



## EQUESTRIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT BEAS RIVER EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

### Arena Rules and Riding Etiquette

#### For all arenas at BREC

#### Arenas Rules

1. Ensure your entry / exit is acknowledged by other riders before entering / exiting. Ask for “**DOOR / GATE PLEASE**”, wait for permission. Look both ways. Enter quietly.
2. Arena doors must remain closed whilst riding.
3. Mounting / dismounting your horse, making any equipment or clothing adjustments, must be done in the centre of the arena out of the way.
4. When approaching other riders, pass **LEFT HAND TO LEFT HAND (give way if you are at the right hand)**.
5. Horses have to walk or halt away from the track. Go to the inside, especially when others are going faster on the track.
6. Don't pass too close to another horse, leave at least one-horse length between horses.
7. Circle away if you are getting too close to the horse in front of you, or pass on the inside / outside and vocalize “inside / outside” to let the rider know.
8. When there are jumps in the arena, horses jumping have right-of-way. Jumpers have to call their line, even if the jumps are small and the course short.
9. No tuition or coaching in any form by Members, Guests or otherwise is permitted other than those provided by the Club's Equestrian Coaches.
10. If there are more than 8 riders in the same arena and in order to minimize risk, all riders need to stay on the same rein and change it regularly under the most senior coach / rider's instructions.
11. Group lessons have priority.
12. Turn out of horses is not allowed anytime, except for operational needs.



## **Riding Etiquette**

In order to promote a safe and harmonious environment for all riders, horses and spectators, following proper etiquette demonstrates respect, consideration, and cooperation among equestrians. Here are some general guidelines:

1. Always wear an approved equestrian helmet when mounted on a horse and appropriate footwear/riding clothes.
2. Communicate and be aware: Always communicate your intentions to other riders. Use clear verbal cues, such as “passing on the left”, « Inside », « Outside » or “heads up”. Be aware of your surroundings and the presence of other riders, horses, and pedestrians in the arena.
3. Yielding the right of way: Yield the right of way to riders who are actively training, such as jumping or practicing lateral movements. Slow down or halt your horse to allow them to pass safely.
4. Maintain safe distances: Keep an appropriate distance from other riders, maintaining at least one horse length between you and the horse ahead. This helps prevent accidents and allows each rider to have space to work with their horse.
5. Control your horse’s behaviour: Ensure that your horse is well-behaved and under control. Avoid aggressive or dangerous behaviour that could endanger other riders or horses. If your horse has a tendency to kick or display aggressive behaviour, take appropriate precautions or consider using warning indicators such as red ribbons in their tail.
6. Be safe and courteous to the others, especially to the less experienced riders / horses.
7. If someone’s horse runs away with them, stop or walk until they get it under control.
8. When a jumping course is set up, riders moving slowly (not jumping) must stick to the outside of the arena to allow other riders to jump safely. If you knock down jumps / poles, put them back up when you are done.
9. Be supportive and respectful: Encourage and support fellow riders. Avoid unnecessary criticism or negative comments. Treat everyone in the arena, including coaches, riders, and spectators, with respect and courtesy.
10. Be mindful of personal space: Respect the personal space of other riders. Avoid riding too closely or crowding other horses, as this can cause stress or accidents.

By adhering to these etiquette guidelines, you can contribute to a positive and safe riding environment for everyone in the arena. Remember, promoting good etiquette is not only essential for safety but also for fostering a supportive and enjoyable atmosphere for all equestrians. In case of doubt, don’t hesitate to ask your Coach.