

Overview of Orienteering Phase of TREC Competition

The trail competition requires the horse and rider to follow the official course using a map and a compass. You are given a blank map and an allotted amount of time in which to copy the route before you start. This is a timed event, so knowing how fast your horse travels at any given gait is important. We do have a written calculator to help, average time at a walk, trot and canter. Most of the trail will be taken at a walk or trot with an occasional canter. Level 1 is pretty easy and your horse does not need to be in tip top condition. As the Levels increase, so does your ability and your horse's fitness.

Unknown checkpoints are placed on the trail and riders must pass through them in the correct order and from the correct direction. Traveling too fast or too slow loses points, as does missing a checkpoint or coming in from the wrong direction.

We haven't lost anyone in the woods yet...at least not for long! :) Parents may ride with youth competitors as escorts, not helpers unless they are competing as well.