Whitefish Winter Carnival 2009 SKI JORING RULES

1. **DIVISIONS**

NASJA OPEN – 18 and over **SPORT** – 18 and over **NOVICE -** 18 and over
(Age as of 1/1/09)

2. **DIVISION CRITERIA**
   a. **OPEN** division will consist of any competitors, men or women. (Must be a current member of NASJA).
   b. **SPORT** division will consist of any competitors, men or women who have not won 1st place in Whitefish in this division. (Must be a current member of NASJA).
   c. **NOVICE** division will consist of any competitors, men or women who are new to the sport and/or have not won in any division.

3. **RULES**
   a. Competitors of the OPEN and SPORT divisions must be NASJA Members; annual or weekend in good standing.
   b. Rules will be the same for Open, Sport, Novice division.
   c. Gates -Both ski tips and both boots must go around a gate, or the gate is missed.
   d. Finish - Skier must finish in an upright position with rope in hand and both ski tips must cross the finish, unless only one ski is on, then that ski and both boots must cross the finish line.
   e. Long Jump - Skier must demonstrate control by skiing out of the landing. The judges of each race shall have the decision if the skier is in control.
   f. All skiers must wear approved snow sport helmets.
   g. **Horse** may only compete in **one** division. A horse may not run more than **2 times** in a day.
   h. **Rider** may compete in more than **one** division, but must compete on a different horse in each division entered. A rider may compete up to **4 times** in a day.
   i. **Skier** can only compete in one division. Skier may compete up to **3 times** in a day.
   j. A second entry in any division cannot consist of the same two individuals.
   k. **Skier or Rider** may not exceed two competitive runs for NASJA points per race, which are designated at registration. **IF failure to designate**, the first two races will be counted as NASJA points.

4. **TIMING SYSTEM**
   a. Each race will use an electronic trip board timing system / and a backup timing system (i.e. hand or electronic).

5. **COURSE**
   a. Length – 200 yards (600 feet) minimum course length from start to finish gates.
   b. Gates – Breakaway style where skier goes right of red gates and left of blue gates.
   c. Jumps –
      i. Number – 3 jumps minimum
      ii. Size – jumps must be twice as wide as they are high
      iii. A marking system must define all four corners of each jump

6. **STAGING**
   a. Staging Area - Will be clearly defined.
   b. Staging Time – Each team will be allowed four (4) minutes to complete staging and trip the start.
   c. Gate - After this allotted time has expired the competitors will be asked to leave the staging area and will be allowed one re-run. If staging time is again exceeded the team will be disqualified. The allowed four (4) minute time will begin at the declaration of a clear track.

7. **EQUIPMENT**
   a. Rope length 50 feet maximum, 3/8" minimum. Handles on ropes are not allowed.
   b. Attachment is to the saddle horn OR if behind the saddle attachment is within four inches (4”) of the cantle (under strain) with a non-elastic material. Prior to the race a NASJA Technical Delegate must approve any attachment to the saddle other than the saddle horn.

8. **PENALTIES**
   a. A five second penalty for each missed jump or gate.
   b. A five second penalty for any horse breaking the plane of any jump, hits a gate, or timing device.

9. **OFFICIALS**

Technical Delegates: Every race will have a non-biased, non-competing NASJA official, called The Technical Delegate, to oversee race operations, and to ensure that the race is run in compliance with NASJA sanctioning criteria.

10. SAFETY

a. Spectators – Course, staging area, and run out area for horses will have a barrier of vinyl or nylon race fencing to keep spectators out of these areas.
b. Competitors - An ambulance and crew will be on site or within a five-minute response time with a minimum of at least one E.M.T. on site.
c. Horse – A veterinarian retained by each race will be on site in the staging area. The veterinarian will have the authority to scratch a horse for health reasons or concerns pertaining to the safety of the horse and the image of the sport. In addition to the veterinarian, only race officials can require a horse to be examined by the veterinarian prior to racing. Any single horse may not run more than twice in one day. **It is recommended that horses be outfitted with bell and splint boots on each foot (4).**
d. Course – Course and run out area will be provided which is to be as safe as possible for competitors, spectators and horses in the space available. The horse track will be designed / built to maintain consistency in footing.
e. Run Out Area – Race Director and a NASJA Technical Delegate will assess fencing, distance and safety prior to the start of each day racing.

11. SPORTMANSHIP

To ensure that the sport of ski-joring remains a fun and family environment, the following sportsmanship policy is adopted at all races: Sportsmanship will be required from all participants. The ski-Joring rules committee will have the power to give out warnings or disqualify any person or team that they deem is acting in an unpartisan like manner. Failure to heed warnings from any race personnel may result in disqualification. Mistreating any horse, inappropriate language towards officials, spectators, or other competitors, and throwing or mistreatment of equipment, shall be grounds for disqualification. Every team shall act in a sportsmanlike, reasonable, and professional manner. Remember, IMAGE is everything in an up and coming sport.

12. PROTESTS

All protests and complaints shall be brought to the NASJA Technical Delegate or Jury within 10 minutes of completion of the run that is in protest. Those wishing to protest must file a written complaint with a $25.00 non-refundable fee. A panel of judges will decide on the call. No video tape reviews.

13. RACE RESULTS

Race results and prize money awarded will be at the Great Northern Bar and Grill, 27 Central Ave. Whitefish, MT on Sunday evening.

14. PRIZE MONEY

Prize money will be awarded Sunday evening. Day money will be awarded to the three top finishers of the day for each division. Prize money for the combined best two-day times for each division will be awarded to the top three finishers on Sunday. Prize money amounts are listed below for each team.

OPEN DIVISION ***BEST TIME FOR THE DAY*: 1st - $300.00 2nd – $200.00 3rd - $150.00**

***BEST TWO-DAY COMBINED TIME*: 1st - $1250.00 2nd - $1000.00 3rd - $750.00** (Added purse may be added for the Open Division if there are more than 15 teams in the open, then the additional entry fees will be used for an added purse and distributed in the following manner. 50% for the first place team, 30% for the second place team and 20% for the 3rd place team)

SPORT DIVISION ***BEST TIME FOR THE DAY*: 1st - $150.00 2nd – $100.00 3rd - $50.00**

***BEST TWO-DAY COMBINED TIME*: 1st - $500.00 2nd - $300.00 3rd - $200.00**

NOVICE DIVISION ***BEST TIME FOR THE DAY* – Saturday and Sunday: 1st - $50.00 2nd – $50.00 3rd - $50.00**

***BEST TWO-DAY COMBINED TIME*: Prizes only!**

CALCUTA WILL BE HELD AT THE GREAT NORTHERN BAR and GRILL, SATURDAY NIGHT January 31st, 2009.
ALL MONEY RAISED in the CALCUTTA WILL BE SPLIT to: Whitefish Winter Carnival Ski Joring and the highest bidder for the teams that have the best Sunday's time for each division.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THESE RULES AND I AM SIGNING IT VOLUNTARILY

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)_____

SIGNATURE: _____