

Grimes County Sheriff's Office Junior Deputy Mounted Posse Constitution and By Laws

PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we, members of the Grimes County Sheriff's Office Junior Deputy Mounted Posse, of Grimes County, Texas, associated ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the State of Texas and the United States of America; To protect our Country from any and all enemies, whether foreign or domestic; To promote training and guidance for all constituted riding members of the organization and to offer said members thereof the benefit of any specialized or collective abilities we might have or acquire; To cooperate fully with the Sheriff of Grimes County and other Junior Deputies duly organized by said Sheriff; To act in a manner that will perpetuate the memory of our organization with the members thereof, associates, officers, instructors, visitors and the general public as a whole; To exchange and disseminate ideas and information with any group, who might want to use our proven plan in order that they might use the same to further the welfare of children elsewhere; To be ever mindful that we strive for the highest degree of respect by our members of the laws of God and man.

To these ends, we pledge to ever conduct ourselves in a manner that will lend strength, dignity and credit to our children and the organization as a whole.

ARTICLE I. The Name of the Organization: The Grimes County Sheriff's Office Junior Deputy Mounted Posse.

ARTICLE II. Term of the Association: The term of the association shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE III. Purpose of the Organization: To promote and encourage training of our children not only in the art of horsemanship skills, but in the many intricate and varied arts of citizenship, sportsmanship and everyday living.

ARTICLE IV. Members of the Association: Membership in this organization shall consist only of those individuals, who have: satisfactorily completed the entrance forms, met the age requirement, paid their dues, and agreed to the responsibilities and requirements of the organization. All members will be furnished with a copy of the organization Constitution and By Laws and be thoroughly familiar with same. Robert's Rules of Order will prevail in all Junior Deputy Mounted Posse meetings.

Section 1. Age Requirement: A riding member must be no younger than six years of age and no older than nineteen years of age.

Section 2. Dues: The dues of this organization shall be set by the adult leadership. A member whose dues are sixty days past due shall automatically be taken from the membership roll and must consult the adult leadership for reinstatement.

Section 3.

Responsibilities and Requirements for Riding Members and Adults:

1. All riding members must have a qualified riding horse, western saddle and transportation for themselves and their horses.
2. All members must sign in and be on time for each practice and event.
3. All riding members must attend at least six performance practices in order to be eligible to perform at rodeos/events.
4. All riding members are responsible for their equipment, uniforms, horses and coggins.
5. All members must understand that the Coordinator, Drill Master and Safety Instructor have the authority to pull your horse out and issue demerits.
6. All riding members must have their dues paid on time. If at any point a member allows their dues to become 60 days past due, the member will be removed from the membership roll.
7. All riding members shall be responsible for taking care of the property/equipment they are issued and shall return the property/equipment in good working condition. If property/equipment becomes damaged or destroyed while in the care of a riding member, they will be responsible for reimbursing the organization the property/equipment replacement cost.
8. All riding members and adult leaders shall wear proper attire and have proper equipment for their horses that is in good working order.
9. All riding members shall wear proper western boots (with heels and smooth soles ONLY). *No "Fat Baby" boots, Chukas, tennis shoes, hunting boots or any other shoe wear will be permitted at practices or events!*
10. All riding members need to be seated on their horses correctly. Demerits will be issued if a member is observed not correctly seated in their saddle.
11. All riding members are required to wear hats that have hurricane straps on them.
12. All riding members must go in the same direction when warming up their horses.
13. All riding members and adults shall be courteous and respectful at all times.
14. All riding members and adults shall refrain from coaching from the side lines.
15. All riding members and adults shall abide by the law of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, Chapter 87. There shall be no law suits of any kind, in any manner with the staff, volunteers and other members, adults and adult leaders.
16. All riding members and adults are prohibited from using profanity, abusing drugs or alcohol, or possessing weapons of any kind during a practice or event. Youth members under the legal age are prohibited from using tobacco products.

(The consequence of a violation of this rule will be immediate removal from the Posse.)

17. All riding members will obey all laws to include: local, state and federal laws.

(The consequence of a violation of this rule (excluding Class C traffic violations) will be immediate removal from the Posse.)

18. All riding members are required to be enrolled in school until such time that they receive a High School diploma.

ARTICLE V.

Attendance award/merits/demerits:

- 1st Year Small Plaque
- 2nd Year T-Shirt
- 3rd Year Spur Straps
- 4th Year Belt Buckle
- 5th Year Monogrammed Halters
- 6th Year Hat Can
- 7th Year Stir Ups
- 8th Year Head Stall
- 9th Year Breast Collar
- 10th Year Money

** To be eligible for year-end prizes, you must attend 25% of the meetings and/or events, pay your dues on time, and sale at least \$25 in raffle tickets.*

ARTICLE VI.

Complaints: In the event of a complaint, all riding members or adults will address their complaint in writing to the Coordinator. The complaining party will be responsible for delivering the complaint to the Coordinator.

ARTICLE VII.

Suspension of Membership: The following will be causes for suspension of membership:

1. Non-payment of dues, as defined in ARTICLE IV, Section 2.
2. Participation in any activity, not in the best interest of the organization
3. Withdrawing from school
4. Upon notification by the Drill Master or Coordinator for failing to meet the responsibilities and requirements of the organization.
5. Upon request by the Sheriff of Grimes County.

Any suspension must be initiated by the Drill Master, Coordinator or the Sheriff of Grimes County.

ARTICLE VIII.

Adult Leaders: Appointed by the Sheriff of Grimes County

Coordinator: The Coordinator will oversee the entire organization and ensures the youth members follow the rules set in place. Along with the Drill Master, the Coordinator organizes drills, dates, times of practices and events. The Coordinator will also work with the adult members in

selecting committees to assist the organization. The Coordinator will also keep up with points and demerits. He/she has the authority to issue demerits and has the authority to ask adults and members to leave the premises or organization if they become unruly.

Drill Master: The Drill Master will formulate drills, maneuvers, etc. and shall be responsible for making sure all riding members are safe and accounted for at each exhibition. He/she has the authority to issue demerits and has the authority to ask adults and members to leave the premises or organization if they become unruly. This includes but is not limited to alcohol, drugs, profanity, coaching from the side lines or any other unacceptable behavior. He/she shall work in unison with the Coordinator. He/she is responsible for calling in and appointing someone to replace them self at any event where they are unable to be present.

ARTICLE IX.

Committees: Appointed by the Coordinator.

Safety Committee: Members shall assist the youth in checking that their person and horse are properly uniformed and their equipment is safe and in working order.

Banquet Committee: Members will assist the Coordinator in preparing for the banquet as needed.

Equipment and Uniforms Committee: Members will issue out equipment and be responsible for keeping up with inventory and equipment. The committee must maintain a master file of the equipment and uniforms that are issued out. This committee will notify the Coordinator when new equipment needs to be ordered. When members quit, it will be the committee's responsibility to collect the equipment that was issued out to the member(s).

Uniforms and Costumes Committee: Members will assist the Coordinator in finding and purchasing uniforms for the events, as well as, paint for the horses, etc. Members of this committee will be responsible for filling candy bags when required for an event.

Sponsorship Committee: Members will assist in finding sponsors and supporters each year. Members of this committee will also be responsible for helping in all areas of Go-Texan set up and ticket sales. Members will be responsible for securing prizes and donations for ticket sales, etc.

ARTICLE X.

Officers of the Organization-Youth Members: The riding members shall elect Officers annually in the fall to represent the organization for the upcoming year (September to August). The Officers are honorary. They must demonstrate and teach leadership and learn to conduct meetings in according to Robert's Rules of Order. Officers are to bring suggestions to adult leaders.

Eligibility Requirement: Riding members must be in the organization one year prior to elections, be active and have their dues current, to be eligible to be elected to an Officer position.

President: He/she will be responsible for conducting the business of meetings and report any business to the Drill Master and/or Coordinator. The President will assist in ensuring peace and harmony in the organization. He/she will assist the Drill Master and Coordinator as needed. The President will work with everyone for the good of the organization.

Vice President: He/she will take over the role of President in their absence and assist the President as needed.

Secretary: He/she will record the minutes of organization meetings and keep records of attendance.

Treasurer: He/she will keep track of any funds raised by members. The Treasurer will also co-sign checks and balance bank statements.

Chaplain: He/she will keep peace among members and will say the prayer at each event.

Historian: He/she will keep a scrapbook with information about each event. The Historian will also take photos to document practices and events.

Reporter: He/she reports current events to the newspaper and other organizations.

ARTICLE XI.

Uniforms: The following items will be required for all riding members as part of their official Junior Deputy Mounted Posse uniform:

Cowboy hats: Summer-Straw and Winter-Buckskin Felt. No pins, feathers or hat bands.

Shirt: White long-sleeved western shirt. (*GCSO patches will be provided for the sleeves.*)

Boots: Black or brown western style only. No other colors permitted.

Jeans: Any denim western style jeans. The color must be blue.

Belt: Must be western style and not take away from the uniform.

Ties: The color must be blue, unless otherwise informed for a rodeo or special event.

ARTICLE XII.

Order of Business: The following will be the order of business for the organization:

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag
3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag
4. Prayer by Chaplain
5. Roll Call by Secretary
6. Reading of Minutes by Secretary
7. Financial Report by Treasurer
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Adjournment

Grimes County Sheriff's Office
Junior Deputy Mounted Posse

Acknowledgement

I, _____ (riding member),

have read, understand and agree to follow the Constitution and By Laws of the
Grimes County Sheriff's Office Junior Deputy Mounted Posse.

Signature of Riding Member

Date

We, _____, the parents,

guardians or legal representatives of _____

have read, understand and agree to follow the Constitution and By Laws of the
Grimes County Sheriff's Office Junior Deputy Mounted Posse.

Signature of Legal Guardian

Date