

OKEDA - THEME COMPETITION CRITERIA

1. RIDERS: Small team – maximum 8 riders. Large team – minimum 9 riders.
2. TIME: Eight (8) minutes maximum
3. MUSIC: Music of Choice. Pointed may be scored on how appropriate the music was to the maneuvers performed and the pace the horses set to the music used and appropriateness of the music to the theme of the drill.
4. EXPLANATION: Primary emphasis will be placed on the drill and it's appropriateness to the theme chosen by the team. Equally important is the theme of the team. The theme may be reflected in the costuming, music, tack and other special effects used by the team to convey the idea of their theme.
5. JUDGING CRITERIA:
 - a. Execution: Spacing, Alignment, Timing, Coordination, and Briskness-
 1. Was spacing consistent? Were the lines straight and properly aligned, circles evenly round and centered in the arena?
 2. Was the timing good with no riders racing or stopping to make their position? Any missed holes or collisions?
 3. Were the connections between maneuvers good? Was the overall attitude of the team alert and their execution precise?
 - b. Performance and Manners of Horses:
 1. Were the horses well-mannered with no bucking or kicking? Horses are not to be penalized for having their ears back.
 2. Did the horses break gait? Were they suitable drill horses?
 - c. Originality, Variety and Attractiveness of Patterns:
 1. Were original and varied patterns used or were the same patterns repeated several times? Was there variety in the patterns?
 2. Were the patterns presented to the best advantage of the viewing audience?
 - d. Spectacularity and Crowd Appeal:
 1. Was the drill presented a manner pleasing to the audience? Did the drill flow from one maneuver to the next without a lot of set up moves?
 2. Crowd appeal can include the manner in which flags are presented, suitability of music to the maneuvers and the tempo of the drill to music.