

8th Heaven Farms

Trusting Partners Trail Challenge—July 17th, 2010

This is a man made trail course made up of 50 obstacles. Some obstacles are similar to things that you may find out on a weekend trail ride and others are unique to this course. There will be gates, water, bridges, overhead hanging objects, elevated paths and much, much more.

Eligibility:

Any competent rider with a horse, pony, or mule is eligible to enter.

Please note: Our course is not for beginner riders or green horses. Safety is our #1 goal. We are looking for horses that can maneuver through a course of obstacles with physical skill, some degree of confidence and a good mental attitude. The horse should travel through and between obstacles with a desire to go forward in a calm, relaxed attitude and way of going.

It is suggested that participants in the Trusting Partners Trail Obstacle Challenge should have the following riding & equitation skills:

- The ability to stay mounted during steep ascent and descent.
- The ability to side-pass/leg-yield and perform a turn on the forehand and a turn on the haunches.
- The ability to control the placement of your horse's feet.
- Confidence riding at all gaits.

Rider/ Horse Teams are scored individually based on how well they negotiate through the obstacles with an ***emphasis on calmness, safety and skill.***

The Challenge will be divided up into three difficulty levels (Easy, Moderate, Advanced) with Youth and Adult Divisions in each level (if entries allow). Each rider competes against other riders in the same division and awards will be given for 1st through 6th place. We will also have awards for Equitation and Sportsmanship for each division. Awards Ceremony is at end of the Challenge during the **Complimentary BBQ**. The rider will also receive their scorecard at that time. Approximately 4:30 pm for the Bar-B-Que.

Friday, July 16th the riders will have the chance to walk the course on foot after 1:00 pm. They will receive a written explanation of each obstacle and guidelines for successful completion for their level of difficulty. Judge Roger Kyle and Judge Andie Lee will be available on the 16th to answer questions and make clarifications, for the riders.

Scoring:

Each horse/rider team is scored on the obstacles under the supervision of the judge or judge's assistant.

Obstacles are worth 10 points as follows:

- 10 Excellent, smooth and effortless
- 8 Good, minor discernable mistakes
- 6 OK , some reluctance or hesitation, but completed
- 4 Made an effort, completed task, but needs development
- 2 Effort was made, time elapsed, or partial completion
- 0 Passed - Rider chose to pass obstacle or was dismissed.

Participants have 60 seconds to begin the obstacle, unless otherwise informed by the judge or the assistant. Completing the obstacle in less than the 60 seconds is of no benefit to the team's score

Riders are encouraged to dismount and hand walk through the obstacle if it necessary for safety and confidence (score of 1). They will be judged upon their in-hand skills through the obstacle.

For the benefit of time, the team will get 3 refusals before they are dismissed from that obstacle. (A refusal is defined by the horse moving its feet off the obstacle once it has entered, or simply refusing to approach) Looking or snorting is not considered a refusal.

Pausing at an obstacle to sniff or investigate will be allowed. If the judge feels the situation is unsafe for horse or rider, the rider must advance to the next obstacle at the judge's request.

It is at the judge's discretion to note comments on the team's scorecard, so not all obstacles will have comments.

Disqualifications:

- Abuse to the animal on or off the trail course area and /or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred will be grounds for disqualification. This includes lameness and/or fresh blood in mouth, spur or whip marks on the shoulder, barrel, legs, and hips.
- Misconduct or disrespectful behavior towards horse, other riders, judges, assistants and 8th staff or volunteers.
- If an unplanned dismount occurs during the course, the rider is disqualified. If uninjured, they may continue the course for schooling purposes. If a staff member is concerned for the rider's welfare because of a fall, they must check in with the show office promptly.

Tack and Attire:

Dress as you would for a normal trail ride. Either Western or English tack is allowed. Boots with a heel are required for riders. Tack should be in good repair and properly fitting. No tie-downs/martingales or gag style bits are allowed. Snaffles are preferred however, if using a shank bit, the shanks must be no longer than 6 in. Bosals, most hackamores, and bit less bridles are allowed. Protective equipment is encouraged for all participants. A helmet is **required** for everyone under the age of 18. Protective leg gear for horses is highly recommended. Please call for clarification of any questions.

Pricing

\$35 per rider/horse team if received by July 12th,

\$45 after July 15th. Must be registered by 8:30 am on July 17th

\$35 Overnight stall

\$25 Day pen

Lunch and Snack bar on premises. Bar-B-Que will be at the end of the Trail challenge and the awards ceremony will be held during the Bar-B-Que.

Visa, MasterCard and Discover Accepted.

1st Annual



H E A V E N
F A R M S

Trusting Partners Trail Challenge

Name/Age _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Horses Name _____

Sex/age/breed _____

Easy/Moderate/Advanced _____

Ride Fee: \$35.00 on or before July 12th, \$45.00 after July 12th	
Over Night Stall - \$35.00	
Day Pen - \$25.00	
Total =>	

Please send registration form and check/Credit card # (Visa, MasterCard or Discover) to:

5555 S. Lake Gulch Rd. Castle Rock, CO. 80104

For additional information or questions, please call 303-688-5727.

