

## OKEDA - FREESTYLE DRILL COMPETITION CRITERIA

1. RIDERS: Small Team – maximum 8 riders. Large Team – minimum 9 riders.
2. TIME: Six (6) minutes maximum
3. EXPLANATION: The freestyle will be performed to the music of choice. Emphasis will be placed on the drill.
4. EXECUTION OF DRILL: Spacing, Alignment, Timing, Coordination and Briskness. Was spacing consistent? Were the lines straight and the circles evenly round? Was the time good with no rider racing or stopping to make his/her position? Were the connections between maneuvers good? Were there any collisions?
5. PERFORMANCE AND MANNERS OF HORSES: Were the horses well-mannered? No bucking or kicking? Horses are not to be penalized for having ear back. Did the horses break gait? Were they suitable drill horses?
6. ORIGINALITY, VARIETY, AND ATTRACTIVENESS OF PATTERNS: Were original and varied patterns used throughout the drill? Was the same pattern repeated several times? Were the patterns presented to the best advantage of the viewing audience?
7. SPECTACULARITY AND CROWD APPEAL: Was the drill presented in a manner pleasing to the audience? Did the drill flow from one maneuver to another without a lot of set up moves? Were most of the maneuvers centered in front of the viewing audience? Crowd appeal can include the manner in which flags are presented, suitability of music to the maneuvers and the tempo of the drill to the music. Flag protocol must be followed.
8. DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: Teams performing a more difficult drill should be scored higher than a team performing relatively easy maneuvers. Degree of difficulty can also be influenced by the correct flag protocol of the working flags in contrast to the posted non-working flags.
9. GENERAL IMPRESSION: Equitation as adapted for drill purposes, i.e., basic equitation position, hands and use of aids. Horses are clean and in healthy working condition. No penalty for team of mixed colors. Equipment should be clean, neat and in good repair. Saddles, bits and boogs are excluded as to type and style but will be judged for cleanliness.