

# 2011 Whitefish Winter Carnival

## World Ski Joring Championships Rules

### 1. DIVISIONS

- **OPEN (PRO) CLASS** – NASJA\* sanctioned
- **SPORT (AMATEUR) CLASS** – NASJA\* sanctioned
- **NOVICE CLASS**
- **LONG JUMP**

*\*NASJA is the North American Skijoring Association*

### 2. DIVISION CRITERIA

- OPEN CLASS** teams are considered to be the highest skilled competitors with the fastest horses. A team consists of horse, rider and skier. Entrants may be male or female. Payment of registration fees entitles the registrants to NASJA weekend points accumulation toward National Championship awards in this class.
- SPORT CLASS** teams are considered to be intermediate level skill participants riding horses that may not be fast enough to be in the open class. A team consists of horse, rider and skier. Entrants may be male or female. Payment of registration fees entitles registrants to NASJA weekend points accumulation toward National Championship awards in this class. Any horse winning 1<sup>st</sup> place in this class must move up to the open class for the following year at the Whitefish event. Any skier winning 1<sup>st</sup> place in this class must move up to the open class level for the following year at the Whitefish event.
- NOVICE CLASS** teams are considered to be beginning level competitors riding horses that may not have speed enough to be competitive in the open or sport class. Any horse that wins 1<sup>st</sup> place in this class must move to a higher level of competition for the following year at the Whitefish event. Any skier that wins 1<sup>st</sup> place in this class must move to a higher level of competition for the following year at the Whitefish event.
- LONG JUMP is a separate event and open to any skill level. You do not have to participate in the Open, Sport or Novice to enter this event. If you did participate in one of those classes you can still enter this class without being subject to the number of times limitations mentioned below i.e. if your horse ran two times in any speed class that horse can still enter the Long Jump Class. If a skier ran three times in a speed class he can still enter the Long Jump Class. Same for the rider, if he ran four times that day, he can still enter the Long Jump Class. Bottom line is horse, rider or skier can enter this event in any combination but can only run 2 times in this class per day.**
- Minimum Age:** All competitors must be 18 as of January 29<sup>th</sup> 2011.

### 3. COMPETITION RULES

- Rules are the same for Open, Sport and Novice Divisions,
- All skiers must wear approved snow sport helmets. Eye protection is recommended.
- A Horse** can compete in only **one** Division. A horse may not run more than **two times** in a day.
- A Rider** may compete in more than **one** Division, but must compete on a different horse in each Division entered. A rider may compete up to **four times** in a day.

- e. **A Skier** can compete in only one Division. A skier may compete up to **three times** in a day,
- f. It is permissible on the 2<sup>nd</sup> run in any division for the rider to become the skier and the skier to become the rider. Keep in mind a horse can only run twice in a day and must stay in the same division.
- g. **Substitutions:** no substitutions are allowed for any team member (horse, skier or rider). If **any team member** cannot compete for any reason, the team **will be** disqualified. No refunds will be given.
- h. **Staging between runs:** Each team is allowed four minutes to complete staging and begin the race. After this allotted time has expired, the competitors will be asked to leave the staging area. **The team** will be allowed one more attempt to race at the end of the Division. If the staging time is again exceeded, that team will be disqualified **from that day's competition**. The allotted four-minute time period will begin at the declaration of a clear track.
- i. **Finishing the Race** – the Skier must finish in an upright position and on at least one ski, with rope in hand when crossing the finish line. Both skier boots must cross the finish line.
- j. **Gates** -Both ski tips and both boots must go around a gate, or the gate is considered missed.
- k. **Long Jump** –The distance of the jump will be measured at the heel of the boot landing--not the imprint of the ski in the snow. Skier must demonstrate control by skiing out of the landing. The designated 'Jump Judge' shall have the **final** decision if the skier is in control **upon landing i.e., the Fairness Committee will not take up this point**.
- l. If the Skier drops the rope BEFORE crossing the start line, he/she will be allowed a restart.

#### 4. PENALTIES

- a. A five second penalty is assessed for each missed jump or gate.
- b. A five second penalty is assessed for any horse breaking the plane of any jump, hitting a gate, or hitting a timing device (**i.e. clapper boards**).

#### 5. SAFETY

- a. **Horses** – The on-site veterinarian will have the authority to scratch a horse for health reasons or concerns pertaining to the safety of the horse and the image of the sport. Any board member of the organizing committee can require a horse to be examined by the veterinarian prior to racing.
- b. **Protective horse leg wear:** It is **highly** recommended that all horses be outfitted with bell and splint boots on all four legs.
- c. Ambulance crews for horses and people will be on site.

#### 6. DISPUTES

- a. If a team member has a concern regarding his run, that concern must be brought to the attention of the Arena Judge as soon as possible after the run but not later than the start of the next class. A Fairness Committee consisting of 3 non competing members, experienced

in the event, schooled in the rules and selected to have no conflict of interest, will consider the concern presented and make a decision not later than the start of the next class. A \$20.00 fee must accompany any concern brought to the attention of the Arena Judge. If the concern is sustained by the Fairness Committee, the team will get its money back. If not sustained, the money will go to a charitable organization of the host's choice. The decision of the committee is final and all involved are asked to accept that decision in the spirit of friendly competition and good sportsmanship. Keep in mind that Duff does by beer for the losing party in the dispute.

## 7. COURSE

- a. **Length** – Approximately 750 to 850 feet from start to finish gates.
- b. **Gates** – Breakaway style where skier goes right of red gates and left of blue gates.
- c. **Jumps** – Three jumps, approximately five feet in height.

## 8. EQUIPMENT

- a. Ropes are to be 50ft in length and recommended to be 7/8 in diameter. Handles on ropes are not permitted. Any ropes not supplied by the Whitefish organizing committee must be inspected and approved by the Start Master or his designee prior to the start of racing.
- b. Attachment is to the saddle horn or behind the saddle. If the attachment is behind the saddle it must be secured to the primary rigging rings of the saddle via a non elastic rope, so that pulling rope is within an approximate six inches of the cantle, carabineer included. Prior to the race the Start Master or his designee must approve any attachment to the saddle. Have this inspected prior to your start so that you do not delay the event, risk being disqualified for unsafe equipment or worse yet having someone get hurt.

## 9. SPORTSMANSHIP

Good sportsmanship is important to the success of our event and the image of the community of Whitefish. Your registration signature pledges your word to the humane treatment of your horse and respectful relationships to all fellow competitors and volunteers hosting this exciting competition. Failure to comply with the spirit of friendly competition at any of the scheduled events may result in the disqualification of your team or your banishment from future competitions. Remember you are in the great City of Whitefish and here to HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH YOUR FRIENDS☺

## 10. RACE RESULTS

Race results will be announced and prize money awarded at The Craggy Range Bar and Grille, 10 Central Avenue in downtown Whitefish on Sunday evening beginning at 7 pm. Ya Hoo!!