while participating in activities with the Southern Obstacle Challenge Association Florida Horse Park will be done at my own risk. Accordingly, I release & agree to hold harmless the Southern Obstacle Challenge Association and Rocking Horse Stables, the lessees, their officers & directors & the owner of the property & any & all persons or entities who are guarantors or indemnitors of the above, all agents, employees, & promoters, sponsors, other riders, horse owners, advertisers, sales persons, photographers, volunteers, (hereinafter called "Releasees") for all liability for negligence or otherwise. I assume full responsibility for the risk of bodily injury, illness, death of myself &/or horse(s), & any other property damage due to the negligence of Releasees or otherwise while on premises or engaged in horseback riding related activities, &/or while training, riding, competing, officiating, observing, teaching, working for, or for any purpose related to horseback riding, eventing or participating as a rider or spectator in such activities. I agree not to sue any Releasees & I release & agree to indemnify Releasees from & for all liability for the undersigned, his/her person, representatives, assignees, heirs, & demands therefore on account of injury to the person, or property or death of the undersigned whether caused by negligence of the Releasees or otherwise. I agree that this Release, Waiver & Indemnity Agreement is intended to be as broad & inclusive as is permitted by the law of this state where these activities are conducted, and if any part hereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall continue in full force & effect.

I have read & voluntarily signed the Release & Waiver of Liability & Indemnity Agreement & further agree that no oral representations, statements or inducements, apart from the foregoing written agreements, have been made nor shall be made except by a written and signed Addendum.

WARNING: Under Florida law (Statute 773.04), an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities.

Signature of Rider (19 or older) Date Signature of Parent or Guardian (18 & under)

Printed Name of Rider

Printed Name of Parent or Guardian

SOCA Obstacle Challenge - Rules & General Information

EVERY person attending the Challenge (participant or observer) is responsible for knowing & abiding by these rules.

- SAFETY is first and foremost in this event. Please be careful. If your horse gets upset with any obstacle, it is better to pass than to try to force him to do something that will scare him or result in injury to horse or rider. At times there are unique obstacles, you are not forced to do anything that you are not comfortable with. Simply tell the judge that you will pass and they will record a zero for that obstacle.
- Each rider must pick up their own score card at registration. You will not be permitted to access the course and navigate obstacles without an official score card. Carry your score card with you on the course. It is each rider's responsibility to present the card to and collect it from each judge. When your last obstacle is scored, that judge will keep your card and turn in to the scoring team.
- It is mandatory that all riders 16 years and younger be helmeted at all times when on horseback on Florida Horse Park property. All competitors in the Youth division are required to wear helmets, regardless of age.
- All competitors must wear boots or closed toe shoes.
- The obstacle judges have an obligation to ensure safety. If a judge determines a situation is not safe, their word is **FINAL**. If a judge asks you to not continue with a particular obstacle, you must obey that request and withdraw from the obstacle. **Arguing with the judges is not allowed** and will be grounds for dismissal from the Challenge and perhaps from the property.
- This is a family event, we ask that you please watch your language!
- Riding double is NOT allowed on the premises due to liability risk.
- All horses must have some type of bridle, halter, Indian bit or headgear for control and some type of saddle or bare-back pad that has a girth and stirrups. Bareback and bridle-less riding is not allowed. Tie downs, draw reins or martingales are optional, but a minimum of two points per obstacle will be deducted when used.
- Each horse and rider must negotiate obstacles on their own, one at a time, at a walk, unless a gait is specified for that obstacle. You may not follow another horse through an obstacle.
- Riders MUST stay mounted while negotiating an obstacle. A dismount will result in a zero score for that obstacle. [unless dismounting is part of the obstacle]
- Each obstacle has a one-minute (60 second) completion time limit. Please exit when asked, judge will alert you when time is up.
- Scoring will be based on a scale of 0 to 10, with 10 being the best and full point increments being awarded at the judges discretion:
 - **Score of 9-10:** Horse moves willingly toward and through the obstacle with relaxed, forward movements. NO hesitation and NO obvious encouragement from the rider, completes the obstacle.
 - **Score of 7-8:** Horse moves forward willingly with only one or two slight hesitations. Some subtle encouragement from rider and completes the obstacle.
 - **Score of 5-6:** Horse moves forward but is resistant with a stop or two, looking closely at obstacle. Obvious encouragement from rider and completes the obstacle.
 - **Score of 3-4:** Horse is resistant with frequent stopping, encouragement from rider, but completes the obstacle.
 - **Score of 2:** Rider shows good horsemanship skills, horse remains focused, but does not complete the obstacle.
 - **Score of 1:** Horse is extremely unwilling, but touches or gets through part of the obstacle. Does not complete the obstacle satisfactorily.
 - **Score of 0:** Horse is unable to complete the obstacle.
- There will be multiple judges for the trail challenge competition, each scoring one to four obstacles. The riders scores from all judges will be tallied together for a total score.
- Some obstacles will be timed to break ties, if there are multiple entries with the same total score.
- **Directions: From I-75:** Take exit 341 head east on CR 484. Continue on 484 for about 2 miles. Take a left onto S Hwy 475. Continue on 475 for 2.2 miles. The Florida Horse Park is on the left hand side. **From 441S in OCALA:** Take 441S, turn right at SW 1st (at the BP station). Go under the RR trestle, then, take a slight right at the 3-Way stop at SE 3rd. SE 3rd becomes Hwy 475. Continue down SE 3rd/475 approximately 7 miles. The entrance to the Horse Park is on your right. **From SR200 in OCALA:** Take 27th Ave (turn in between Starbucks and Burger King) south. Continue on 27th Ave/475A approximately 6.5 miles. Make a slight turn to the left at SW 107th Place/475B. When 107th Place/475B dead-ends, turn, right. The entrance is on your right.

• **NO horses will be allowed on the course prior to competition.**

• **There will be a posted order of go** that will be determined by the order in which entries are received, and will be available via email at least 24 hours prior to the event, as well as posted at the entry office on the day of the event. Post entries will go at the end of the line, in the order received.

• **PRE-ENTRIES ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED!!!**

• **All breeds** of horses, mules and donkeys may be ridden. Stallions are allowed, but we ask that they be handled in a responsible manner for the safety of the exhibitors and spectators. If any horses are deemed to be difficult and pose a potentially unsafe situation, management may dismiss the competitor from the facility.

• **Divisions** - Please be honest with divisions entered – SOCA promotes a fair playing field for all skill levels. SOCA reserves the right to refuse entries for anyone purposely misrepresenting their abilities, as deemed by judges and officers. If you have questions about what division you belong in, please ask!!

– **Youth** – Riders 17 & Under (limit of three horses per youth rider)

– **Novice Horse & Rider** – Both horse and rider (18 & Over) are new to obstacle challenges – If you have won a SOCA event or any obstacle challenge, you are not eligible for Novice. SOCA judges or directors can determine that you should remain in Novice or should be moved up due to skill level.

– **Non-Pro (Intermediate Horse & Riders)** – Riders 18 & Over who do not accept money for training or riding horses. Riders may complete the year as Non-Pro, however, any rider placing in the top 3, three times, will graduate to Open Elite the next year.

– **Open Elite** – This division is open to trainers and Non-Pro riders that have excelled in that division and graduated to Open Elite status. These are the top tier riders and horses, the SOCA Elite!

– **Posse** – Horse/rider that is a certified member of any posse or mounted unit, or that trains with a posse. Posse or mounted unit riders can choose to compete in Non Pro or Open Elite, instead of Posse.

– **Green Horse** – Training division for **horses of any age, that are new to obstacle challenges, and riders of any level.** Prizes and ribbons only, no payback or high point.

• A mount may only be entered one time per division, however riders may enter more than one mount. Horses may not be entered in multiple divisions with different riders (with the exception of time challenges, if offered).

• Competitors are warned that any act of discourtesy or disobedience to the officials or competition management on the part of the owner or rider will disqualify the horse/mule/donkey from adjudication. The competition management reserves the right to remove the owner or rider from the competition without being liable for compensation or damages. Abuse of horses or humans will not be tolerated!

• Indemnity and Non-responsibility clause: All entries acceptable with the understanding that neither the Southern Obstacle Challenge Association, Florida Horse Park, nor its officers, nor any of the sponsors at the competition will be held responsible for any accidents, personal injury or damages done to any owner, horse/mule/donkey, attendant or their equipment that may be lost, stolen, destroyed or in any way damaged at this competition. All riders will be required to sign releases.

• Prizes (Neither SOCA or the Florida Horse Park guarantee any prizes) :

– Total Payback in the obstacle challenge will be at least 50% of total entry fees with each division (excluding Green Horse) receiving 20% of the total Payback pot divided as follows: First place = 40%, Second Place = 30%, Third Place = 20%, & Fourth Place = 10%. For example, if there are 60 entries total at the event at \$30 per entry. Total collected is \$1,800 and total payback will be \$900 divided as such: First in each division \$72, Second \$54, Third \$36, Fourth \$18. Prize money in each division will be equal.

– Prizes for 1st place winners and ribbons for 1st through 6th place

• Concessions – There will be a concession stand open during the event.

• Coggins – Will be checked for all horses entering the event property.

• Camping and Stalls – A limited number of campsites and stalls are available on an assigned basis – Reservations must be made on the attached entry form.

• Trash – Please clean up after yourself! We will be happy to provide trash bags.

• Dogs – We ask this if you need to bring dogs, please keep them tied to your trailer or crated for the safety of all horses and riders. They must be on a lease at all times.

• Fun & Safety – We hope that everyone enjoys a day full of fun, but please keep the safety of you, your horse, and other participants in mind.

• **CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY**: After the Challenge, we will refund camping, stalls or entry fees if notice is received before the start of the event.

• **SOCA has a strict no drug policy for horses – Anyone found in violation will be disqualified!**