



Warm- Up Pen Etiquette:

1. Be aware of everything that is happening around you. The warm up pen is not the time to look at the ground or be on your cell phones. If you must take a call or text, please leave the arena or stand somewhere safe, away from moving horses. Keep your eyes up and pay attention.
2. When the water truck enters the arena, please leave the arena.
3. When tractor/drag enters the arena, all loping should stop. Please move out of the way of the tractor, either leaving the arena or moving to sides where it is not working.
4. Take a minute to check which way people are circling. One side of the arena is for left circles, one side is for right circles. Do not lope in the opposite direction of the flow as this can be very confusing and cause an accident.
5. Be very aware when schooling stops in the middle of the circles, riders may consider stopping off center to allow other horses to come through the middle. Do not linger in the middle.
6. Spin in the center of the circles that are being run but not on the path of the circle. Watch for people who are fencing.
7. Stay off the rail if folks are circling. Circlers have the right of way. Slower horses (walk/trot) should stay on the inside of the circles and be in single file
8. Look around before you stop and back your horse. Make certain that no one is immediately following in your path.
9. When folks line up against the short wall, it's fencing time. If your pen is not being time controlled, (half hour fencing, half hour circling) please be careful and watch for riders running up and down the arena. If the arena is time controlled, please follow direction from the arena monitor and circle or fence according to their direction.
10. If there is any chance someone might be in your way or not paying attention, please give them a "heads up" to avoid an accident. Again, circlers have the right of way when the pen is not being time controlled.
11. It is best not to sit in the middle of the arena when people are fencing.
12. If you are resting or grooming while people are fencing, don't stay in the middle of the wall to Rest. Go towards the outside of the wall to keep the middle of the area open for fencing horses.
13. If there are too many horses in the warm up pen and it is creating a dangerous environment, the WCRHA will ask that only those whose draw is coming up in the working order (in a reasonable amount of time) remain in the warm up.
14. If you are riding a colt or exercising a horse not preparing for show and the show is still running, please find an alternate arena to use.

Lack of knowledge in the warm up pen can cause huge frustration for people who are trying to get prepared to show and can be dangerous. If we all follow the rules, we will have a more rewarding warm up experience. If you are in doubt as to the rules or new to the WCRHA, ask your trainer or an arena steward before you enter the pen.