

# STATE OF MAINE DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION WARM-UP RING RULES

## **Maximum of six riders in the warm-up ring at any time**

The ring is intended for use as a warm-up for riders getting ready for a test, and not for extended periods of schooling or lessons. Priority for use of the warm-up ring is based on the order of go for the show. If the ring is too crowded, please wait your turn. If you are in the ring and it becomes crowded, please limit your time and defer to people who are preparing for a test.

## **Lunging**

No lunging in the warm-up ring.

## **Headgear**

Anyone mounted on a horse at any time on the competition grounds, including non-competing riders, riders on non-competing horses, and those competing in all classes and tests, must wear protective headgear. Any rider violating this rule is immediately prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place.

## **Observe General Ring Etiquette**

- If your horse is upsetting other horses and riders, you must leave the warm up ring.
- Pass to the right (left shoulder to left shoulder, like driving a car).
- Walk your horse OFF the rail.
- Practice your figures (circles, etc.) on the inside track, not on the rail.
- Schooling on Grounds – please school after lunch when the ring is quieter.
- If you must halt or dismount (e.g. tighten girth/remove wraps), please exit the warm-up ring.
- Please watch out for other horses.
- When passing in same directions, call "inside" or "outside" to let the other rider know where you are going. If you are unsure where another rider is going, call out where you intend to go (for example "diagonal").
- Do not ride-up directly behind another horse to avoid getting kicked. Stay one full horse length behind the horse in front of you, including when passing. If your horse is a known kicker, tie a red ribbon in his tail to warn other riders.

**Please note:** The grass area out back might not be safe for working horses, due to unknown sink holes. Working horses in that area is at the riders risk. Outside of the warm-up ring and near the show ring, all horses must WALK. No warm-up in the cross-country course.

If you have any concerns or note any unsafe conditions, please notify the ring steward or show manager.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION,  
AND HAVE A SAFE AND SUCCESSFUL SHOW!**

**Signed, The SMDA Board of Directors**

