

Canter for the Cause

RULES

- All horses must be in good health and suitable condition to participate in this event. The event committee and race track vet reserve the right to decline any pony or horse that does not appear to be in good health, at the appropriate weight and in good condition.
- All riders must be checked in at least 30 minutes before their ride time. Ride times will be assigned after entries close.
- Registration will open at 9:00am; parking lot gates will open at 8:30am. NO TRAILERS will be permitted into the stabling area. All *Canter for the Cause* participants must park in the Clubhouse lot, no exceptions.
- All horses/ponies must present a valid certificate for a negative coggins test and a signed liability waiver. All junior riders (under 18yo) must have a guardian on hand to sign their waiver. Riders under 14 will need an adult supervision while on the track.
- Riders must be at the starting gate area 5 minutes before their scheduled ride time for roll call and final instructions. **You may not mount your horse until you are in the designated mounting zone near the entrance onto the track.** Mounting blocks will be provided. No riding in the parking lot.
- All mounts must wear their commemorative saddle towel while on the race track. The saddle towels will indicate which group you will ride with. Saddle towels will not be dispensed until the rider has personally checked in. All riders will receive a numbered wristband, so that we can identify them.
- All riders are responsible for wearing a current approved helmet.
- Use of a protective vest is highly encouraged, as well as a yoke or neck strap.
- If racing tack is used, an overgirth is required.
- Blinkers may not be used.
- NO DOGS (or other non-equine animals) allowed on the property AT ALL. You will not be permitted to enter the grounds if a dog is in your car.
- Only horses that are registered for *Canter for the Cause* will be allowed on the property, no babysitters or foals allowed.
- All entries must be paid and entered in advance.
- Proof of health insurance must be supplied with liability release when you check in. If you do not have health insurance you must state this on the waiver.
- No ridglings, colts, or stallions

Things to keep in mind:

- THIS IS NOT A RACE, but a once in a lifetime opportunity to ride on the track.
- Each group will have twenty (20) minutes of ride time on the track with a five (5) minute buffer to get on and off of the track. Riders will be sent out in groups of five one minute apart in groups of five until all thirty (30) riders in their group are on the track. No one may pass the lead outrider.
- Horses that are not used to traveling on deeper sandy going may tire easily. Please pay attention to your horse and how he feels. You are encouraged to pull up at if you do not feel like your horse is handling the experience well. Horses are permitted to go in more than one group, but if your horse appears to be in distress, you will be escorted off of the track.
- You will have the opportunity to walk through the starting gate, but it is not required. No one will be allowed to break from the gate. NO WESTERN SADDLES PERMITTED IN THE STARTING GATE. They are not made to fit through such tight spaces.
- The official track photographers (Jimmy McCue's team) will be present in the winner's circle and starting gate if you would like your photo taken with your horse. Photos will be available for purchase. NO spectators or participants are allowed on foot on the track. Photos may be taken from behind the rail only.
- Spectators should also park in the Clubhouse lot, but trailers will be separated from cars. Spectators will be permitted to view the event from the grandstand apron, but are not allowed on the track at any time or in the winner's circle area.
- Water will be available for the horses by registration.
- Each entry will receive a commemorative saddle towel from Maryland Saddlery and they may be onsite with additional items for sale.
- Complementary coffee and breakfast items will be available for participants courtesy of The Maryland Horse Council, The Equiery and the Maryland Jockey Club.

Directions to Clubhouse parking: From I-83 take the Northern Parkway West exit. Turn LEFT onto Park Heights. Proceed to the next light and turn LEFT onto Hayward. You will be making a RIGHT into the Clubhouse Lot. All vehicles will exit the parking lot via the Belvedere Rd. gate.

Once you are on Northern Parkway follow signs for STABLE AREA for the track. Event signs will also be out directing traffic.