

APPLE HILL STABLES BARREL SERIES

Official Rules

Our Mission

The Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series was established to provide a professional, respectful, fair, and competitive place for the barrel racing industry in northern New England.

Any participant who slanders, smears or makes negative comments about a person, a venue, or an association either directly or indirectly, on social media or in-person may not be allowed to enter any remaining Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series races. Points may also be forfeited for year-end rewards. The objective of this barrel series as stated prior is to have a venue in professional, respectful, and fair riders come to compete. Any deviation from that objective will not be tolerated.

As participants of Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series, you are representing Apple Hill Stables, WPRA, IBRA, NPBA, any other participating association/partnership, and the barrel racing and rodeo community. Apple Hill Stables expects everyone to uphold a code of ethics and high standards as set forth under the rules. Apple Hill Stables staff/management retains the right to terminate any participant whose action(s) results in an unsafe condition, negative behavior and/or verbalizations, harassment, cruelty or conduct unfitting to others, themselves, and/or their mount or another mount without refund, in a particular event/class or the remaining barrel series for the year. Any harassment of the secretary, timer, barrel setters, tractor operators, gate help, and others will not be tolerated and may result in disqualification from the race or racing series, without refund.

Introduction

We cannot make a rule book that could possibly cover all the situations that may arise during a show, nor can they cover all administrative questions. When a case arrives that is not covered by a rule, it should be possible to reach a reasonable decision by looking at the rule book. Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series directors have the judgment, competence, and objectivity to make a sound judgment of the situation.

2025 Barrel Series Dates:

Friday, May 30 – Sunday, June 1

Friday, June 20 – Sunday, June 22

Friday, July 18 – Sunday, July 20

Friday, August 15 – Sunday, August 17

Friday, September 26 – Sunday, September 28

October TBD – weather permitting

Coggins

A negative Coggins is required for all out-of-state and in-state horses. Out-of-state horses are required to have up-to-date CVIs (health papers). Anyone not in compliance will be asked to leave the grounds.

Participants

The Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series is open to everyone. You do not need to be a member of any association to race.

Each rider MUST sign an Apple Hill Stables Waiver of Liability prior to racing.

A horse is to be entered/run only once per class. A rider may run multiple horses per class.

Dress Code

Full western dress code applies to all races. Competitors are required to wear a long-sleeved Western full snapped or full zipped shirt with collar, jeans without holes, western boots and a cowboy hat or helmet. Shirt tails must be tucked in. Jackets may be worn in inclement weather, but the western attire must exist regardless of cover. If you should lose your hat while racing, no fine or penalty will be imposed.

Exhibition

Exhibition fees are to be paid directly to the office, not at the gate. Exhibition consists of one run per horse. Training in the arena during your exhibition run is not permitted – remain on pattern and in forward motion and leave promptly on completion of pattern.

Draws

No changes will be made once draws are posted. Switching draws for different horse is not permitted after the draw. Substitutions must be made prior to draw.

Entry Deadlines

Friday at 5 pm for Friday night pole bending

Saturday at 8 am for Saturday barrels

Sunday at 8 am for Sunday barrels

Holding Pens

The holding pen area is for horse and rider only except for the Lil' Buckaroos class or if granted permission by Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series management. If a rider needs assistance with a horse in the alley way, the assistant must leave the area once the horse has left the alley way. Rider's requiring assistants are not to stand in holding pens while waiting for their turn – rider, mount and assistant must wait outside gate until their respective turn.

Gate Check-In/Gate Calls

Rider's must check in at the gate 5-10 riders before their respective run. Each rider will receive 3 gate calls. After 3 gate calls, the rider will be considered not present, and this will be noted as a turn-out with no refund.

Format/Pattern/Payout

A 4D payout format will be used in all classes.

100% of added money will be paid out.

Knocked barrel: In any class where a barrel is knocked down a 5-second penalty will be added to final time.

Contestant must remain on pattern and must keep forward motion toward the first barrel and forward motion when leaving the arena.

WPRA barrel pattern will be used.

Running out-of-order of your respective draw will automatically disqualify you from that class, unless this is an error by Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series staff or show official.

Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series Awards Program

Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series offers a year-end awards program to all riders regardless of their affiliation with other associations or lack thereof. Award points are accrued to 5 places, awards will be presented to these top 5 places in each division based on a 4D format and presented at the year-end banquet. The pointed classes are as follows: Novice Horse, Youth, Middle, Open, and Senior.

Lil Buckaroo's awards will also be presented at the banquet, but this is not a pointed class.

Trophy Saddle Award

Saddle to be awarded to one of the season's top 4 earners in Open Class. The top 4 rider's names will be put into a hat for the drawing of the trophy saddle. Saddle will be presented at the end-of-year awards banquet.

Other Awards

Sportsmanship Award

Best Dressed Award

Most Improved

Points will be accrued through December 31st, for the Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series season. If a tie in points results, the year-end award will be based on the money earned and the number of shows attended in that season.

The fee for participating in the Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series Awards Program is \$60 per horse/rider combination per season. There is no fee for Lil Buckaroo participants.

To be eligible for year-end awards, please complete the form titled [Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series Awards Program](#) and return to Apple Hill Stables with enclosed fee.

Classes for Apple Hill Stables Barrel Series

Pole Bending- Friday night **ONLY**. No exhibition for pole bending.

Middle Barrels – Rider 18-50 years old as of January 1st

Youth Barrels – Rider under 18 years old as of Jan. 1st

Open Barrels – Open to any rider

Senior Barrels – Rider 50 years old & over as of January 1st

Lil' Buckaroos Barrels – Rider 9 years old & under as of January 1st of that year. For this class only, parents/helpers are allowed in the arena during the run. Lead lines are permitted.

Novice Horse Barrels – Any horse 6 years old & under as of January 1, of current year (barrel series season). If your horse is turning 7 years old of the current show season, they can't be shown in the novice horse class. **Proof of Age must be submitted before the participants first show prior to the horse and rider earning their points, no exceptions. Copy of registration papers, vet record or dental record is acceptable. **

Stallions

You must be 18 years old to handle a stallion on Apple Hill Stables grounds. All stallions will be stalled in their own pens separate from other horses. Apple Hill Stables must be notified in advance of arrival to ensure proper modifications to designated areas and pens.

Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco

Any rider under the influence while riding will be asked to promptly leave the arena. Smoking while racing inside the arena is not permitted.

Returned Checks

There is a \$30.00 fee for all returned checks. No points will be received, and you will be suspended from the racing series until the returned check has been resolved.

Campsites/Pens/Stalls

Apple Hill Stables camp sites are numbered to identify each camper. Please do NOT change sites unless you have approval from Apple Hill Stables management.

All trash is expected to be cleaned up from campsite and your campsite should be left in the condition it was prior to your arrival.

All participants are expected to clean-up sites, indoor and outdoor pens/stalls. Please bring your muck bucket. Manure can be placed in designated manure pits for placed for your convenience.

Dogs

Dogs are to be on-leash at all times while on Apple Hill Stables grounds. Do not leave dogs in a hot vehicle. Dog waste disposal bins are available for your convenience – please pick up and dispose of dog waste properly.