

2019 IMTCA Judges Deductions Reference

**9.6. Deductions** All deductions apply to each obstacle

**Entry Deductions**

**-1/2 Point:** Tic, slight change of pace, slightly off center or not straight

**-1 point:**

Horse does not enter an obstacle straight one horse length, willing and/or breaks forward motion with a pause longer than 3 seconds. ("stop" is a break of forward motion longer than 3 seconds on entry only.)

Does not enter the obstacle centered, hops in or out (a hop is two front feet walk in or out and then lightly jumps out

a hop will not result in a deduction if due to the horses size in relation to the obstacle,

Each refusal

**-1 1/2 points:** slight stumble

**-2 points:** Jumps into an obstacle, refuses twice (the horse backs up, sidesteps away twice) and/or will not enter obstacle.

After three refusals the horse and rider must move on; this will result in a -9 for the obstacle

**Navigating Deductions**

**- 1/2 point:** for each tic of an obstacle

**-1 point:** Break of gait for drinking during a water obstacle if they stop, each delayed stride or gait when asked during transition.

**-1 to 1 1/2 points:**

Horse and rider lose forward motion, Horse steps on or moves an obstacle

Incorrect or break of gait, Skipping space or failing to step into required space

Moving one step during mount/dismount, ground tie or hobble (except shifting to balance)

Deviates from center of obstacle or course pattern.

**-2 to 2 1/2 points:**

Horse stumbles, rushing, incorrect or break of gait at walk, jog/trot/gait, or lope/canter for 2 strides or more

In-hand stopping to change sides, Knockdown, Jumping out the obstacle exit,

Steps out of obstacle with one foot once the foot had entered obstacle,

Missing one element of obstacle on line of travel with one foot, moving two or three steps on mount/dismount, ground tie, or hobble

**-3 points:** Horse is not listening to the rider or judge's discretion,

**-4 points:** Reactive/scared horse during log pull.

**-5 points:** All the above and or the rider's and horse's safety is at risk

Steps out of the obstacle with two or more feet, or falls off

Cumulative refusal, balk or evade

Stepping outside the confines of obstacle

Rears up and or bucking.

Jumping off or out of obstacle with more than one foot, once the foot has entered obstacle,

Four or more steps on dismount, ground-tie or hobble, horse

Dropping slicker or object,

Letting go of gate

Blatant disobedience

Never achieves the gait specified.

Off course or missed obstacle will receive a deduction of -18 for each obstacle missed

2019 IMTCA Judges Deductions Reference (continued)

**Level 3 Open Class only:** If leads and/or lead change is specified on the pattern, flying lead change is required.

- 3 points: Incorrect lead
- 2 points: Simple lead change of two strides or less.
- 3 points: Simple lead change three strides or more

**Level 3 all other classes:** If leads and/or lead change is specified on the pattern, simple lead change is allowed.

- 3 points: Incorrect lead
- 2 points: If more than two strides during simple change

**Exit Deductions**

- 1 point: 1/16 to 1/8 off center, not straight, tics
- 1 to -1 1/2 points: Hurries or rushes, not straight one-horse length, not centered
- 2 points: All of the above, not safe, jumps out, not in designated exit area

**9.7.1. Horsemanship Deductions**

Horsemanship deductions may be in addition to obstacle deductions. The number of points deducted will be based on the severity of the fault versus the actual fault. Horsemanship point deductions between 1 and 5 points will be taken for the following:

- Use of hand to instill fear or excessive praise
  - Using excessive hand action to jerk on the bit;
  - Excessive use of a riding crop
  - Dirty tack
  - Entering or exiting obstacle from incorrect side or direction
  - Riding outside boundary marker of arena or Course hold area
  - Incorrectly adjusted back cinch, more than hand laid flat between horse and cinch.
  - Failure to ever show correct gait between obstacles as designated
  - Failure to follow the correct line of travel between obstacles;
  - Excessive emotions of anger or praise
  - Talking in any way inappropriately to a judge, scribe, or official
  - Receiving course direction by anybody other than an approved course reader as allowed in Sections 8 and 9.3.2.
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|-------------------------------|--|
| Hitting or striking the horse | Excessive use of spurs                   |
| Excessive dirt on the horse   | Over correction of the horse             |
| Equipment failure             | Working obstacle the incorrect direction |
| Incorrectly tied rope halter. |  |

**9.8. Disqualification on course** A rider/handler may be dismissed at the Judge's discretion for actions including, but not limited to:

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|------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Fall of horse or rider | Unsafe horse or rider   | Abuse or aggressive schooling  |
| Equipment Failure      | Unsafe equipment  | Improper/not allowed equipment |
| Lame/ill horse         | Talking inappropriately to the Judge, Scribe, or Ring Stewart |                                |
- Receiving course directions by anybody other than an approved course reader as allowed in Sections 8 and 9.3.2.