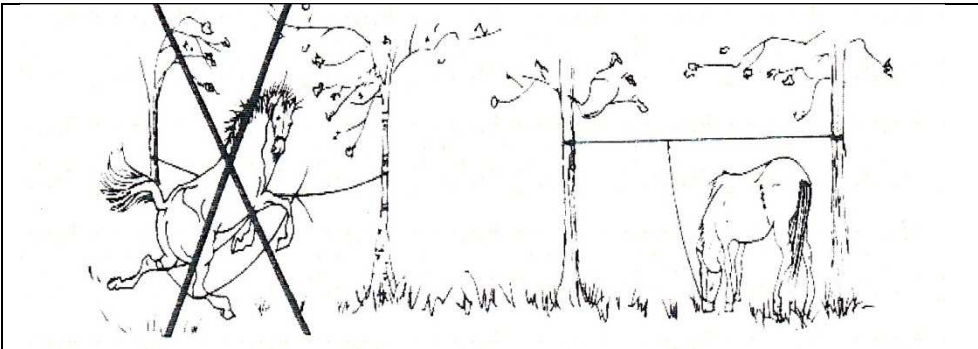


## MTRA CAMP and TRAIL RULES – updated 2012

Rules are made to ensure a safe and positive experience for everyone. **ALL** rules are printed in the Guidebook and a copy with any additions or changes will be available at registration on each of the rides and activities. The MRTA reserves the right to remove any one from any of its activities at any time if the person/s is determined to be violation of any rule or behaving in a manner deemed to be unsafe for other people, or those persons' property, who are participating in the activity. Each year, every member and anyone participating in any Association activity, is required to sign a "Release and Hold Harmless Agreement". This rule was adopted to protect the Association. In order to be truthful when signing the Release, the signer must have read the rules as published in the most current edition of the guidebook, and any rules adopted since the most recent printing. It is the obligation of every member, rider, camper, guest and visitor, whether attending an MTRA ride, or participating any activity associated with the MTRA, to know and to follow all the rules of the MTRA, and also certain rules of the MDNR and USFS which are posted in the camps. During a ride, at certain points along the trail, other specific rules may also apply. When this occurs, the Trail Boss and/or the Bus Driver will provide the information at the nightly pre-ride meeting. This information is to be considered as a rule(s) and **ALL** are expected to act accordingly. All rules will be enforced. The Trail Boss, the Bus Driver and the Board of Directors and officers have authority to enforce the rules. The MTRA is governed by Federal and State law and also has adopted its' own policies regarding the behavior of it's officers, employees and members. If you believe you have experienced discrimination or harassment while participating in any MTRA activity, please immediately inform the Trail Boss, Bus Driver or any Board member present on the ride. Please be considerate of others.

1. **All persons riding** on any ride scheduled and sponsored by the MTRA must be a **paid** member of the MTRA for 30 days prior to the start day of any such ride.
2. **Memberships** may be accepted on rides with the understanding of the 30-day prior membership requirement for participation on rides.
3. **No** dogs or horses are allowed at the Trail Boss rig when you register.
4. **All participants MUST:**
  - Immediately upon arrival in camp, register with the Trail Boss.
  - Sign the MTRA Release and Hold Harmless agreement, if not already signed. If previously signed, must review and verify the information which was submitted on the form is accurate and valid. (i.e.: all signers still valid, members as written etc)
  - Provide an official negative Coggins certificate which is current within 12 months prior to the ride for all horses brought to the ride.
  - All out-of-state horses are required to have an official 30 day Health Certificate, signed and issued by a veterinarian in the state of origin. Please check with your vet to determine if there are additional health certifications required before you take your horse out-of-state.
  - Receive a vehicle window tag which **must** be displayed in plain view at all times.
5. **Guests and visitors must** be accompanied by their sponsoring MTRA member to register with the Trail Boss **ASAP and must sign** the MTRA Release and Hold Harmless Agreement. Guests and visitors who remain in camp over night **must** pay the current daily camping fee to either the MTRA Trail Boss or to the "post" placed in the camp by the DNR (not all camps have a post). On the day a ride departs a locked or gated camp, all campers and riders shall vacate the camp no later than 11 a.m. and the gates shall be locked.
6. Guests and visitors **shall not** ride horses in camp or on the trail.
7. Only a rider, on a horse, riding the trail, from shore to shore, on designated days, and registered with the MTRA, may receive the official trophy and certificate for crossing the State.
8. All riders **MUST** attend the nightly pre-ride meetings.

9. **No** dogs or horses are allowed at the nightly meeting.
10. Dogs must be tied or on a 6 foot leash at all times.
  - **First Offense** – Verbal warning to keep tied.
  - **Second Offense** – Send dog home.
11. Dogs must be kept quiet. Dogs that bark continually are an annoyance to other campers.
  - **First Offense** – Verbal warning to control barking.
  - **Second Offense** – Send dog home.
12. Dogs **MAY NOT** accompany riders on the trail at any time.
13. Only **ONE** person from each rig may ride the bus.
14. **No** smoking, drinking, or swearing on the bus.
15. Do not park in the Trail Boss or Bus Driver designated spot.
  - Follow all instructions given by the Trail Boss and Bus Driver at the nightly meeting regarding entering, traffic flow, parking, exiting, evacuation procedures and routes etc. for each camp.
16. **No** saving a parking place for another rig.
17. Picket horse on the passenger side of rig (right side) unless some obstruction prevents doing so.
  - Put the line as high as possible.
  - Space horses on the line so they are away from trees and root systems.
  - Make the tie rope just long enough for the horse to get its head to the ground.



18. No portable corrals or slides allowed.
19. Horses must be properly bridled at all times when being ridden, whether in camp or on the trail.
  - The MTRA defines a bridle as an item of harness designed to be fitted onto the head of a horse for the purpose of providing a rider or driver to safely control the behavior of the horse under any condition. An item which is designed and recognized as primarily intended to be used as a halter or a training device will not be approved for use and will **NOT** be used during any portion of an MTRA sponsored ride.
20. Do **NOT** trot, canter, or gait a horse in camp. Travel **only** at a flat-foot-walk – do not raise dust.
21. Do **NOT** meet or pass horses at a fast gait on the trail. Be courteous - slow down – ask to pass – pass with care.

22. When watering horses with other horses, do not ride off until all have had time to drink.
- When watering at streams and lakes, water **ONLY** at the designated area. Surrounding areas may be soft and boggy and may mire a horse. Approach horse watering spots with caution and stay near the shore. If others are watering too, be courteous and careful not to force a horse into soft ground or deep water.
  - When watering at a lake, **ALWAYS REMOVE A TIE DOWN** before entering the water.
  - Be considerate of others, wait your turn before entering watering area.
23. A horse that will kick or bite must have a red ribbon tied in its' tail at all times, whether in camp or on the trail.
24. No washing or watering horses at the wells.
25. A Stud horse must be under the control of it's' rider and / or owner at all times.
26. All horses should be observed for any obvious signs of stress or injury and steps should be taken to correct, modify, or eliminate such problems. This is the most important responsibility of the rider. The Trail Boss has a list of veterinarians in the area.
27. Filling buckets has priority over filling rigs at the well.
28. Quiet time is 10:00 PM. No generator or vehicle engine use except in situations of medical need and with permission of the Trail Boss who may request seeking a parking space where noise may be less bothersome.
29. No dumping of septic holding tanks except in approved place.
30. Do not litter in camp or on the trail – **IF YOU TAKE IT OUT, BRING IT BACK.**
31. Drive slowly on camp roads to limit dust created by moving vehicles.
32. **BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE!** You are responsible for keeping fires under control.
- Keep your fires small.
  - Never leave a fire unattended.
  - During dry periods, know if there are fire restrictions in force.
  - Build fires only under safe conditions.
  - Build fires in designated sites when possible.
  - Use only down or dead wood for firewood.
  - Carefully remove a layer of top soil with plants intact and save this piece of sod, then build your fire in the pit.
  - When fire is out, scatter the remaining wood and replace the sod.
  - Always be certain your fire is **DEAD OUT** before you leave it.
  - Do not smoke on the trail when the ground cover is dry.

