

# Santa Clara County Horsemen's Association Membership & Rules (2019)



## MEMBERSHIP

1. Members have many wonderful privileges, including the use of the Showgrounds, arena, camping, access to the member roster, being part of community outreach, working with their trainers, reduced rates to rent the hall for socials, reduced rate to renting the arena for events/training, free ads in the newsletter, and socializing at the hall with other members/guests.
2. Voting Rights: Members 18 and over, in good standing, have a right to vote.
3. The membership year is January 1 through December 31.
4. Payment for Annual membership renewal is due February 15 each year. Membership is delinquent if not paid by March 1st.
5. The cost of a *New Membership* on or after June 30th is one-half (1/2) of the annual dues.
6. New Member Process: SCCHA wants to make sure you meet people, feel welcomed, and are integrated into the group. If you want to become a member, but don't know an existing member, simply contact Kathleen O'Neill (408) 590-3933, email [koneill\\_950372003@yahoo.com](mailto:koneill_950372003@yahoo.com) or come to the welcome desk at a monthly General Meeting or an event. You will be introduced to a person who will guide you through the process of attending three (3) events within a year before becoming a member.
7. Reinstating a Prior Member: SCCHA encourages their members to stay current. However, if you were a prior member, we want you back, and here is the process.
  - Within the 1st year of delinquency, simply pay the annual dues before December 31st.
  - Within the 2nd year of delinquency, either bring dues up-to-date by paying past dues, as noted below, or reapply for membership under the New Membership Process.
    - Pay Prior Year's Annual Dues + 20% delinquency fee
    - Pay Current Year's Annual Dues
  - A prior member delinquent for over two (2) years must reapply using the New Membership Process.

## MEMBERSHIP TYPES

- ◆ **Single Membership:** One person 18 or over.
- ◆ **Family Membership:** 2 adults and dependents under 18 residing at a single household.
- ◆ **Junior Membership:** This membership is for an individual under 18, who is not already part of a family membership. Junior must be accompanied by an adult member to participate in riding activities.
- ◆ **Honorary Membership:** An honorary member shall be voted into such capacity by the Board of Directors. An honorary membership is granted to a member for one (1) year for

which no dues are paid. It is a form of recognition by the Association for a specific contribution or extraordinary service within the past year.

- ◆ **Lifetime membership**: A lifetime member shall be voted into such capacity by the Board of Directors. A lifetime member is awarded membership without paying dues for his/her life. The award may not be transferred or passed on to another family member. A nominee for Lifetime membership must have been a distinguished member for at least 25 continuous years and have made significant contributions by establishing a tradition of giving in one or more of the following areas: financial, professional, service or worthy situation.

## SHOWGROUNDS ACCESS

The Showground gates are open for events.

All other access requires a key to the gate lock.

### **KEYS TO THE GATE**

- Keys to the Showgrounds are a member privilege.
- Adult members may purchase a key to the gate at the monthly Meetings for \$2.
- Do not loan keys to anyone or leave keys by front gate for use by others.
- Make sure the gate is securely locked when you leave.

## GUESTS

- Guests are welcome and encouraged.
- If you don't have a horse with you, and are coming to see an event, or attend a dinner/meeting, please help us keep in touch with you by signing our Guest register located at the hall's welcome table.
- For any other activities at the Showgrounds involving a horse, a Guest must be accompanied by an Adult member. It is the responsibility of the Member to ensure that Guests know and follow the Rules, complete the Liability Release Waiver, and collect the fees.

**Liability Release Waiver (Print from Website)**: Guests with horse activities must sign a Liability Release Waiver.

**Guests visiting for the day (Not Camping)**: Guests with horse activities pay a day use fee of \$20, unless the fee is already paid within a specific Event/Rental.

**Guests Camping**: For each night stay, a Guest pays a camping fee of \$10/person plus \$15/horse. NOTE: Camping Guests do not pay additional day use fees.

**Fees & Release Drop-Off to the Treasurer**: The Adult member is responsible for collecting fees and ensuring the Liability Release Waiver is signed. Cash or checks payable to SCCHA.

## GENERAL ASSOCIATION RULES

1. The Showgrounds are for members' activities with horses. Members must have horses with them when using the facilities, unless they are attending a meeting, event, or volunteering.
2. Juniors under 18, participating in horse activities, must be supervised by an adult.
3. While riding or mounted, Juniors under 18, must wear ASTM/SEI approved helmets and appropriate riding boots.
4. If there are no scheduled events in the arena, the arena may be used on a first-come, first-serve basis. When others are waiting, please limit arena turn-use to 30 minutes.
5. Jumping in the arena requires approved hard hats, with chin strap in place, and a saddle.
6. Report damage of SCCHA property/grounds to a Board member immediately, especially if it creates a danger.
7. Santa Clara County Health Department Directive: No animals in the Hall or Snack Shack.
8. During events, dogs must be leashed and kept out of the arena.
9. Stallions are not allowed at events, camping, or SCCHA sponsored rides.
10. SCCHA reserves the right to exclude any animal from activities/events if such animal is out of control, or otherwise deemed unsafe.
11. Horses may not be left loose on the grounds and must have adult supervision.
12. Don't run or trot horses anywhere other than the arena.
13. Tie horses to hitching posts or trailers ONLY: DO NOT TIE to fences, the arena, or trees.
14. Keep it "Clean": Leave it better than when you arrive: No Manure, Hay, Shavings, or BBQ Coals in the Trash. Use the recycling bins for bottles/cans. Dispose of your litter/trash.
15. The Paddocks are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
16. Do not use shaving in the paddocks.
17. Manure Management: Manure must be cleaned from all paddocks and areas used. Spread the manure in the open area in the Northwest corner of the facilities (behind arena). Don't muck out trailers in parking areas.
18. Fire Management: Charcoal or propane fires allowed for cooking purposes (Elevated off the ground). No wood-burning Campfires. Propane fire pits allowed with Adult Member supervision. Make sure you have water and a fire extinguisher available.
19. Trainers must rent the arena when working with non-member clients or multiple members.
20. Members may work with their Trainer on a one-on-one basis. The Adult Trainer may be a Member or a Guest who signed the Liability Release Waiver.
21. SCCHA is not liable for any Member or Guest's personal property.
22. Plan Ahead: There are events or rentals that may interfere with an individual member's use of the Showgrounds. If such an event is taking place, you may not be able to use the Showgrounds.

## ADDITIONAL RULES GOVERNING HORSE CAMPING

1. Camping is exclusively for Members and Guests who remain overnight with their horses. You must have a horse in your group to camp.
2. Members camp free
3. Guests pay horse camping fees outlined in the Guest Section above
4. Camping is confined to the area Southwest of the arena. (In front of the Paddocks.)
5. Generators may operate between 6am and 10pm
6. Minimize noise after 10pm
7. Bring your own table and chairs.
8. Bring your own wheelbarrows and forks/rakes for manure management.
9. Bring personal drinking water.
10. No water or electrical hookups. Dry camping only.
11. Bring hose(s) for the horse water. (at least 4-5 long hoses).
12. There is non-potable water available for the horses.
13. Fill your living quarter fresh water tanks before camping.
14. Ensure you follow the Manure, Trash, and Fire Management Rules
15. Leave the bathrooms clean and the front Gate locked when you leave.
16. Ensure your Camping Trip is Successful (Call and Schedule Your Trip):
  - Identify a "Camp Leader" for your group to be the main contact and coordinator.
  - Validate that one of the Adult Members has a key to access the gate.
  - Contact the Hall Rental Director Sandie Quinones (408) 927-6647:
    - Book your camping trip if the hall is not rented. If parts of the facility are rented, you may be denied camping.
    - Coordinate use of the bathrooms (unlock).

## OFFENSES SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

The following Offenses are Cause for Immediate Loss of Membership and Expulsion from the Showgrounds:

1. Person Engaging in Verbal or Physical Abuse
2. Behavior Deemed Severe by a Majority of Board Members

## RULE REMEDIATION AND COMPLIANCE

The SCCHA Board of Directors reserves the right to revoke membership (without refund) and/or deny entrance to Showgrounds if any person or group/event does not comply with these rules. In case of a dispute, members may contact the Board of Directors to interpret a rule or arbitrate the dispute. Rules are enforced as follows:

**1st Offense:** Offender receives a letter with the broken rule highlighted from the rules.

**2nd Offense:** Offender receives a letter and must appear before the Board of Directors to discuss the issue. If the Offender doesn't respond, they will lose membership privileges.

**3rd Offense:** Offender loses all membership privileges.