

**NATIONAL REINED COW HORSE  
ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL HANDBOOK**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>CORPORATION BYLAWS .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1. GENERAL RULES FOR SHOW &amp; CONTEST .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>2. DEFINITIONS .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>2.1 NON PRO DEFINITIONS &amp; RULES.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>2.2 YOUTH.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>3. DIVISIONS – APPROVED CLASSES .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>4. REGIONAL HORSE SHOWS .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>5. APPOINTMENTS &amp; EQUIPMENT .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>6. BROKEN EQUIPMENT .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>7. PAYOUT, POINT SYSTEM &amp; YEAR-END AWARDS FOR APPROVED SHOWS .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>8. MERIT AWARD PROGRAM .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>9. RULES FOR COMPETITION .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>10. LIMITED AGE EVENTS .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>11. SPECIAL EVENTS, CATEGORY 2 &amp; 3 .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>12. SHOW MANAGEMENT APPROVAL &amp; RESPONSIBILITIES .....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>13. NRCHA REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES .....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>14. DISCIPLINARY/ETHICS.....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>14.1 SHOW &amp; CONTEST ETHICS.....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>14.2 COMPLAINTS &amp; PROTESTS.....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>15. SELF ADJUSTED MONITOR SYSTEM .....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>16. JUDGES.....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>17. SCORING .....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>18. DISCIPLINE .....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>19. JUDGING .....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>20. PATTERNS .....</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>21. PATTERN DESCRIPTIONS (MANEUVERS) .....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>22. JUDGES SCORE SHEETS.....</b>	<b>60</b>

**Note:** text which is underlined has been added.

**CORPORATION BYLAWS**  
**ARTICLE I**  
**NAME & PURPOSE**

**Section 1.** This Association shall be known as the National Reined Cow Horse Association ("NRCHA" or "Association").

**Section 2.** The purpose of the NRCHA is to improve the quality of the western reined stock horse: to perpetuate the early Spanish traditions of highly trained and well reined working cow horses; to promote exhibits and cow horse events and contests in expositions and shows: to promote the training of reined cow horses and to promote interest in reined working cow horses among the younger horsemen of this nation and the world: to use and encourage the use of standard rules for holding and judging contests of the reined working cow horse.

**Section 3.** The principal place of business of this Association shall be a place so established by the Board of Directors of the NRCHA.

**Section 4.** This Association is a Non-Profit mutual benefit corporation organized under the California Non-Profit Mutual Benefit Corporation Law. The purpose of this Association is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which a corporation may be organized under such law.

**ARTICLE II**  
**MEMBERS**

**Section 1.** There will be one class of Regular membership and each Regular member will have one vote. In order to exercise their right to vote members dues must be paid and current at the time of any vote. The vote of regular members will not be transferable by proxies or otherwise. There will be one class of Youth membership for persons 18 years of age and under on December 1st of the current year. Youth members will have all the rights and privileges of regular members, except the right to vote.

There will be one class of membership that shall be designated a "Life Membership". An individual may qualify for the life membership category upon payment by that member. The Board shall approve fees. Upon payment of said sum and acceptance thereof by the Board of Directors, the Life member shall have the following privileges: (A) a Life membership card; (B) no further payment of annual dues; (C) such other privileges as the Board of Directors may from time to time bestow including all privileges of a Regular member. A non-voting honorary membership may be bestowed on any Regular member at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Such honorary membership may be a Life membership.

**Section 2.** The Board of Directors shall determine dues for each Regular and Youth member. Said dues shall become due and payable to the NRCHA on December 1st of each year and delinquent on January 1st of the same year. Members failing to pay the annual dues by January 1st of each year shall be considered delinquent and will forfeit all rights and privileges of participation in any activities of this Association until delinquent amounts are paid. Each member shall receive an annual membership card upon payment of his/her dues, and such membership card shall be non-transferable. The membership card shall be in the form prescribed by the Board of Directors, and all members, by accepting the membership card, shall be deemed to have agreed to comply with all the provisions of the By Laws and other rules and regulations of this Association. All members may be required to present their membership cards or a copy of, to show management prior to exhibiting at an NRCHA approved event.

**Section 3.** There shall be one class of membership that shall be designated as "Affiliate". Each Affiliate shall be a recognized reined cow horse association representing a state, region or "locale". Each Affiliate shall be governed by its own Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation that shall be in conformance with those of the Association. Each Affiliate shall pay annual dues to the Association at a level that shall be set from time to time by the Board of Directors of the Association and shall be due on December 1st of each year and delinquent on January 1st of the same year. Membership dues not paid by January 1st of each year shall be considered delinquent and all rights and privileges of membership are forfeited. Each Affiliate member shall receive an annual membership certificate and upon paying membership dues and receiving membership certificate shall be deemed to have agreed to comply with all the provisions of the Bylaws, and other rules and regulations of the Association.

Affiliates may be represented on the Board of Directors by nominating from their membership any member in good standing in the NRCHA and in the Affiliate and then duly elected. Director representation on the Association Board of Directors may be appointed by the Affiliate and may sit on the Association Board as a non-voting member.

Every NRCHA Affiliate shall have within its membership at least twenty (20) members who are also active individual members of the NRCHA.

In order to qualify as an Affiliate, each Affiliate organization must:

- a) Pay its annual fee and submit a list of its twenty members who are also members of NRCHA.
- b) Provide NRCHA with a copy of its Constitution and Bylaws.
- c) Provide the NRCHA with a complete list of its members, including addresses, no later than April 1 of each calendar year.
- d) Provide the NRCHA with the results of all approved NRCHA classes which results shall be forwarded to this Association in a business-like manner as prescribed by the NRCHA and within 14 days of the end of the show.
- e) Conduct its affairs in compliance with the Bylaws and standing rules of this Association including, but not limited to:
  - i. The annual election of Officers and Directors
  - ii. Use due process in all matters of discipline or suspension of its members.

A person may serve as a President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer of only one NRCHA affiliate.

Any Affiliate found not in compliance with all sections of this article on May 1 of each year will be denied membership renewal until all of the above rules have been satisfied.

### **ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Section 1.** The annual meeting of the membership of this Association shall be held as determined by the Board of Directors in the first quarter of the year. The meeting shall be held at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. Special meetings of the membership may be called by a majority of the Board of Directors, or on the call of the President. The NRCHA Management shall call a special meeting of the membership upon written request of five percent (5%) of the voting members of the Association and hold a meeting within 90 days at the principal place of business of the Association.

**Section 2.** Notice of the time and place of the holding of any regular or special meeting of the membership shall be sent by regular mail to all members at least twenty (20) days prior to such meeting.

**Section 3.** Fifty (50) or more voting members of this Association shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

#### **ARTICLE IV OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and must be members of the Board of Directors and elected by the Board of Directors and shall be elected for a period of one (1) year or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. All officers of the Association shall be members in good standing of the Association.

**Section 2.** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and at the meetings of the Board of Directors. He/she shall appoint all Committees and Committee chairmen. The President, during his/her term of office, may create certain positions, including but not limited to parliamentarian and historian, that he/she may deem necessary to advise the office of the President or the Board of Directors. Said appointments will run concurrently with his/her term as President. He/she shall perform such duties and exercise such other powers as are usually incident to such office.

**Section 3.** The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in his or her absence. The Vice President will be responsible for the administration and day-to-day operation of the NRCHA, its staff, and its offices. The Vice President shall be chairman of the Executive Committee.

**Section 4.** The Secretary shall keep and safeguard a complete and accurate record of all proceedings of the Association, its Board of Directors and standing Committees. He/she shall attend to the proper publication of all reports, conduct official correspondence, attest documents and perform such other duties as are usual to such office or as may be required by this Association. The Secretary shall also issue notice or call to directors and members, keep the membership roll or cause the keeping of, issue membership cards and conduct, supervise, count and record the balloting of all elections. The Secretary shall be a member of the Executive Committee.

**Section 5.** The Treasurer shall oversee the custody of all moneys of the Association and shall keep, or cause the keeping of, regular books of accounts. He/she shall disburse or cause the disbursement of Association funds in payment of just demands against the Association, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements, and shall render at the annual meetings of the Association, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee, from time to time as may be required of him, an accounting of all his/her transactions as Treasurer and of the financial condition of the Association. He/she shall be a member of the Executive Committee and an ex-officio member of the Show Committee. A surety bond will be provided for the Treasurer and the NRCHA Management, the premium of which will be paid from Association funds. Written financial statements for the first 3 quarters of the calendar year shall be presented to the membership at each annual meeting. The year-end financial statements, as prepared by a public accountant, will be mailed to the requesting member upon request, and a summary of the financial condition of the association will be published in the official NRCHA publication annually within 90 days of the end of the fiscal year.

## ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Section 1.** The management of the affairs, property, business and control of policy is vested in the Board of Directors. All members of the Board of Directors shall be a member in good standing of the Association.

**Section 2.** The Board of Directors of this Association shall consist of eleven (11) members in good standing elected by the general membership for a two-year term. The President may recommend and the Board shall approve the appointment of up to four (4) additional members to the Board of Directors, who will serve a one (1) year term and will sit as voting members of the Board of Directors. The elected incoming and entire outgoing Board of Directors will meet annually prior to the annual general membership meeting at which time they will elect officers for the coming year and conduct other business deemed necessary for the continued functioning of the Association. Outgoing Board members will have no voting rights at this meeting. Following the election of the officers, the Board shall approve all appointments at this meeting and the appointees shall attend the following Board meeting and General meeting.

**Section 3.** In addition, representatives of the Affiliate and Non Professional Committees, who may or may not have been directly elected, will be recommended by the President and will be approved by the Board of Directors and shall sit as voting members of the Board of Directors, provided no one duly elected to the Board of Directors is from each of these divisions of membership.

**Section 4.** The President or six (6) members of the Board of Directors, on at least ten (10) days' prior notice may call meetings of the Board of Directors.

**Section 5.** Seven (7) directors will constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board of Directors. A majority of said quorum may decide any questions which come before the Board.

**Section 6.** As a member of the Board of Directors, each director shall accept the responsibility of attending all Board meetings. In the event a director fails to attend two (2) consecutive meetings without a written proxy for voting received in the Association office 5 days prior to the scheduled meeting, that director will automatically forfeit his/her position on the Board at that time.

**Section 7.** The President shall fill any vacancy on the Board of Directors by appointing the nominee who had attained the next highest number of votes at the last Board of Directors election to complete the term vacated.

**Section 8.** The immediate past President of the Board shall sit as an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors.

**Section 9.** Action taken by any individual Board member shall not be binding upon the other Board members unless a majority of said quorum so votes. No Board members may undertake any financial obligation in excess of \$500 without a vote of a majority of said quorum. No Board member may issue a check in excess of \$500 without a vote of a majority of said quorum. An individual Board member cannot borrow nor pledge the assets of the association for borrowing without vote of a majority of said quorum.

**Section 10.** Members of the Board may participate in a meeting through use of conference telephone, electronic video screen communications, or other communications equipment provided all members participating in the meeting are able to hear one another.

## **ARTICLE VI EXECUTIVE POSITIONS**

**Section 1.** To aid and assist in the orderly growth of the Association, the Board of Directors may, as it deems necessary, establish by a two-thirds (2/3) vote certain executive positions to assist its officers in carrying out their appointed duties.

**Section 2.** The Board of Directors shall set remuneration of executive positions from time to time.

**Section 3.** The Board of Directors may request that a surety bond be provided for any executive position so created, the premium of which shall be paid from Association funds.

## **ARTICLE VII RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**Section 1.** From time to time the Board of Directors shall establish rules and regulations for the presentation and judging of NRCHA events. The rules and regulations so adopted shall be changed, nullified or repealed only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors must provide any changes made to the rules to the membership in writing upon approval.

**Section 2.** Any rules adopted by the Board of Directors in any given calendar year go into effect the following December 1 and will remain in effect through the next annual general meeting at which point they will be ratified by a majority of the general membership in attendance.

**Section 3.** Any change in the rules or regulations proposed from the floor of any annual meeting must be considered and voted upon by the newly elected Board of Directors within fifteen (15) days after said annual meeting and, if adopted by the Board, will be effective the following December 1.

**Section 4.** Any charge of infraction of the rules and regulations of this association registered in writing with the NRCHA Management shall be referred directly to the appropriate Committee for investigation and recommendation to the Board in accordance with Disciplinary/Ethics Section 14.

**Section 5.** Every new member of this organization shall receive a current, complete set of Bylaws and rules and regulation book. The cost of printing and mailing the Bylaws and rules and regulations shall be passed on to the membership at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**Section 6.** Show management and Affiliates will receive one (1) current, complete set of Bylaws, rules and regulations, membership list, and list of approved judges in the show packet provided them each year by the NRCHA Management at no cost to show management and Affiliate.

## **ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES**

**Section 1.** Standing Committees. All standing Committees include the NRCHA Management in addition to the following and shall contain a minimum of 3 members unless otherwise specified: All members of standing committees shall be members in good standing of the Association.

a. Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President (chairperson), Secretary, Treasurer, Show Committee chairperson, and one (1) member of the Board of Directors who shall be appointed by the President. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the following:

1. The Executive Committee will be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations, administration, and finances of the NRCHA as approved by the Board of Directors.

2. The Executive Committee will carry out the directives and fiscal policies established by the Board of Directors.

3. Shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning the Association's policy in all administrative matters and make recommendations for implementation of operational policies and programs needed to efficiently run the NRCHA.

4. The Committee shall control, review and audit fiscal procedures, current accounts, including allocation of costs and revenues, and budgets for the past, present and future year. The NRCHA shall participate in a minimum of a bi-annual review audit, which shall be supervised by this Committee.

b. Show Committee: The Show Committee shall be appointed by the President and shall be ratified by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of the Show Committee.

c. Rules Committee: The Rules Committee Chairman shall be appointed by the President and the Committee shall be responsible for advising the Board of Directors on the enactment and enforcement of all the rules and regulations pertaining to all NRCHA approved shows.

d. Ethics Committee: The Ethics Committee will be appointed by the President and shall consist of five (5) regular members in good standing. At least three members of the Ethics Committee shall review all matters where disciplinary action may be possible and make recommendations to the Board.

e. Non Professional Committee: The Non Professional Committee shall consist of a chairperson appointed by the Board of Directors and such additional Committee members as the chairperson desires to appoint. The Non Professional Committee shall review and consider all applications received by it for Non Pro status. Such application shall be made in a form prescribed by the Committee and approved by the Board from time to time. Upon proper investigation and discussion, the Committee shall make recommendations to the Board regarding persons that meet the eligibility requirements to be a Non Professional. The Committee shall bring to the attention of the Board any problems, suggestions or criticisms regarding the Non Professional division that arise during the course of the year.

f. Long Range Planning Committee: The Long Range Planning Committee Chairman shall be appointed by the President. The Long Range Planning Committee makes recommendations with regard to the direction of the NRCHA for future growth and development.

g. Marketing Committee: The Marketing Committee Chairman shall be appointed by the President and the Committee shall be responsible for advising the Board of Directors on the best direction for marketing and promotion of the NRCHA.

h. Judges Committee: The Judges Committee shall consist of a chairman who shall be appointed by the President and at least 5 individuals appointed by the Board of Directors, of which at least two members shall have judged at least 1 NRCHA show per year in each of the preceding two years. The Director of Judging shall be on the Committee. It shall be the duties of the Judges Committee to administer judges' tests, conduct clinics, may review any and all judging after NRCHA sponsored events or approved events, review judging performances on recommendation of show representatives or by official protest, and to conduct investigations and hearings into any inappropriate behavior by an NRCHA judge. The Committee shall be empowered to take all action necessary to improve the quality, integrity and performance of the judging system.

i. Affiliate Committee: The committee shall consist of a chairperson, appointed by the Board of Directors and such additional Committee members as the chairperson desires to appoint. The Affiliate Committee shall bring to the attention of the Board all problems, suggestions and criticisms regarding the Affiliates that arise during the course of the year.

## **Section 2. Special Committees**

a. Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President no later than September 1 each year. This Committee shall consist of five (5) members. All members of this committee will be members in good standing of the Association and at least three (3) of said members will be other than current Board of Directors members.

The Committee shall be responsible for the acceptance and review of nomination papers submitted by those who seek nomination and election to the Board of Directors.

It shall be the duty of this Committee to report its findings to the Board of Directors prior to the mailings of the ballots for voting by the membership. The Board of Directors shall from time to time set forth policy and guidelines for explicit duties of this Committee.

b. Sponsorship Committee: The chairperson shall be appointed by the President and shall select a Committee for the purpose of establishing, promoting and directing NRCHA sponsorships and awards. The Committee shall obtain the approval of the Board for the awards program proposed by the Committee, including any expenditure to be made by it, prior to its enactment.

## **ARTICLE IX ELECTIONS**

**Section 1.** Prior to September 1st of each year, the President will appoint a five (5) person Nominating Committee to solicit, review and report to the Board of Directors its findings on candidates seeking election to the Board of Directors.

**Section 2.** No less than ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting each year, the general membership shall be given official notice that:

a. Any member in good standing in the Association may request and receive a nomination form, which said form will be prescribed by the Board of Directors and shall contain any criteria which have been specified by the Board.

b. Said form must be submitted to the Nominating Committee not less than forty-five (45) days prior to the annual meeting in order for said proposed nomination to be considered by the nominating Committee.

**Section 3.** The Nominating Committee shall review all correct nomination forms received by it in accordance with Section 2 of this article. In sufficient time for ballots to be prepared and mailed in accordance with this section, the Committee will, by investigation, personal interview and deliberation, formulate its own list of nominees and submit it to the Board of Directors. The recommendations of the Nominating Committee upon approval by a simple majority of the Board of Directors shall be final. The Board of Directors shall instruct the Corporate Secretary to prepare and issue ballots to be mailed to the general membership not later than thirty (30) days prior to such annual meeting.

**Section 4.** Election ballots will be mailed to current members by first class mail under separate cover and will include a return self-addressed envelope marked "Ballot" and mailed directly to the accounting firm. All ballots must be received no later than one (1) week prior to the annual meeting at which the results of said balloting are to be announced, and must remain unopened in the

custody of the accounting firm until such time as they are to be tabulated. The ballots will be opened and tabulated by an accounting firm and by a group of three (3) tabulators appointed by the

President and under the direct supervision of the Corporate Secretary. Ballots shall be retained in a secure location for 2 years following any election.

## **ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** The Bylaws may be repealed, modified or amended by a two thirds (2/3) vote of all voting members present and new Bylaws may be adopted by the same vote at any regular meeting of the members of this Association.

**Section 2.** The Bylaws may also be changed or amended by giving notice to the members of the Association by mail of the proposed changes which the Board of Directors has passed upon, which changes shall be effective fifteen (15) days after they have been published, unless, prior to that time, the NRCHA Management has received objections in writing signed by at least fifty (50) members in good standing of this Association as to all or any portion of said changes. Said objections shall be in the form provided in the notice.

## **ARTICLE XI INDEMNIFICATION**

The Association shall indemnify each of its Directors, Officers, employees and committee members whether or not then in service as such, against all reasonable expenses actually and necessarily incurred by him or her in connection with the defense of any litigation to which the individual may have been a part because he/she was a director, officer or employee and committee member of the Association. The individual shall have no right to reimbursement, however, in relation to matters as to which he or she has been adjudged liable to the Association for negligence or misconduct in the performance in his/her duty as a director, officer or employee and committee member by reason of willful misconduct, bad faith, gross negligence, or reckless disregard of the duties of his/her office or employment. The right to indemnity for expense shall also apply to expense of suits which are comprised or settled if the court having jurisdiction of this matter shall approve such settlement. Pursuant to California Corporation's Code section 7237.

The foregoing right of indemnification shall be an addition to, and not exclusive of, all other rights which such director, officer or employee may be entitled.

# 1 GENERAL RULES FOR SHOW & CONTEST

## 1.1 General

Any charge of infraction of the rules and regulations of this association registered in writing with the NRCHA Management shall be referred directly to the appropriate Committee for investigation and recommendation to the Board in accordance with Disciplinary/Ethics Section 14.

1.1.1 An Associate Membership will be offered. This membership will be offered at the reduced rate of \$35. An Associate member will be a non-voting supporter of NRCHA. The Associate member will receive the Rulebook, *Stock Horse News* subscription, etc., but will not be able to vote and will not be able to compete or own horses that are competing.

1.1.2 NRCHA Approved shows are restricted to NRCHA members in good standing only. If an owner or rider is found to not be a current member they may be fined in the amount of \$50.00. Failure to pay the assessed fine will be cause for denial of membership. In addition, a \$50.00 fine, per occurrence will be assessed any show management which allows a person to show without a current NRCHA membership card.

1.1.3 An owner may enter more than one horse and/or rider may ride more than one horse. A horse may be entered only once per division.

1.1.4 All registered horses must be shown under the name assigned to them by their Breed Association, and all unregistered horses must be shown under one name only, and said name may not conflict with a registered horse's name, at any and all contests approved by the NRCHA. In any NRCHA class, competition must be open to any horse, regardless of breed, color, conformation, appearance or previous performance, except in Youth classes where stallions are prohibited. All horses must be ridden astride.

1.1.5 When exhibitor back numbers are provided at NRCHA approved shows it is mandatory for all entries to wear the correct number. Numbers must be visible to the judge. Failure to wear the correct number will result in a fine to the rider of \$100. Failure to work in the proper order will result in a score of 0. If an event provides silks in the finals, no numbers are required in the finals while wearing the silks.

1.1.6 Automatic disciplinary action will be taken against any NRCHA member who fails to make any payment of any kind, to the NRCHA, *Stock Horse News* or any NRCHA approved show, in a twelve-month period:

1.1.6.1 First offense- \$25.00 plus all bank charges.

1.1.6.2 Second offense- \$500.00 fine and suspension. Fine must be paid and worthless payment made good to be eligible to compete. NRCHA membership privileges will be suspended for the second offense of bad checks and for non payment of debt to NRCHA Show Management or NRCHA Approved Show Management per rule 1.1.6.6. Additionally, all amounts for advertising in the NRCHA publication, *Stock Horse News*, are due and payable within 30 days of receipt. A finance charge of 1.5% per month (18% APR) will be added to all past due amounts. Membership privileges shall be suspended on accounts greater than 90 days past due and this information will be published in *Stock Horse News*. There will be a membership reinstatement fee of \$65.

1.1.6.3 No points for NRCHA annual awards or certificates may be received by either the owner or rider of any horse requiring implementation of the above on the date of the offense. Failure to make full restitution, including bank charges and the above pen-

alties, within fifteen (15) days of official written notice from the NRCHA will cause all points for the NRCHA annual awards or certificates to be cancelled from the date of the offense until the date full restitution is received by the NRCHA.

1.1.6.4 Payment of entry fees by a third party shall not release either the owner and/or rider of responsibility under this rule.

1.1.6.5 Any member or non-member will be subject to all provisions of this rule when any payment of any kind given in connection with the exhibition of reined cow horses is returned by the maker's bank. This includes checks given to show managements, as well as any check paid to the Association for any reason whatsoever.

1.1.6.6 In addition, all provisions of this rule shall apply when any member or non-member has a debt outstanding with any show management for entry fees and/or related show charges when payment has not been received for same within fifteen (15) days after request for payment has been made. The term "show management" as used herein is the organization or individual acting as show manager of a reined cow horse contest for which said organization or individual sought and received the approval of the NRCHA to conduct the same, or any other person(s) designated by said organization or individual to act on its behalf.

1.1.7 Any rider participating in a class or a division in which he/she is not eligible (or the horse he/she is riding is not eligible) will be placed on probation for a minimum of 30 days for the first offense. Second and subsequent offense will result in a 90-day suspension and a fine of \$500.00. When a horse/rider is found to be ineligible, the earnings and awards will be forfeited to the NRCHA.

1.1.8 All earnings are computed as of November 15th of each show year.

1.1.9 A contestant who achieves an earnings limit is eligible to compete in the division for the remainder of the year.

## **2 DEFINITIONS**

### **2.1 NON PRO DEFINITION AND RULES**

2.1.1 A Non Pro shall be defined as any person, regardless of age, who is not currently receiving remuneration directly, or indirectly for showing, training, giving lessons, clinics or assisting in the training of a horse for remuneration. This does not include prize money. Payment of entry fees and/or expenses by anyone other than the Non Pro, his/her immediate family, or his/her corporation is considered remuneration. A Non Pro may not show, train or assist in the training of a horse for which their spouse is accepting any form of remuneration either directly or indirectly for training, or assisting in the training or showing of said horses. Remuneration shall be defined as: (i). To pay, reward for work, trouble, etc. (ii). Reimburse, compensate. (iii). Make fair return for an action; barter.

2.1.2 A Non Pro may not accept remuneration of any kind, as noted in paragraph 2.1.1 of the rule book, however should the corporate entity for which a Non Pro has an ownership interest endorse a product and receives remuneration for such endorsement and so long as the Non Pro individual does not allow for use either their personal image, testimonial, or use of their clothing or tack while showing for the purposes of advertising a product for which their ranch/corporation receives remuneration or the name of the individual Non Pro is not used in advertising of the product, the Non Pro individual is with in the guidelines of rule 2.1. Effective July 1, 2006.

2.1.3 The Non Pro status shall be achieved by filling out a Non Pro application. The Non Pro Committee will screen all applicants and review eligibility annually. In the case of Life membership annual review will also be required. If there is a lapse in yearly membership a new Non Pro application will be required. The Non Pro Committee can require at anytime a Non Pro to submit his/her card for review of eligibility. The Non Pro Committee can refuse a Non Pro card to anyone deemed not in compliance with the eligibility criteria set forth in the NRCHA rulebook. An applicant must have applied to obtain a Non Pro card prior to entering a Non Pro Class; applicants must allow thirty (30) days minimum for processing applications. Earnings or points accumulated during the 30-day period will be held until the Non Pro Committee approves the application. Failure to comply with the application requirements as specified in the NRCHA rulebook may result in disciplinary action. The Non Pro Committee shall review eligibility for the Non Pro status whose decision shall be final.

2.1.4 Should a member wish to protest the eligibility of a Non Pro, he/she may file a written protest to the NRCHA Management and said protest will be reviewed by the Non Pro Committee, who will make a recommendation to the NRCHA Board of Directors whose decision shall be final.

2.1.5 Every rider, regardless of age, competing in an NRCHA Non Professional event, must have applied for a Non Pro card; this may be done at the show.

2.1.6 Should the NRCHA Board of Directors determine a Non Pro has made false declarations, or is in violation of the Non Pro definition, the said Non Pro will forfeit all Non Pro NRCHA winnings earned within the year of violations, and may be subject to disciplinary procedures. All forfeited moneys will be returned to the NRCHA, all points for year-end awards will also be forfeited, and all money earned will be stricken from the records. Upon receipt of the earnings, NRCHA will redirect the forfeited earnings to the Show Committee to be redistributed. NRCHA will correct the class placing and earnings in the database. It is the responsibility of the ineligible exhibitor to return all forfeited earnings to the NRCHA and all prizes and awards to the show secretary within 30 days of receipt of written request. If legal action is needed on such a matter, the action will be initiated from the county in which the NRCHA office is located.

2.1.7 A Non Pro who surrenders their Non Pro status must notify the NRCHA office by written statement within 30 days of that change.

2.1.8 A person who does not meet the criteria for Non Pro status or a Professional seeking Non Pro status, may apply for Non Pro status after said person has met the NRCHA Non Pro definition for a period of one year for every year, or partial year, they did not meet the NRCHA Non Pro definition with a maximum of 5 years.

2.1.9 Students while enrolled in an equine program as part of an educational curriculum are eligible to be Non Pros provided the horses they train or accept remuneration for are part of the educational program. They can retain their Non Pro status as long as they comply with all other Non Pro eligibility requirements.

2.1.10 Non Pros must not exhibit in Non Pro classes any horses owned by any third party, but shall only exhibit horses solely owned by the exhibitor or the exhibitor's family, which is the exhibitor's spouse, child, stepchild, parent, grandparent, grandchild, step-parent, sibling, half-sibling, spouse's parent, spouse's step-parent, spouse's sibling, spouse's half sibling, spouse's step sibling, sibling's spouse, half-sibling's spouse, step-sibling's spouse, legal ward, or legal guardian. Separate legal entities

such as family corporations, trusts or partnerships, are also authorized by this rule and must meet the family requirements as stated above. "Owned" means, in addition to other legitimate methods of acquiring ownership, the bona fide legal ownership obtained for adequate consideration in reasonable relationship with the actual market value of the horse.

2.1.11 Any transaction relating to the sale of a horse to a Non Pro other than by family members must be at fair market value. The Non Pro is responsible for documenting said transaction in a satisfactory manner in the event of a protest.

2.1.12 Horses owned in partnership or jointly with any person other than immediate family are not considered as fulfilling ownership requirements.

2.1.13 All Non Pro and Amateur competitors at NRCHA Limited Age Events must meet the Non Pro ownership rule.

2.1.14 Any Non Pro entering an open class must abide by the Non Pro ownership rules.

2.1.15 Any Non Pro in the Non Pro Limited, does not need to own the horse they are showing in that class.

2.1.16 It is up to the discretion of the show management at any NRCHA approved event to ask competitors for proof of ownership. The Non Pro contestant must be able to prove ownership at the time of the show by presenting the registration certificate or a legible photocopy with the correct owner or owners' name printed on the certificate. Proof of ownership shall consist of the official registration document as issued by a breed association, such as the AQHA, APHA or ApHC. Horses cannot be shown on transfers in Non Pro classes. Ownership must be current on horse's papers in order to show in Non Pro divisions. A witnessed Bill of Sale or a written declaration of ownership will only be acceptable for establishing ownership when the horse is unable to be registered. Both Buyer and Seller must sign a bill of sale to be acceptable. Proof of ownership may be requested at anytime.

2.1.17 Any professional trainer who has won \$100,000 or more in cash, in any horse venue may not achieve Non Pro status in the NRCHA.

2.1.18 Any professional trainer from another horse venue may not become a Non Pro in the NRCHA until the NRCHA Non Pro Requirements have been met.

**2.2 Youth.** Any rider who is 18 years of age or younger as of December 1st of the current show year. A Youth as defined herein is eligible to compete as a Non Pro in NRCHA classes provided they meet the criteria for Non Pro status. For safety reasons, Youth are not allowed to show stallions in Youth classes. Any Youth in the Youth Bridle or Youth Limited does not need to own the horse they are showing in these classes.

2.2.1 A Youth showing in a division other than a Youth division must abide by all Non Pro rules.

### **3 DIVISIONS-APPROVED CLASSES**

**3.1** For purposes of eligibility, reined cow horse is synonymous with working cow horse or stock horse classes.

**3.2** Lifetime earnings are considered as all monies won at NRCHA Approved Horse Shows, Limited Age Events, Category 1 Special Events, Category 2 Special Events, and Category 3 NRCHA Approved Events.

**3.3** Any contest held along with a sale will not be considered a reined cow horse event if they do not follow NRCHA rein work, cow work, herd work and steer stopping patterns exactly. Horse eligibilities will not be affected by entering these events.

**3.4** Open and Non Pro horse show classes are not to be run concurrently.

**3.5** **Bridle Classes**—open to horses of any age, to be ridden in an approved bit. Reins with romal required. Only one hand may be used on the reins and hands must not be changed.



3.5.1 Open Bridle- open to any rider.

3.5.2 Limited Open Bridle - open to any rider that has not won more than \$15,000 in reined cow horse shows and limited age events (lifetime earnings in reined cow horse events). To be eligible to compete in this division, contestants must have a valid Limited Open designation on their membership card and a

current application on file in the office. The Open and Limited Open shall have a common draw.

3.5.3 Non Pro Bridle - open to approved Non Pro riders.

3.5.4 Novice Non Pro Bridle - open to approved Non Pro riders who have not earned a total of 300 points or more than \$7,500 in this or any other approved NRCHA class in lifetime earnings, except Youth Bridle, Non Pro Limited and Youth Limited classes as of December 1st of the current show year. These points and dollars earned are cumulative from year to year. The Non Pro Bridle and the Novice Non Pro Bridle will have a common draw at the shows.

3.5.5 Youth Bridle - open to riders 18 years of age and under as of December 1st of the current show year (may be divided: 14 & under, 15 through 18, however only one year-end award is given). For safety reasons, Youth are not allowed to show stallions in any Youth class.

3.5.6 Rules for Bridle Horse Spectacular

3.5.6.1 NRCHA Rules for Judging apply throughout contest.

3.5.6.2 Contest to consist of Herd work, Reined work, and Fence work.

3.5.6.2.1 In the Herd work, it is permissible to hold Romal Reins in one hand.

**3.6** **Hackamore Classes**—open to horses 5 years of age and under as of January 1st of current show year that have never been shown in a bridle or two-rein down the fence at any judged classes or events with the exception of horse sales. The rider shall use closed reins. Two hands must be used on the reins, except in the herd work.



3.6.1 Open Hackamore - open to any rider.

3.6.2 Limited Open Hackamore - open to any rider who has not won more than \$15,000 in reined cow horse shows and Limited Age Events (lifetime earnings in reined cow horse events).

3.6.3 Non Pro Hackamore - open to approved Non Pro riders only.

**3.7 Two-Rein Classes**- open to horses of any age that have not shown in the bridle down the fence in any judged classes or events with the exception of horse sales, prior to December 1st of the current show year. These horses can be shown only one year in this class. The rider must use one hand on



the reins. Any number of fingers between reins will be permitted. Earnings in this class are counted as bridle earnings for purposes of Merit awards.

3.7.1 Open Two-Rein - open to any rider. Not to run concurrent with Non Pro Two-Rein.

3.7.2 Non Pro Two-Rein – This class is open to approved Non Pro riders. Beginning in 2008 this class will be an approved class for a period of two years and its status will be reviewed based on participation.

**3.8 Non Pro Limited (Provisional for 2008 and 2009), \$5,000 Non Pro Limited and Youth Limited Classes**—work to consist of reining pattern and single cow work (boxing) on the end of the arena. Amount of time to be at the judge's discretion once the rider has shown control of the cow. Horses 5 years of age and under as of January 1st of current show year may be shown in either a snaffle bit or hackamore. Horse of any age may be shown in the two-rein (for one year only) or bridle. Riders cannot have shown down the fence 3 actual runs in any judged classes or events with the exception of horse sales. Being entered in a class which includes the fence work will be counted as going down the fence regardless if the rider boxed the cow and pulled up before the run was completed. The responsibility for eligibility lies with the competitor. If an individual feels a competitor is not eligible for a class, the burden of proof lies with the person who protests.

3.8.1 \$5,000 Non Pro Limited - open to approved Non Pro riders who have not earned more than \$5000 in lifetime earnings and who comply with all Non Pro eligibility rules, with the exception of 2.1.10 ownership rule. (See pages 11, 12, and 13 for Non Pro eligibility rules.) For purposes of determining eligibility for this class, all Non Pro Limited earnings shall be computed at zero as of January 1, 2002. May run concurrent with Non Pro Limited

3.8.2 Non Pro Limited – on a provisional basis for the 2008 and 2009 show year. This class is open to approved Non Pro riders who have not earned more than \$5,000 in classes with down the fence cow work, but have won more than \$5,000 in lifetime earnings and who comply with all Non Pro eligibility rules. Non Pro riders in this class must meet the requirements of the 2.1.10 ownership rule. (See pages 11, 12, and 13 for Non Pro eligibility rules.) For purposes of determining eligibility for this class, all Non Pro Limited earnings shall be computed at zero as of January 1, 2002. For the 2008 show year any rider who has not won more than \$5,000 in fence classes may fall back to this class. After Non Pro competitors reach the age of 50, they may fall back into the Non Pro Limited class. However, they may not go down the fence again in any judged classes or events with the exception of horse sales and remain in the Non Pro Limited Class. Competitors may fall back to the Non Pro Limited Class only one time. Any rider that has not reached the age of 50 and wishes to compete in the Non Pro Limited class may petition the NRCHA Board of Directors for special consideration. May run concurrent with \$5,000 Non Pro Limited. This class will not count for Regional Standings, World Show Qualification, or National Standings. Earnings will count toward lifetime earnings, eligibilities and Merit Awards.

3.8.3 Youth Limited- open to riders 18 years of age and under as of December 1st of the current show year. Youth may not show stallions in Youth classes.

## 4 REGIONAL HORSE SHOW RULES

**4.1** As of January 1, 2003, all NRCHA approved shows will be called NRCHA Shows.

### **4.2 Regions will be:**

**Southwest:** Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and New Mexico

**Northwest:** Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Alaska

**South Central:** Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas

**North Central:** Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota

**Northeastern:** Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin

**Southeastern:** Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee

**International:** Foreign countries other than Canada

**Canadian:** All Canadian Provinces

**4.3** The top twenty horses in each of the twelve approved NRCHA classes from each region will qualify for the NRCHA World Championship Show. The show year for 2008 begins on December 1, 2007 and ends on November 15, 2008. For each year after that the show year begins on November 16 and ends on the following November 15. (Example: In 2009, the show year will begin on November 16, 2008 and end on November 15, 2009.)

**4.4** A rider may qualify any number of horses for the NRCHA World Championship Show.

**4.5** Horses in open classes may be shown by more than one rider or the rider may be changed, as long as all riders fit the earnings criteria for the class.

**4.6** In Non Pro classes, horse and rider qualify together. If a Non Pro horse is sold the original horse and rider team is no longer eligible to compete.

**4.7** Horses or riders may appear in the standings of more than one region.

**4.8** To be eligible to enter the finals a horse or horse and rider combination must have competed at least three times in a given class in at least three NRCHA approved shows in the same region, have an accumulated point value of at least 1/2 point and be in the top ten of his or her region including ties or qualified under Category 3 Events

**4.9** In order for an NRCHA approved show to count as one of the three times in a given class a horse and rider must show and receive a score of at least -0- in both parts of the event (rein work and cow work). A horse and rider who fail to attempt to complete either the rein work or the cow work will not be recognized as being an entry in the class and therefore it will not count toward one of the three qualifying events. This will be considered a Non-Entry and will be designated by the judge as N-E in the score box of the judges cards.

**4.10** Regional standings and winners will be named at the end of the regular season, before the NRCHA World Championship Show.

**4.11** Points from the NRCHA World Championship Show will count toward National (year-end) Championship and points from the finals will be counted by the same formula as other shows.

**4.12** A horse does not have to compete at the finals to qualify for Regional or National (year-end) awards.

**4.13** Hackamore horses may show at the finals as 6-year-olds as they qualified during their 5-year-old year. Also, a

hackamore horse may have been shown in the bridle or two-rein after November 15 for this show only.

**4.14** Eligibility of horse and/or rider to show in classes they have qualified for at the World Championship Show will not be effected by classes they show in between the end of the qualifying year and the completion of the World Show.

**4.15** Champions of each region will be **Regional Champions**. (Example: 2003 NRCHA Northeast Region Open Bridle Champion)

Champions of the NRCHA World Championship Show will be **World Champions**.

(Example: 2003 NRCHA Open Bridle World Champion)

Year-end Champions will be **National Champions**.

(Example: 2003 NRCHA Open Bridle National Champion)

## 5 APPOINTMENTS & EQUIPMENT

**5.1** Horses shall be shown astride with a western saddle. Riders must wear a western hat or helmet approved for riding by an equine organization, long sleeve shirt and chaps. Carrying of a rope or riata is optional.

**5.2** A spade bit or a bit having the following characteristics must be used in any of the bridle classes. Said characteristics shall be: one with an unbroken bar mouthpiece with one inch or higher port measured from the bottom of the bar to the top of the port. There must be an operable cricket incorporated into the mouthpiece of the bit. A barrel, made of copper or metal, wrapped around the bar of the mouthpiece of the bit is to be considered a part of the mouthpiece. The barrel must be round, smooth, and made up of one continuous, unbroken piece. The minimum diameter, on any part of the bar of the mouthpiece, is 5/16 inch. Bars must be round, oval or egg shaped smooth and unwrapped metal. Latex wrap or any foreign material is not acceptable. Nothing may protrude below the mouthpiece (bar), such as extensions or prongs. The cheeks must be connected at the bottom. The overall length of the bit shall not be longer than 8 1/2 inches. Optional tongue release shall not exceed 3 inches in width.



**5.3** Braces, copper port cover and/or having copper smoothly inlaid in the mouthpiece are optional. The use of bosal, martingale or tie-down is prohibited (bosal permitted in Two-Rein class only). No wire, chain or other metal or rawhide device may be used in conjunction with the bit or a part of the leather chin strap. Leather chin strap must be flat, flexible and at least 1/2 inch wide. No metal rivets are allowed to come in contact with the chin, or chin groove of the horse. Metal keepers are not acceptable on the chin strap. Reins with romal required. The reins can be held in either hand, with hand around reins in a fist position with thumbs up. The non-rein hand must be on the romal. (The keeper, or hobble, that attaches the romal to the reins is considered to be a part of the romal.) The non-rein hand is not allowed, at anytime, to touch the reins or a score of -0- will be applied. The rider is allowed to shorten the reins while the horse is in motion as long as their hands are held in a legal manner. No fingers are

permitted between the reins in Bridle classes, except in the Two-Rein class.



**Acceptable**



**Unacceptable  
-0- Score**

**5.4** In the Two-Rein class bosals may be of any size, constructed of braided rawhide or leather and have a non-metal flexible core. No iron or foreign substance may be used. The rider must use one hand on the reins. Fingers between the reins will be permitted.

**5.5** Hackamores shall be round in shape and constructed of uniform braided rawhide or leather and have a non-metal flexible core. No gimmick of any kind may be used in conjunction with the bosal. No rigid material of any kind may be used, regardless of how padded or covered, in conjunction with the bosal. Horse hair bosals are prohibited.

**5.6** Snaffle Bit shall be either "D" or "O" Ring type, no larger than 4 inches in diameter on the inside of the ring. They must have a broken, 2 piece, mouth piece, being a minimum of 5/16 inch in diameter, measured 1 inch in from the cheek, with a gradual decrease to center of the snaffle. The mouthpiece should be round, oval or egg-shaped, smooth and unwrapped metal. It may be inlaid, but must be smooth. Latex wrap is not acceptable. These bits must be such that when the reins are pulled no undue leverage is applied, i.e. the inside of the circumference of the ring must be free of rein, curb, or head stall attachments. A leather or other woven material chin strap of any width is to be used. No iron, chain or other material may be used. Chin Strap is allowed to include metal buckles and/or keepers on snaffle bits only. Reins are to be attached above the chin strap. Two hands must be used on the reins, except in the herd work or to provide safety to rider or adjust equipment.



**5.7** Rider or representative will drop the bridle to the designated bridle checker. The bridle checker must have a magnet available to check the hackamores and chin straps for metal objects (inside) or cores. Designated bridle checker will not touch horse's mouth.

## **6 BROKEN EQUIPMENT**

**6.1** If at any time during a performance a piece of equipment breaks, the rider may continue provided the broken equipment does not pose a hazard to the rider and/or is not cruel to the horse. In the event that the fence work immediately follows the rein work, broken equipment may be repaired within a 1 minute time period. Rider may dismount if necessary to make the repair. Horse and rider may not leave the arena and may not receive physical assistance or equipment from outside the arena. If the rider is unable to continue because of the broken equipment, the rider will be excused with a score of zero.



## 7.2.1 Ties:

7.2.1.1 In NRCHA Managed LAE with or without finals, in the case of a tie for first place, the following process shall be used to determine the winner:

7.2.1.1.1 1st: First place shall be determined by the highest cow work score in finals or cow work go-round score in LAE without a finals. If a tie remains then;

7.2.1.1.2 2nd: Work off between tied competitors, cow work only. If a tie remains then;

7.2.1.1.3 3rd: The high preliminary total score will determine the winner. If a tie still exists then;

7.2.1.1.4 4th: The contestants will be declared co-champions and a coin will be flipped for prizes.

7.2.1.2 In other NRCHA Approved LAE, with or without finals, and horse shows, in the case of a tie for first place, the above tie breaking process may be followed; however after 7.2.1.1.1 a second option is available – if mutually agreed upon by all individuals co champions may be declared and a coin may be flipped for prizes.

7.2.1.3 Ties below first place will split earnings and points, if applicable. Rounding of points may occur up or down to the nearest half point. If the class would pay 6 places, and there is a three way tie for 6th place, all three riders would split the points for 6th place and related earnings

7.2.2 When there are finals in Horse Show classes, the number of horses taken to the finals is determined by the number of places that will be paid according to the pay-out schedule in section 7.2 and based on the number of horses entered in the preliminaries. ALL TIES FOR THE LAST POSITION WILL GO TO THE FINALS. HOWEVER, MONEY WILL BE PAID ONLY TO PLACES IN THE PRINTED PAY-OUT.

In the NRCHA World Championship Show the top 10 scoring entries in the first go-round will advance to the next go, or finals, regardless of the number of entries in the class. The finals will be clean slate; therefore the world championship and placings will be determined by the score in the finals.

7.2.3 When a horse that has qualified for the finals is unable to show in the finals, that horse will receive the placing and earnings for the lowest place to be paid in the finals, provided the finals fee has been paid, if applicable. No horse that initially did not make the finals will be allowed to move up into the finals. If there are 10 entries or less in the first go-round there will be a finals only.

7.2.4 All earnings and points are computed as of November 30th of the previous year to determine eligibility for year-end awards and for eligibility to show in classes where there are earnings or point limits.

**7.3 Point System**—during the show season, points will be awarded to the horse for its placing in any approved NRCHA class. Points will be awarded in accordance with the payout schedule shown in Section 7.2 with the first place horse receiving the highest number based on the number of horses actually entered. In a class with 5 or more entries the first place horse will receive 5 points for the win plus one point for every horse defeated. Each succeeding place will receive 2 points less than the place before it, i.e. 10 horses in class, 1st is 14 points, 2nd is 12 points, 3rd is 10 points, 4th is 8 points, 5th is 6 points. In classes having less than 5 entries, the first place horse will receive points equal to the number of horses entered in the class plus one point for every horse defeated (i.e.- four horses entered, 1st place receives 4 points plus 3 points for the three horses defeated, for a total of 7. Three horses entered in a class, 1st place receives

five points, 2nd receives 3 points.) Owners and riders must be members in good standing of the NRCHA.

Any errors found in show results or standings will be corrected immediately on the NRCHA website and in the next issue of the *Stock Horse News*. Members or show management must contact the NRCHA office within 30 days of the posting of these results for corrections to be made.

7.3.1 In addition, for every \$100 won by the horse, the horse will receive an additional point, up to 150 additional points (\$15,000).

**7.4 Year-End Awards** - Everyone that competes in an NRCHA approved horse show class will automatically be in the running for the year-end awards. There will be no sign-ups required to be in the standings. The awards will continue to be based on points earned, rather than cash won. A cumulative tabulation of points earned by all horses during the show season shall be kept by the office. Said tabulation of earned points shall be published in the *Stock Horse News*. Points awarded are for horse and rider combinations in all Non Pro and Youth divisions, and the horse only in Open divisions. In the event of ties in points, the total earnings will determine the standings.

## **8 MERIT AWARD PROGRAM**

**8.1** Call or write the NRCHA office for an application form. As of January 1, 2002 earnings which will count towards the Merit Award Program are all NRCHA Approved horse shows, LAE and Category 1 Special Events. To become an NRCHA approved show a request for show approval must be submitted in accordance with rule 12.1.

**8.1.1 Certificate of Ability** - a horse will be certified after winning a total of \$500 in any NRCHA class or combination of classes. It is the intention of the NRCHA that the Certificate of Ability will be available to a great number of horses that do in fact show ability.

**8.1.2 Superior Cow Horse Award** - this award will be given when a horse has earned \$5,000 in any NRCHA class or combination of classes or events. All earnings from reined cow horse snaffle bit events can be added to the hackamore and bridle winnings to total \$5,000 in order to receive this award. The NRCHA believes that any horse that wins \$5,000 in a single class or combination of classes and events is certainly considered a Superior Cow Horse and should be recognized.

**8.1.3 Supreme Reined Cow Horse** - the NRCHA has reserved the Supreme Reined Cow Horse Award for the unique individual that has shown and won in all divisions and the horse has substantial earnings. A horse must meet the following criteria:

**8.1.3.1** The horse must have been shown at a Limited Age reined cow horse event and earned at least \$1,000 in this event. Up to \$15,000 of any monies won at these events can be applied to the total earnings required.

**8.1.3.2** The horse must have been shown in the hackamore, and have earned at least \$1,000 in this event. Only \$5,000 of hackamore earnings can be applied to the total required.

**8.1.3.3** The horse must win a total of \$25,000. After considering the totals earned from Limited Age Events and the hackamore, with the limitations previously stated, the remaining balance must be won in the bridle division.

**8.1.3.4** Money earned in the Non Pro Limited and Youth Limited classes will not count towards the Supreme Reined Cow Horse Title.

8.1.3.5 Earnings from the Hackamore Classic will count as Limited Age Event earnings for this program. To fulfill the hackamore requirement, earnings must come from NRCHA Horse Show Hackamore classes.

8.1.3.6 Money earned in the two rein class will count as bridle earnings for the merit award program.

8.1.3.7 Foals of 2000 and prior will be grandfathered into this program and are not required to have won the \$1,000 in Limited Age Events and Hackamore, but still must win a total of \$25,000.

## **9 Rules For Competition**

9.1 An owner may enter more than one horse and/or rider may ride more than one horse. A horse may be entered only once per division.

9.2 All payments for entry and other fees will be made payable to the Show Committee and must be good funds in order to be valid.

9.3 Payments must be postmarked by midnight of the due date or a late penalty will be assessed.

9.4 Late entries will be accepted. The late entry penalty plus the regular entry fees will be assessed.

9.4.1 Late entries received after the draw will compete in the following order.

9.4.1.1 First in the rein and cow work. The last late entry received will go first, the second to last late entry received will go second and so on until all late entries have gone before the first horse in the draw.

9.4.1.2 Herd work. The last late entry will draw last in the first set of cattle; the second to last late entry will go last in the second set etc. Cattle will be added for the late entry only if available and at the discretion of show management.

9.4.1.3 Draw numbers for late entries will reflect this order. Example: First late entry in the rein work will be #1, making the previous #1 in the draw #1.1. Draw sheets will be amended to reflect this change in order. For herd work, if 10 in a set, the first late entry will be 10.1.

9.5 In the event that a horse entered properly is left out of the draw, a re-draw will not be held. In order to establish a working order for this entry, show management will draw a numbered token based upon the number of entries in the class for the late entry. The token drawn shall designate the entry left out of the draw and shall work behind the token drawn. e.g. if 10 horses in the class, and token drawn is number 9, then entry shall work between draw 9 and 10. When this occurs in herd work, the appropriate number of cattle will be added to the set affected.

9.6 Once the draw has been finalized, the drawn position is the only position each entry may work in. Any horse that is scratched or otherwise removed from the draw, due to the selling of a slot entry, substitution, or for any other reason, may only be re-entered into the competition as a late entry. (See Rule 9.4.1)

9.7 If any entry changes ownership, the entry will retain eligibility by complying with the following: 1) notifying the Association of the change of ownership and the intention of the new owner to continue the entry, 2) payment of the remaining fees when due and 3) membership of the new owner in the NRCHA. The Show Committee reserves the right to approve all transfers.

9.8 In approved Horse show classes managed by the NRCHA, exhibitors that scratch prior to the draw will be refunded

all entry fees. Entries that scratch after the draw will be refunded the video fees and NRCHA fees only. All other NRCHA approved shows shall abide by the affiliate's or show management's policies for scratched, refunds and late fees.

9.9 If an entry scratches after the draw, the entry fee will be left in the purse for that entry. Pay-outs and calculations for the number of horses taken to the finals will be based upon total paid entries in a class, regardless of whether they show.

9.10 After each work, each bit and horse's mouth will be viewed by the appointed representative to determine if the bit or hackamore is legal, and to check for blood inside the mouth. The judge(s) has the sole authority to disqualify the contestant.

9.11 Unofficial scores will be announced and/or exhibited on the scoreboard after each entry's work. Scores will then be verified from the judge's score sheets and any corrections will be made. Scores will not be official until all score sheets have been verified.

9.12 In the event of a post-event disqualification, the payoff will remain the same as far as number of places paid, as before the disqualification.

9.13 The Show Committee will select the patterns to be used in the reined work. Any pattern change must be posted at least 1 hour before the go round to which it applies.

9.14 Size and design of horse's shoes will be at the exhibitors' discretion.

9.15 No horse may be used as a herd settler for a class that horse is competing in. They may be used as turn back horses.

9.16 Rules printed herein are subject to amendments and annual updates.

## **10 Limited Age Events ("LAE")**

For all intents and purposes in this rulebook, Limited Age Events shall include events for which only horses of a specified age are eligible, and include but are not limited to the following approved events: NRCHA Stakes, NRCHA Hackamore Classic, NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity, NRCHA Derby, and Pre-Futurity.

### **10.1 General Rules**

10.1.1 All fees and purses for LAE are subject to annual review and update and are subject to change. They may be either published in the *Stock Horse News* or may be mailed directly to the membership. General rules for scoring and judging reined cow horse events as presented in this rulebook will apply to the Futurity and all NRCHA LAE where specific rules have not been implemented. Refer to the rules governing the individual Limited Age Events. In all Limited Age Events the same type of headgear (hackamore or snaffle) must be used throughout the event (herd, rein and cow work) on a horse once the competition has started.

10.1.2 In Limited Age Events with 49 entries or less in the Open and Non Pro there will be a common draw.

10.1.3 The number of horses taken to the finals is determined by the table in Section 10.3. When the number of horses taken to the finals is determined by a percentage, rounding up may occur when the percentage is .5 or above. Example: If 30% of the total entries equals 25.5, then 26 horses shall go to the finals. If 30% of the total entries equals 25.4, then 25 horses shall go to the finals. If there is a tie for the last qualifying place to advance to the finals, tied horses

shall go to the finals. The payout will remain unchanged, with places paid in accordance with Section 10.3

10.1.4 In an LAE if entry payment is postmarked on or before the due date, that payment only may be refunded if written entry cancellation is received by the NRCHA office on or before the due date.

10.1.5 Owners and riders must be current members in good standing with the NRCHA by noon the day preceding LAE competitions.

10.1.6 All progressive payments made on or before the due date are final. In an LAE if entry payment is postmarked on or before the due date, that payment only may be refunded if written entry cancellation is received by the NRCHA office on or before the due date.

10.1.7 Substitution of a horse only by the same owner or rider will be allowed upon presentation of a veterinary certificate stating that the horse entered will be unable to work. In the case of a Non Pro rider they may substitute to another Non Pro family member. Refer to rule 2.1.10 for family requirements. A substitution fee equal to 10% of the total entry fee will be charged. Substitutions must be accompanied with a new nomination blank. Any substitution without a veterinary certificate will be considered a late entry and will be assessed the late entry penalty fees.

10.1.8 Substitutions of riders due to accident or illness during LAE will be subject to approval by the Show Committee provided that the rider complies with all ownership and eligibility rules.

10.1.9 Entrants do not have to participate in all three go-rounds to be eligible for prize money.

10.1.10 The Show Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any entry. All decisions of the Committee are final.

10.1.11 NRCHA reserves the right to cancel, transfer or re-schedule the LAE without notice and /or liability. In the event of a cancellation, all entry fees will be refunded.

10.1.12 The finals, if held, will consist of each of the three phases: herd work, rein work and cow work.

10.1.13 Each finalist will be assessed a finals fee.

**10.2 Divisions:** The following divisions may be used at LAE. NRCHA Affiliates may use divisions in Limited Age Events which fit their needs.

10.2.1 Open - Open to any rider who possesses a current NRCHA membership card.

10.2.2 Intermediate Open - open to any rider who is not on the top 30 Open rider listing; based on Open and Non Pro money won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events and is not on the top 12 Non Pro rider listings; based on Open and Non Pro money won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events. To be eligible to compete in this division, contestants must have a valid Intermediate Open designation on their membership card and a current application on file in the office. There will be added money to the purse. Entry in the Open division must be paid to show in this class.

10.2.3 Limited Open - open to any rider who is not on the top 30 Open rider listing; based on Open and Non Pro money won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events, has not earned over \$10,000 in Open and Non Pro money at the NRCHA Futurity, Derby, Hackamore Classic, Stakes or Maturity through 2001, and after 2001 at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events and is not on the top 12 Non Pro rider listings; based on Open and Non Pro money

won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events. To be eligible to compete in this division, contestants must have a valid Limited Open designation on their membership card and a current application on file in the office. There will be added money to the purse. Entry in the Open division must be paid to show in this class.

10.2.4 Non Pro - Open to any rider who possesses a current NRCHA Non Pro card.

10.2.5 Intermediate Non Pro - open to any rider who possesses a current NRCHA Non Pro card and is not on the top 12 Non Pro rider listings; based on Open and Non Pro money won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events. To be eligible to compete in this division, contestants must have a valid Intermediate Non Pro designation on their membership card and a current application on file in the office.

10.2.6 Amateur - Open to any rider who possesses a current NRCHA Non Pro card and is not on the top 12 Non Pro rider listings; based on Open and Non Pro money won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events and has not won more than \$5,000 in lifetime earnings in Open and Non Pro money at the NRCHA Futurity, Derby, Hackamore Classic, Stakes or Maturity through 2001, and after 2001 at any NRCHA approved Limited Aged Events.

10.2.7 Ladies - Open to all female Open and Non Pro riders.

### **10.3 Limited Age Events Payout**

10.3.1 The following rule shall be used for NRCHA managed shows and may be used as a guideline for show management.

<b>NRCHA Stakes</b>	
Open, Intermediate Open, Non Pro and Limited Open	30% of Entries with a cap of 20.
Intermediate Non Pro	Per Rule 7.2
Amateur	Per Rule 7.2
<b>NRCHA Hackamore Classic</b>	
All Classes	Per Rule 7.2 Does not count toward year-end. Must also enter Horse Show class in order to count points and earnings toward year-end.
<b>NRCHA Derby</b>	
Open, Intermediate Open, Non Pro and Limited Open	30% of Entries with a cap of 20
Intermediate Non Pro	Per Rule 7.2
Amateur	Per Rule 7.2
<b>NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity</b>	
Open	Per Rule 10.4.2.1.2 or 10.4.2.1.3
Intermediate Open	Per Rule 10.4.2.2.2
Limited Open	Per Rule 10.4.2.3.2
Non Pro	Per Rule 10.4.2.4.2
Intermediate Non Pro	Per Rule 10.4.2.5.2
Amateur	Per Rule 7.2

### **10.4 NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity**

10.4.1 General Information:

10.4.1.1 Open to 3-year-old horses, as of January 1st of current show year, of all breeds, to be shown in 3 go-rounds of competition: herd, rein and cow. Horses may have been previously exhibited in a bridle, snaffle bit or hackamore. However, the

horse may not have been shown down the fence in a bridle in any judged classes or events with the exception of horse sales.

10.4.1.2 "Slot" is defined as an entry, which can be transferred, and horse and rider named at a later date. Slot changes are required to pay a transfer fee.

10.4.1.3 Entries must be shown with both hands on the reins, except in the herd work.

10.4.1.4 Entries must be shown in a standard headstall (browband, shaped ear or split ear) using a smooth snaffle bit as described in General Rules for equipment.

10.4.2 Snaffle Bit Futurity Divisions:

10.4.2.1 Open

10.4.2.1.1 In the Open Futurity, \$15,000 of the entire purse will be designated to go-round monies. There will be 5 monies paid in each go-round of the elimination and the amount paid to 1st-5th will be in accordance with rule 7.2.

10.4.2.1.2 If there are 99 entries or less in the Open Futurity, the 20 highest scoring horses will advance to the Open finals. If there are 100 entries or more in the Open Futurity, the 25 highest scoring horses will advance to the Open finals. Ties for the final place will also advance.

10.4.2.1.3 If there are 50 entries or less in the Open Futurity, prize money will be paid 1st through 15th place; 51 through 110 entries will pay the top 20 horses; 111 entries and up will pay 25 places.

10.4.2.1.4 Each Finalist will be assessed a Finals Fee.

10.4.2.2 Intermediate Open - open to any rider who is not on the top 30 Open rider listing; based on Open and Non Pro money won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events and is not on the top 12 Non Pro rider listings; based on Open and Non Pro money won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events.

10.4.2.2.1 There will be \$6,000 and 3 places paid for the preliminary go-rounds for the Intermediate Open Division. The payout of preliminary money will be based on NRCHA rule 7.2.

10.4.2.2.2 A minimum of ten (10) horses will advance to the finals for 50 entries or less. With more than 50 entries, ten horses plus one for every ten horses above 50 will advance to the finals with a maximum of 20 finalists. Ties for final placing will advance.

10.4.2.2.3 Each finalist will be assessed a finals fee.

10.4.2.3 Limited Open - open to any rider who is not on the top 30 Open rider listing; based on Open and Non Pro money won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events, has not earned over \$10,000 in Open and Non Pro money at the NRCHA Futurity, Derby, Hackamore Classic, Stakes or Maturity through 2001, and after 2001 at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events and is not on the top 12 Non Pro rider listings; based on Open and Non Pro money won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events. There will be added money to the purse.

10.4.2.3.1 There will be \$6,000 and 3 places paid for the preliminary go-rounds for the Limited Open Division. The payout of preliminary money will be based on NRCHA rule 7.2.

10.4.2.3.2 A minimum of ten (10) horses will advance to the finals for 50 entries or less. With more than 50 entries, ten horses plus one for every ten horses above 50 will advance to the finals with a maximum of 20 finalists. Ties for final placing will advance.

10.4.2.3.3 Each finalist will be assessed a finals fee.

10.4.2.4 Non Pro - Open to any rider who possesses a current NRCHA Non Pro card. All Non Pros must abide by ownership rules.

10.4.2.4.1 In the Non Pro Futurity, \$15,000 of the entire purse will be designated to go-round monies. There will be 5 monies paid in each go-round of the elimination and the amount paid to 1st-5th will be in accordance with rule 7.2.

10.4.2.4.2 In the Non Pro Division, 30% of the entries, with a cap of 20 horses, will advance to the finals. Ties for the final place will also advance. Rounding up will occur when percent is .5 or above.

10.4.2.4.3 A Non Pro can enter both the Open and Non Pro divisions for double the entry fees and will be required to show the horse in each of the Open and Non Pro go-rounds. One draw will be for the Non Pro competition, and one draw will be for the Open competition.

10.4.2.4.4 Each finalist will be assessed a finals fee.

10.4.2.5 Intermediate Non Pro- This division is open to any rider who possesses a current NRCHA Non Pro card and is not on the top 12 Non Pro rider listings; based on Open and Non Pro money won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events.

10.4.2.5.1 There will be \$6,000 and 3 places paid for the preliminary go-rounds for this class. The payout of preliminary money will be based upon rule 7.2.

10.4.2.5.2 In the Intermediate Non Pro Division, 30% of the entries, with a cap of 20 horses, will advance to the finals. Ties for the final place will also advance. Rounding up will occur when percent is .5 or above

10.4.2.5.3 There will be money added to the purse. Pay-out shall be in accordance with NRCHA rule 7.2.

10.4.2.5.4 Each finalist will be assessed a finals fee.

10.4.2.6 Ladies - This division is open to all female Open and Non Pro riders. The preliminary go-rounds will determine the winner in the Ladies' division. Horses and/or riders that are entered in both the Open and Non Pro Divisions must declare, on the Ladies divisional coupon, which division's score will be used for the Ladies Division. A horse may be entered only once. Payout will be in accordance with NRCHA rule 7.2.

10.4.2.7 Amateur - Open to any rider who possesses a current NRCHA Non Pro card and is not on the top 12 Non Pro rider listings; based on Open and Non Pro money won in the past three years at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events and has not won more than \$5,000 in lifetime earnings in Open and Non Pro money at the NRCHA Futurity, Derby, Hackamore Classic, Stakes or Maturity through 2001, and after 2001 at any NRCHA approved Limited Age Events. The Amateur Division will run concurrently with the Non Pro Futurity. Amateur entries do not need to be entered in the Non Pro Futurity. Amateur payments do not constitute a slot and therefore cannot be sold.

## **10.5 NRCHA Stakes**

Open to 4- and 5-year-olds, as of January 1st of current show year, get of Subscribed Stallions, to be shown in a snaffle bit, as described in rule #5.6, or hackamore, as described in rule #5.5, that have never been shown in a bridle down the fence in any judged classes or events with the exception of horse sales.

The same type of headgear (hackamore or snaffle) must be used throughout the event (herd, rein and cow work) on a horse once the competition has started.

Entries must be shown with both hands on the reins, except in the herd work.

Horses must be shown in a standard headstall (browband, shaped ear or split ear) using a smooth snaffle bit or hackamore as described in General Rules for equipment.

## **10.6 NRCHA Hackamore Classic**

Open to horses 5 years of age and under, as of January 1st of current show year, that have never been shown in a bridle down the fence in any judged classes or events with the exception of horse sales.

Horses must be shown in a hackamore as described in General Rules for equipment Rule #5.5. The rider shall use closed reins. Two hands must be used on the reins, except in the herd work.

## **10.7 The NRCHA Derby**

Open to 4- and 5-year-old horses, as of January 1st of current show year, to be shown in a snaffle bit, as described in rule #5.6, or hackamore, as described in rule #5.5. The horse may have been shown previously in the bridle down the fence.

The same type of headgear (hackamore or snaffle) must be used throughout the event (herd, rein and cow work) on a horse once the competition has started.

Entries must be shown with both hands on the reins, except in the herd work.

Horses must be shown in a standard headstall (browband, shaped ear or split ear) using a smooth snaffle bit or hackamore as described in General rules for equipment.

## **11 SPECIAL EVENTS, CATEGORY 2 EVENTS, AND CATEGORY 3 EVENTS**

**11.1** Category 1 Special Events – Category 1 Special Events are events that do not meet the classification of a Limited Age event. Approved Category 1 Special Events will consist of Bridle Spectaculars, held in addition to Horse Show Bridle classes, and All Around Competitions. Earnings from Category 1 Special Events will count toward Lifetime earnings and merit awards.

**11.1.1** World's Greatest Horseman & All Around Reined Cow Horse Contests

**11.1.1.1** Open to all breeds of horses of all ages regardless of show history. Horses must be shown in the bridle. Contests will consist of 4 go-rounds: herd, rein, steer stopping, and cow work.

**11.1.1.2** The World's Greatest Horseman contest will only have an Open division.

**11.1.1.3** In the World's Greatest Horseman contest a rider may show only one horse. An owner may enter more than one horse provided there is a different rider for each entry.

**11.1.1.4** In All Around Contests an owner may enter more than one horse and/or a rider may ride more than one horse.

**11.1.1.5** In the World's Greatest Horseman contest horses will be shown in the same NRCHA legal bridle throughout all phases, no tie-downs will be permitted.

**11.1.1.6** The traditional romal must be used. With romal reins, hand is to be around the reins in a fist position with thumbs up and no fingers between the reins. In the herd work only, romal reins can be held in one hand. Roping reins are optional in the Steer Stopping.

**11.1.1.7** Entry fees, stall fees and other charges will be established annually and will be outlined on the entry form.

**11.1.1.8** All payments made on or before the due date are final. In a Category 1 Special Event if entry payment is postmarked on or before the due date, that payment only may be refunded if written entry cancellation is received by the NRCHA office on or before the due date.

**11.1.1.9** Late entries will be accepted with a late entry penalty as outlined on the entry form until the day the show begins.

11.1.1.10 Scoring of the herd, reined, steer stopping and cow portions of this contest will be in accordance with the NRCHA rules.

11.1.1.11 Bits will be checked after each go-round. A score of 0- will be given for pink or bloody mouth on the horse.

11.1.1.12 Horse and rider must compete in all four go-rounds to qualify for go-round money, unless the horse or rider is physically unable to compete.

11.1.1.13 In the World's Greatest Horseman contest there will be 10 finalists that will compete in the finals the last day of the contest.

11.1.1.14 Finalists start with a clean slate, and must pay a finals fee. If a tie advances more than the specified number of finalists to be paid, those finalists placing lower than specified payout places will receive an amount equal to the finals fee.

11.1.1.15 NRCHA Rules and regulations will apply in all other instances.

11.1.1.16 NRCHA Payout may be used as a guide but is not mandatory.

**11.2 Category 2 Events** – Events that do not meet established NRCHA Limited Age Event Guidelines but do feature at least rein and cow work, stallion programs other than the NRCHA Stakes, invitational events other than the NRCHA World Show, horse sales or closed events that do not allow entry to everyone but still wish to be approved by the NRCHA for lifetime earnings will be considered Category 2 Special events. Earnings from these events will not count toward Merit Awards. NRCHA Payout may be used as a guide but is not mandatory.

**11.3 Category 3 Event** - Any organization may put on a Category 3 NRCHA approved show without adding the required \$1000 added money. These shows will count toward the show number requirement for the World Show. Money earned at them will not count for qualifying or regional awards or merit awards but will count toward lifetime earnings. No points will be awarded.

## **12 SHOW MANAGEMENT APPROVAL & RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **12.1 NRCHA Show Approval & Requirements**

12.1.1 No double judged, double pointed shows or two NRCHA shows on one day in the same location will be approved by the NRCHA.

12.1.2 Any organization seeking approval for an event by the NRCHA must comply with the following requirements:

12.1.3 Classes for which approval is sought, will be called "Approved Shows" and must be presented and judged under the rules of the NRCHA. Approved horse shows are shows that must offer at minimum an Open Bridle and an Open Hackamore class. Approved horse shows must also have a minimum of \$1,000 added to the NRCHA horse show classes and each entry has paid an NRCHA fee. The Open Hackamore must have a minimum of \$250 added, the Open Bridle must have a minimum of \$250 added and the remainder of the \$1,000 would be distributed between the other NRCHA classes as the show management sees fit. Points and earnings will be kept track of by the NRCHA in all approved horse shows and the point totals will determine the Regional and National Year-End standings. Approved LAE and Category 1 Special Events have applied for approval by the NRCHA and each entry has paid an NRCHA fee. Earnings for the LAE and Category 1 Special Events will be kept track of by the NRCHA. NRCHA approved horse shows, LAE and Category 1 Special Events are counted towards the Merit

Award Program and lifetime earnings. Approved Category 2 events have applied for approval by the NRCHA and each entry has paid an NRCHA fee. Earnings for approved Category 2 Events will be kept track of by the NRCHA and are counted toward lifetime earnings but will not count toward the Merit Award Program. Approved category 3 events have applied for approval by the NRCHA and each entry has paid an NRCHA fee. Category 3 NRCHA approved shows are shows that do not add the \$1000 added money. These shows will count toward the show number requirement for the World Show. Money earned at them will not count for qualifying or regional awards or merit awards but will count toward lifetime earnings. No points will be awarded.

12.1.3.1 In order to compete in an approved NRCHA contest, owners and riders must be NRCHA members in good standing, the show must remit the required fee to the NRCHA, the contest must be pre-approved by the NRCHA and all entry fees must be paid prior to showing.

12.1.4 All approved classes must include both rein work and cow work. Herd work is optional. In the case where it would be considered hazardous to riders and horses, herd work may be substituted for the cow work.

12.1.5 Fresh cattle must be supplied to all contestants for the cow work (fence). For every 8 head of cattle or fraction thereof, one extra head must be supplied. It is strongly suggested that a minimum of 2.5 cattle for each entry in the herd work should be supplied. Fresh cattle are cattle that have not been previously used for recreational or practice purposes.

12.1.6 It is recommended that an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician), an Ambulance or other qualified medical personnel, along with suitable equipment, be on the show grounds during all scheduled performances.

12.1.7 The judge(s) for the event must hold a current NRCHA judges card.

12.1.8 All show managers and show secretaries must be current regular NRCHA members in good standing.

12.1.9 Approval must appear on the NRCHA web site at least 14 days prior to the close of entries for that event. A request for show approval must be submitted to the NRCHA Management by the show management at least 60 days prior to the event. Failure to do so may result in loss of approval. The association accepts the responsibility of publishing show approvals that are received in accordance with the above. Show management is urged to include entry fees, office and cattle charges and the name of the judge when submitting request for show approval, except in the case of Futurities and Maturities. Shows from previous years have priority. If a group applies for an approved show within a 300 mile radius on previously held dates, the previous show organizer will be contacted and given right of refusal for a 21 day period to get a show approval in. If the original group chooses to keep the date, the date will be unavailable to the applying group.

12.1.10 The show management shall pay a fee of \$100.00 to the NRCHA for show approval. The fee shall be remitted to the NRCHA Management with the show approval application. NRCHA shall charge a fee per entry in all Approved and Special Events, which fee amount shall be set annually by the Board of Directors to be assessed to each horse entered in each class, and shall be remitted to the NRCHA when submitting the show results. This fee is used to cover the cost of year-end awards, judges monitoring system, NRCHA office expenses in publicizing shows i.e. printing judge's cards, postage, etc. The \$100.00 approval fee is the minimum fee for an approved show and shall be deducted from the show fees provided the requirements are met when

reporting results and paying the NRCHA fees within 14 days of the last day of show and all NRCHA membership applications collected at the show. Failure to meet requirements will result in forfeiture of \$100. Every NRCHA Approved show must submit a show approval application and a \$100 application fee. If a show is holding an Approved show or LAE at the same time the total fee due is \$100.

12.1.11 Mandatory classes for NRCHA Approved Horse shows, other than LAE, are the Open Bridle and Open Hackamore classes. For a full roster of classes, the following are also approved NRCHA classes: Limited Open Bridle, Limited Open Hackamore, Open Two-Rein, Non Pro Bridle, Non Pro Hackamore, Novice Non Pro Bridle, Youth Bridle, Non Pro Limited, Youth Limited Class.

12.1.12 Show approval shall be based on show management conforming to the conditions set forth in the official show packet. Show packets will be sent to the Show Manager/Show Secretary once the show has been approved. The Association reserves the right to refuse a show based on a date conflict with another show or another show within a 300 mile radius.

12.1.13 The Association shall publish show dates once the show has been approved. Early receipt of the show application will give the show more publicity. At completion of the show and the requirements being met, the association shall publish show results and award points.

12.1.14 The jackpot portion of the entry fee must be at least as much as the office and cattle charge.

12.1.15 All entry forms shall have the following disclaimer: "By my signature below I hereby acknowledge that I meet the criteria for eligibility to compete in the classes entered according to the guidelines set forth in the NRCHA rulebook. This is to insure that competitors are aware of the criteria for the different classes in which they are indeed eligible to compete."

12.1.16 A show that is approved by the NRCHA must use the current Association rules. A show may be approved without naming a judge or judges; however, the judge or judges must be named at least thirty days prior to the closing date of entries. Any changes regarding added money, entry fees, office charges or location of show must be made no later than thirty (30) days prior to the closing date of entry for the show.

12.1.16.1 LAE shows with added money of more than \$30,000 must use two or more judges.

12.1.16.2 No person listed on the NRCHA suspension list will be permitted to judge. Only those persons with valid NRCHA judge's cards shall be permitted to judge.

12.1.16.3 All NRCHA approved events must use official judge's cards and forward same to the Association along with the complete NRCHA result forms, which includes the purse distribution sheet, final show report and monetary payment, within fourteen (14) days of the conclusion of the show. If complete show results are not forwarded to the NRCHA within fourteen (14) days of the conclusion of the show, show management will forfeit the \$100 show approval fee.

12.1.17 No show will be approved by the NRCHA during the NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity.

## **12.2 Show Management Responsibilities**

12.2.1 Show management must see that a judge or a qualified person inspects each contestant's bridle or hackamore after each individual work, the bit checker must have a magnet available to check the hackamores and chin straps for metal objects (inside) or cores. The judge(s) has the sole authority to disqualify the contestant.

12.2.2 No NRCHA approved show is to be started without the appointment of a representative. The representative shall be a member in good standing of the Association and shall know the rules of the Association.

12.2.3 Before the show starts, the show management shall select, announce and post the NRCHA representative.

12.2.4 Show management shall verify that each contestant and owner is a current NRCHA member in good standing with the NRCHA. Horse's registration papers should accompany the entry to verify eligibility requirements and verify the horse's registration numbers so earnings can be recorded correctly.

12.2.5 Show management must check all Non Pro cards of those exhibitors who show in the Non Pro classes. Non Pro card numbers must be presented to show management and the number noted on the entry form. Entry may be refused to anyone who has not applied for a Non Pro card. Refer to rule 2.1.3.

12.2.6 Show management shall draw order of competition and post the draw and the pattern at least 2 classes ahead.

12.2.7 In NRCHA Managed Events classes may be entered by noon the day before, to get in the draw at an approved show, as long as any appropriate late fees have been paid, post entries will be accepted for the first class of the day up until one hour before the start of the class. After the start of the day post entries for the remainder of the classes will be accepted up until 10 horses remain in the preceding class. Post entries will go first in the draw. In all other NRCHA approved events/shows, show management shall determine entry deadlines and late fees.

12.2.8 Show management shall determine and post starting time and whether or not exhibitors may use arena for schooling prior to start of show and during lunch break. Time of lunch break should be announced as soon as it is determined.

12.2.9 Show management must submit a COMPLETE LIST of all entries for each class along with the show results, original judges' sheets, membership applications, NRCHA fees and all other NRCHA documents and payment to the NRCHA office within 14 days of completion of show. Failure to comply may jeopardize future NRCHA approval as determined by the NRCHA Executive Board. A penalty of \$100.00 will be assessed if postmarked after 14 days. An additional penalty of \$500.00 will be assessed if postmarked after 30 days. Any results not received after 60 days will not be recognized by the NRCHA for year-end standings. Results from any shows taking place between November 1-15 must be received in the NRCHA office no later than November 25, 2008.

12.2.10 Judge's score sheets must be posted after the completion of each class.

12.2.11 The judge's scores may be announced immediately following each work at the option of show management.

12.2.12 Two Judge System-both scores are combined.

12.2.13 Three Judge System-each judge scores a separate card, Show Management has the option of using all three scores and adding them together or comparing all three scores and the two closest scores are used, with the odd score being eliminated, i.e. the three scores are 72, 73 and 75, the total score is 145 (72 & 73 with the high score of 75 being eliminated). If the scores are evenly divided, the lowest score is eliminated, i.e. the three scores are 71, 72 and 73, the total score is 145 (72 & 73 with the lowest score of 71 being eliminated).

12.2.14 Five Judge System-drop the high and low scores, add the 3 remaining scores.

## **13 NRCHA REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

**13.1** It shall be the duty of the show management to appoint, announce and post an NRCHA representative for the duration of the show. The position of NRCHA representative carries a great deal of responsibility, as this person represents not only the NRCHA, but the contestants as well. Show management should choose a member in good standing, who is an upstanding, fair person, who has a good understanding of the rules. If the representative must leave the show, he/she shall appoint another representative for the duration of the show. Show management shall provide the representative with the appropriate NRCHA contest report form to be submitted to the Association office WITHIN TWO WEEKS after the show.

**13.2** The Show Representative must report to Show Management on the NRCHA Show Representative Report form if he/she observes any horse being abused or if there are actions by any contestant detrimental to the best interest of the Association such as the following: loud and profane language, drunkenness or being under the influence of intoxicants, use of devices not permitted by NRCHA rules or any infraction as described under Show and Contest Ethics.

**13.3** The representative may delay the beginning of the show and/or stop the show while it is in progress, if the conditions for performing are unsafe. Show management shall make every effort to correct any unsafe condition.

## **14 DISCIPLINARY/ETHICS**

### **14.1 Show & Contest Ethics**

**14.1.1** The following provisions regarding conduct shall apply to any NRCHA approved show. The responsibility for reporting violations of conduct rests with, but is not limited to, show management, NRCHA Directors, officers, officials and the judges.

**14.1.2** Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Unsportsmanlike conduct shall be defined as any action of disrespect, deceit, fraud or intimidation directed to judges, show management, NRCHA or other exhibitors, spectators, or sponsors. Violations will be brought before the NRCHA Management and a hearing may be scheduled before the Ethics Committee for possible disciplinary action or suspension. All violations of this rule will be dealt with according to the provisions as described in the disciplinary procedures portions of these rules.

**14.1.3** A contestant shall not intimidate, or attempt to intimidate, a judge(s) or the monitor. The penalty for violating this subsection will be a minimum of 6 months suspension from the Association.

**14.1.4** A contestant may withdraw from any contest due to any injury to himself or his/her horse or due to sickness or death in his/her family. A contestant shall not at anytime withdraw from any contest he/she is participating in due to dissatisfaction or grievance with the judge(s), show management or other contestants without forfeiting all money he/she may have won in previous go-rounds. Entry fees, or part thereof, will not be refunded after a contestant begins competing.

**14.1.5** All contestants will work according to the order of the draw so designated by the show management or be disqualified for that go-round with no score.

**14.1.6** While the show is in progress a rider must wear a western hat or helmet and long sleeve shirt in the show arena. A rider shall not enter the show arena of any NRCHA approved

show with any equipment other than legal NRCHA and/or NCHA equipment while the show is in progress. The show management, representative or judge must disqualify a contestant if he/she enters the arena with any illegal equipment and all entry fees and/or premiums pertaining to said contestant shall be forfeited.

14.1.7 THE NATIONAL REINED COW HORSE ASSOCIATION TAKES VERY SERIOUSLY THE WELFARE OF THESE GREAT HORSES THAT WE ARE DEVOTED TO. Inhumane treatment of a horse in any manner in the show arena, practice pen or on the show grounds is strictly prohibited.

14.1.8 Inhumane treatment is the exhibition of a crippled or injured horse, or a horse with any other health abnormality, which could thereby result in the horse's undue discomfort or distress. Abuse includes excessive jerking, spurring, whipping, slapping, or any other act intended to cause trauma or injury to a horse. Any act of abuse, or intent to abuse a horse, in the show arena or on the show grounds which could also potentially endanger the safety of other persons or animals will be dealt with in the strongest possible manner as provided by sub-section 14.1.14 of this standing rule.

14.1.9 If show management at any NRCHA approved event discovers inhumane treatment of a horse, it may immediately bar the responsible party and horse from further participation in the event. The decision of show management as to inhumane treatment shall be based upon consultation with a veterinarian. If show management determines in its sole discretion that the welfare of the horse requires immediate action and a veterinarian is not available, show management shall consult with the Ethics Committee or Show Representative before taking any action allowed by this rule.

14.1.10 In the event show management discovers any inhumane treatment of a horse, the NRCHA Management and the Ethics Committee shall be notified and a hearing to consider disciplinary action against the responsible party shall be scheduled.

14.1.11 Administration of drugs while in the show arena or practice arena is strictly prohibited unless administered in a life saving situation. Such an instance must be reported to show management. The decision of the show management as to life saving treatment should be based on consultation with a veterinarian. Show management shall disqualify and/or refuse entry to any contestant and/or owner for violation of this rule.

14.1.12 A contestant or their immediate family shall not talk to a judge or monitor nor shall a judge or monitor talk to a contestant or their immediate family members beyond the exchange of normal greetings during a show, nor discuss with the judge(s) or monitor(s) any previous scores, events or related happenings within 30 days after a contest in which both parties participated.

14.1.13 No alcoholic beverages may be consumed or brought into the arena while an NRCHA approved or sponsored reined cow horse contest is taking place.

14.1.14 \*\* Failure to comply with rules 14.1.6 through 14.1.13 will call for a minimum \$500.00 fine and/or a minimum of 90 days suspension.

## **14.2 Complaints & Protests**

14.2.1 Any person desiring to file a complaint regarding any alleged violation of these rules may do so by submitting Intent to Protest within 7 days of discovery in writing to the NRCHA Management. Within 30 days of discovery, a written protest must be filed with the NRCHA Management together with a cashier's check

in the amount of \$100.00, made payable to the National Reined Cow Horse Association. Complaints submitted by an NRCHA Director, Show Representative, Show Management or Judges are not required to file the \$100.00 fee. Upon receipt, all complaints will be referred to the Ethics Committee for investigation and consideration. If the Ethics Committee determines, after investigation, that no further action is warranted, the complainant will be notified and no further action will be taken on the matter. If the Ethics Committee determines, after investigation, that there are grounds for possible disciplinary action, the NRCHA Management shall be notified and the matter will be scheduled for a hearing before the NRCHA Board of Directors. Complaints submitted through the NRCHA Contest Report, by show management, by NRCHA Representative or by judges shall be handled in the same manner as outlined above.

14.2.2 Any member may be disciplined, placed on probation or suspended from the Association and any member or non-member may be denied all privileges of the Association by the Board of Directors whenever it shall have been established by the preponderance of the evidence that such member or non-member has violated any rule of the Association. When the rule in question contains a specific punishment provision, any disciplinary action taken by the Board of Directors must be consistent with that provision.

14.2.3 When anyone is accused of any rule violation, he/she shall be given not less than 15 days notice of a time and place for hearing such accusation by the Ethics Committee, at which time and place he/she shall have the opportunity, in person or by counsel, to be heard and to present evidence in his/her own behalf and to hear and refute evidence offered against him/her.

14.2.4 No continuance shall be granted unless requested in writing at least 7 days prior the hearing and good cause is shown. A continuance shall be granted or denied at the sole discretion of the NRCHA President or the Chairman of the Ethics Committee.

14.2.5 The decision of the Ethics Committee, or other involved committees, shall be recommended to the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

14.2.6 When disciplinary action is taken against a member or non-member, the person's name, the rule violated and the disciplinary action taken will be published in the *Stock Horse News*.

14.2.7 A member on probation may participate in NRCHA activities, although any rule violations occurring during the probationary period will result in additional penalties, fines or suspension.

14.2.8 A suspended member of the NRCHA will not be considered a member in good standing and will not be allowed to participate in an NRCHA approved or sponsored reined cow horse contest as an owner of a horse, rider, agent or judge. A suspended list will be published in the NRCHA publication, *Stock Horse News*. In the event such suspended member enters an approved event during the period of time he/she is suspended as an owner, rider, agent or judge, an additional 6 months will be added to his/her suspension.

14.2.9 Every person who is suspended by the National Reining Horse Association, American Quarter Horse Association, National Cutting Horse Association or the American Paint Horse Association for unsportsmanlike conduct at a show or contest shall be suspended by the NRCHA upon official notice to this Association from the AQHA, NRHA, NCHA or APHA of any such disciplinary action.

14.2.10 The NRCHA may honor the disciplinary actions of its affiliate organizations when supplied with satisfactory evidence that the person so disciplined has been given a full and impartial hearing by the affiliate organization involved; however, any action taken by affiliates will not limit any authority or jurisdiction of the NRCHA.

14.2.11 Any member of the NRCHA who threatens, or actually inflicts bodily harm or injury to another person based upon that person's actions, conduct or decisions, shall be suspended from membership in the NRCHA for a period of not less than one (1) year.

14.2.12 If any member institutes litigation in which the Association is included as a defendant in an effort to recover damages, to overturn enforcement or interpretation of the Bylaws or Rules and Regulations, or for any other reason whatsoever, and does not prevail in said litigation by the recovery of all relief requested, said member shall be liable to the Association for its attorney's fees, costs of court and other expenses incurred in connection with such litigation. Venue for any litigation in which the Association is included as a defendant shall be the county of the Association headquarters.

14.2.13 No person shall make a derogatory remark, nor take or threaten to take adverse action against an NRCHA sponsor, its agents, servants or employees, relating in any manner to the sponsors involvement with the NRCHA or an NRCHA event. Any person who violates this rule is subject to disciplinary action and is also responsible to the NRCHA for any loss or damage caused by a violation of this rule.

14.2.14 Every notice required by these rules and regulations may be served by delivering a copy of the notice to the person to be served, or his/her attorney, in person or by mail, postage prepaid, to his/her last known address as it appears on the Association's records and upon mailing, such notice shall be deemed received by such person when it is deposited in the United States mail.

## **15 SELF ADJUSTED MONITOR SYSTEM**

**15.1 Definition:** A self-adjusted monitor system may be used at NRCHA Approved Shows. When there is a major penalty marked by at least one judge, and at least one of the other judges did not mark it, a review of the penalty is mandatory. A major penalty is defined as a 2 point penalty or greater in the rein and cow work and a 3 point penalty or greater in herd work.

**15.2** Show management has the right to consult the NRCHA Director of Judges at anytime with regard to the Self-Adjusted Monitor System.

## **RULES FOR JUDGING:**

### **16 JUDGES**

**16.1** The Judges Committee shall review and recommend a list of individuals to act as judges in the events approved by the association. Individuals may be added or removed from the approved list of judges in the manner prescribed by the Judges Committee. Designation as an NRCHA approved judge is a privilege, not a right, bestowed by the NRCHA Board of Directors, according to procedures formulated by the Judges Committee. This privilege shall be open to individuals whose equine experience and expertise, as well as personal character, merits the honor. An individual's conduct as a member, exhibitor, and judge, and his/her ability must be exemplary. An individual's conduct will

be subjected to continuous Committee review. A list of approved judges shall be kept and maintained current by the Association and shall be made available to the public upon request to the Association. There shall be a Judges seminar given at least once each year.

## **16.2 Application Procedure**

16.2.1 An application to become a judge may be obtained from the Association. A prospective judge must attend an NRCHA Judges Seminar and upon passing the testing requirements as set forth by the Judges Committee will have their names submitted to the Board of Directors for consideration for judging approval.

16.2.2 The applicant must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and be a member in good standing of the Association prior to applying for approval as a judge.

16.2.3 Approved judges must be current NRCHA members.

16.2.4 Judges in good standing, shall at times, be given a written test to keep them familiar with new rules or changes.

16.2.5 The applicant shall be required to pass a written test with a score of 80% or above and video test with a score of 70% or above on each phase of the video test.

16.2.6 It is recommended that Judges complete the attendance requirements at functions prescribed by the Judges Committee.

16.2.7 A judge with a questionable judging record may be asked to attend a judging seminar and or test as deemed by the Judges Committee or the Director of Judges.

16.2.8 Judges will be classified based on experience and judging record. The classification system is as follows:

16.2.8.1 "AAA" Judge: An AAA judge may judge any NRCHA event. AAA rating is the highest rating and may be achieved by judging any major aged event where the Director of Judges is the show monitor and the Director of Judges recommends to the Judges Committee the judge is qualified to become an AAA Judge. The Judges Committee shall then recommend to the Board the judge's designation.

16.2.8.2 "AA" Judge: An AA judge may judge any NRCHA show. An AA judge may judge a major Limited Age Event along with an AAA judge. Judging major monitored Limited Age Event will qualify an AA judge for application to AAA rating.

16.2.8.3 "A" Judge: An A judge is an entry level judge and is allowed to judge any NRCHA show other than a major Limited Aged Event. After judging 3 NRCHA shows without any valid written protests, the judge may apply for an AA rating.

16.2.9 A judge cannot judge a contestant if within 30 days prior to an event any of the following situations exist between contestant and judge:

16.2.9.1 buying or selling a horse

16.2.9.2 giving or taking lessons

16.2.9.3 training of a horse

16.2.9.4 employing or taking remuneration in any manner

## **16.3 Guidelines For Judges**

16.3.1 National Reined Cow Horse Association Judges shall represent themselves in a professional manner at all times. Equine expertise, personal character, integrity and interest in the Reined Cow Horse are qualities of an NRCHA Judge.

16.3.2 NRCHA Judges are to base their judgment on the appropriate rules, as they are found in the current NRCHA rule book and to place the horses accordingly.

16.3.3 NRCHA Judges shall always be courteous to show personnel, exhibitors, spectators, and fellow judges. NRCHA Judges are expected to pursue continuing education to stay up with current judging and scoring techniques.

#### 16.3.4 Judging Requirements:

16.3.4.1 Judges must hold current NRCHA membership. Membership is considered delinquent if not paid within the month following expiration. A judge delinquent in the payment of dues for a period of six months after the delinquent date will be removed from the list of approved judges and will be required to undergo full testing procedures to be reinstated. Judges are prohibited from officiating at an NRCHA approved show if their membership is expired. Non compliance will result in a fine, suspension, or both.

16.3.4.2 After accepting a judging commitment, the judge shall endeavor, with all reasonable effort, to judge the show. If he or she is unable to do so, he or she should notify show management immediately, to allow show management maximum time to seek a suitable replacement. Additionally the judge shall immediately contact the NRCHA Director of Judges with an explanation as to why they could not fulfill their obligation.

16.3.4.3 Contact an official of the show upon arrival in a city in which he or she is to officiate and advise show management of his or her presence and location.

16.3.4.4 Dress in an appropriate, professional manner. (Good hat, shined boots, pressed and starched clothes, sports coat and tie when warranted.)

16.3.4.5 Judges must attend an NRCHA judges seminar once in a three year period beginning January 2003. Judges that have been approved after January 2003 must attend a judges seminar once in a three period beginning on January 1st of the year they were approved. (Example: If a person received their judges card in 2005 they would have 2006, 2007 and 2008 to attend another seminar to remain a judge.)

## 17 SCORING

**17.1 General Description** - Credit must always be given when applicable, even when there is a penalty involved. When the judge is in doubt, benefit always goes to the contestant. The scoring system is based on 60-80 points. Half-points may be used. The contestant is judged from the time that he/she enters the arena until he/she completes the pattern. The judge is instructed to pay particular attention to any suspected attempts to alter the tail and score accordingly.

**17.2** Horses are judged on performance only.

**17.3** Scoring System - The scoring system for NRCHA approved classes/events is based upon a 60-80 point system. The lowest score possible is 60 points and the highest score possible is 80. The average score for a typical work is 70 points.

**17.4** Failure of an exhibitor to attempt to complete the cow work portion of the class, as well as the rein work, will result in the exhibitor not being eligible for points or placing. This will be considered a Non-Entry and will be designated by the judge as N-E in the score box of the judges cards. An entry which attempts to complete the cow work and has not been disqualified will be scored accordingly at the judge's discretion. An entry going off pattern in the rein work will receive a score of zero. An entry which attempts both the rein work and the cow work portion may be placed, even if a 0 score is received in one portion of the class. (Example: If a horse is disqualified and receives a 0 score for the rein work, but scores a 70 for the cow work, its total score would be a 70 and the horse would be eligible for placing.)

**17.5** A judge may blow his/her whistle at anytime to terminate the work. A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that time.

**17.6** Horse must appear visibly sound at the beginning of the run. In the case of a multiple judged event the majority of the judges must agree on soundness prior to the horse beginning the pattern or work. Obvious lameness will be cause for immediate disqualification.

## **18 DISCIPLINE**

**18.1** The Judges Committee, upon receipt of information that may adversely affect a person's ability to be a judge, may temporarily suspend a judge's privileges pending a hearing before the Judges Committee. In the event the Judges Committee votes to have a hearing on an issue concerning a judge, the hearing and scheduling shall be conducted in accordance with the disciplinary procedures set for the NRCHA Rulebook. The Judges Committee shall have the power to suspend an individual's designation as an "NRCHA judge" and/or to impose whatever the Committee determines to be an appropriate penalty for conduct which may adversely affect an individual's designation as an approved NRCHA Judge.

**18.2** In the event the Judges Committee determines that a hearing is required, the accused may appear, with or without counsel and present any evidence on his/her behalf, as well as to confront the evidence presented against him/her. If the committee decides that disciplinary action and/or penalty is appropriate, or is required, the Committee shall have the power to enforce any penalty. The accused shall have the right to appeal the Judges Committee decision to the Board of Directors. The appeal must be filed in writing with the NRCHA office within fifteen (15) days of receiving the Committee's written statement of findings, facts and conclusions. In the event no appeal is filed the decision of the Judges Committee shall become final. If, however, an appeal is taken, the NRCHA Board of Directors will schedule a hearing and conduct the same in compliance with the conditions set forth in the NRCHA rulebook for disciplinary actions.

**18.3** If an appeal is not filed, the Board of Directors, at their next meeting, shall then adopt the findings of the Judges Committee and the penalty imposed by the Judges Committee. The Board of Directors may, in addition to any penalty, remove a person from the judges list.

## **19 JUDGING**

**19.1 Herd Work-**Judging will begin at the time line. The contestant shall approach the herd with no hesitation, weaving or reluctance on the part of the horse to enter the herd sufficiently deep enough to show his ability to make a cut. The horse shall work quietly, but alertly, causing very little disturbance to the herd or the animal brought out. Credit will be given for driving cattle, clearing the herd by a sufficient distance and setting up a cow while holding it in a working position as near the center of the arena as possible. The degree of difficulty, eye appeal and the amount of courage in staying on a tough cow will be taken into consideration. The amount of time actually spent working cattle in the 2 1/2 minute period will have a positive effect on the total score. The horse should show a great deal of expression but no ill will toward the animal. Judging will end at the whistle.

If an exhibitor is taking an excessive amount of time to get to the herd after their number is called the following will occur: the Director of Judges (if the Director of Judges is not there, then a designated judge) will contact the announcer and the announcer will give the exhibitor a "second call". If the exhibitor

still is not starting to the herd, a 15 second call will be given and then the time clock will be started. Special consideration will be given to exhibitors who helped the previous exhibitor in the herd.

### **Herd work- Penalty Points:**

#### **1 point penalties:**

- A. (Miss) Loss of working advantage.
- B. Noise directed by contestant toward cattle.
- C. Working out of position.
- D. Toe, foot, or stirrup on shoulder.

#### **3 point penalties:**

- A. Hot quit.
- B. Cattle picked up/running into or scattering herd.
- C. Failure to make a deep cut.
- D. Back fence.

#### **5 point penalties:**

- A. Horse quitting a cow.
- B. Losing a cow.
- C. Changing cattle after a specific commitment.
- D. Failure to separate a single animal after leaving the herd.
- E. Blatant disobedience, defined as kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking, or obviously insubordinate.
- F. Spurring or hitting in front of the cinch at anytime.

#### **-0- score:**

- A. Horse turns tail.
- B. Using two hands on the reins in a bridle.
- C. Fingers between the reins in a bridle.
- D. Illegal equipment.
- E. Leaving working area before time expires.
- F. Fall of horse or rider.

NOTE: A judge may blow his/her whistle at anytime to terminate the work. A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that time.

### **19.2 Reined Work - Maneuver Scores for Reined Work:**

The NRCHA has divided each rein pattern into sets of maneuvers. It is the judge's responsibility to evaluate these maneuver groups individually and rate each maneuver group on the following scale:

- 1 1/2 ----- Extremely Poor
- 1 ----- Very Poor
- 1/2 ----- Poor
- 0 ----- Correct
- +1/2 ----- Good
- +1 ----- Very Good
- +1 1/2 ----- Excellent

**Reined Work:** Horses shall work individually. Judging begins the moment the horse enters the arena. There will be no school-

ing from the time the horse enters the arena. A reined work must consist of the following: circles, lead changes and runs terminating in well-balanced stops straight to the line of travel, turns and a back-up of a reasonable distance with slight hesitations denoting each maneuver. The NRCHA suggests the use of approved patterns found in this book. The judge may deviate from traditional order of performance and he/she may also deviate from the exact printed pattern due to arena conditions. The judging ends when the rider indicates he/she is finished by coming to a complete stop.

The best reined horse shall be easily guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance. Bad manners exhibited by the horse will be penalized. All deviations from the exact given pattern must be considered a loss of control and marked down accordingly. Credit shall be given for the smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness and authority of performing various maneuvers while using controlled speed which raises the difficulty level and makes the horse more exciting and pleasing to watch.

**Circles:** Circles are a controlled maneuver at the lope in the designated area of the arena. Emphasis on the scoring shall be given to the contestant exhibiting smooth, controlled figure eights with easy lead changes. Right and left circles shall have a common center line in the middle of the designated area. Circles shall be run and/or begun on the correct lead. The speed and size of the right circles shall be exactly the same as the speed and size of the left circles. The horse shall lope in an even, fluid manner with a minimum of rider contact and/or commands. Circles shall be run far enough from arena wall that it does not affect the circles.

**Lead Changes:** The act of changing the propelling side of the horse's body when changing the direction traveling at a lope. The lead change must be executed at a lope with no change of speed or gait. The horse shall change leads at the exact location dictated in the pattern description and shall change in one stride. A horse shall be considered out of lead if both front and rear leads are not changed in the same stride.

**Jogging:** Jogging up to 2 strides incurs a 1/2 point penalty. Jogging beyond 2 strides will incur a 2 point penalty. Jogging in excess of one-half circle or one-half the length of the arena will result in a score of 0. In determining whether a 1/2 or 2 point penalty has been incurred, it is useful for a judge to consider the distance traveled and to count the steps of the rear legs. Four steps and under would represent 2 or less strides and require a 1/2 point penalty; 5 steps and more, therefore would require a 2 point penalty.

**Run-Downs:** Runs lengthwise through the arena. They shall be made as described in the given pattern, unless the judge indicated otherwise due to arena conditions. The horse shall demonstrate a relaxed fluid attitude when starting a run-down and throughout the maneuver. The horse shall use controlled speed consistent with the size of the arena and the condition of the ground. The horse shall travel in a straight line with a minimum of contact with the rider. Straight, controlled run-downs with square, smooth stops, maintaining suppleness and proper head position are desirable.

**Stops:** Shall be in line with the direction of travel. Horse shall have its hocks well under it during the entire stop, maintaining a proper head position and response to a light rein.

**Spins:** Consistent and positioned 360 degree turns executed with the inside hind quarter (pivot) remaining stationary. Spins shall be smooth and efficient. The location of the hind quarters shall be fixed at the start of the spin. The horse shall stop the spin

exactly as dictated by the pattern description. The right and left spins shall have a similar speed and balance.

**Back-up:** The horse being caused to move in a reverse motion in a straight line for a required distance. The horse shall begin the back-up in a controlled manner and shall continue to back-up without hesitation until directed to stop by the rider. In the instance where a horse backs up where a back-up is not specified in the pattern, the penalty score of 0 will be incurred when the horse backs more than 2 full strides. It is important to note one stride is defined as the complete movement or steps of all 4 legs, one time. In this particular situation it is very helpful for a judge to watch and count the steps of the front feet. Up to and including 4 steps of the front feet in the not required back-up receives no penalty; five steps and beyond constitutes the inclusion of a maneuver not specified and thus a penalty score of 0.

**Hesitate:** Hesitation is only long enough to show the completion of one maneuver before the next one starts. There shall be slight hesitation to indicate each maneuver.

**Rollbacks:** A maneuver that combines a stop, turn over the hind quarters and exit in one fluid motion. The rollback must be executed with no more than slight hesitation after the stop and the horse shall not step ahead or back-up prior to the turn. The horse shall be in position to lope off in a straight line when exiting a rollback.

**Definition of fall of horse:** When the horses shoulder and hip are on the ground and all four feet are facing in one direction. Fall of horse in any event receives a score of -0-.

**Definition of fall of rider:** Rider is no longer astride the horse.

**Reined work-Penalty Points:**

### **1/2 point penalties:**

Not changing leads simultaneously.  
Over or under spin 1/8 turn  
Jogging first two strides

### **1 point penalties:**

Out of lead.  
Out of lead each 1/4 circle.  
Slipping a rein in the bridle.  
Scotching or anticipating a stop.  
Over or under spinning up to 1/4 turn.

### **2 point penalties:**

Lead missed around end of arena past 2nd corner.  
Not ever changing leads in patterns where there is only 1/2 circle.  
Failure to run by marker before stop is initiated.  
Freezing up in turn or rollback.  
Breaking gait.  
Jogging beyond two strides.  
On trot in patterns, failure to "Stop" before executing a canter departure.  
A stop in the first one-quarter of the circle, after a lope departure, is a break of gate.

## 5 point penalties:

Spurring or hitting in front of cinch at anytime.  
Blatant disobedience, defined as kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking, or obviously insubordinate.

### -0- Score:

Failure to complete the pattern as given. (i.e. over or under spin more than 1/4.)

Using 2 hands on the reins in a bridle or two rein class.

Fingers between the reins in a bridle class except in the two rein class.

Horse Balking.

Bloody mouth. (inside)

Illegal equipment.

Leaving the working area before pattern is complete.

Fall of horse or rider.

Backing more than two strides, when backing is not called for.

Jogging in excess of one-half circle or one-half the length of the arena.

**N-E** – Failure of an exhibitor to attempt to complete the pattern

**Leads & Lead Change penalties:** A judge is required to penalize a horse 1/2 of a point for a delayed change of lead by one stride. The penalty for being out of lead is cumulative, and the judge will add 1 penalty point for each 1/4 of the circumference of a circle or any part thereof that a horse is out of lead.

**19.3 Cow work:** Judging begins when the contestant enters the arena. There shall be no schooling between the completion of the rein work and cow work when the cow work immediately follows the rein work; the penalty for this will be a zero. At the start of the work, each contestant, upon receiving a cow in the arena, shall hold that cow on the prescribed end of the arena for a sufficient time to demonstrate the ability of the horse to contain the cow at that end.

After a reasonable amount of time, the contestant shall take the cow down the fence, making at least one turn each way on the fence. Then the contestant shall take the cow to an open part of the arena and circle the animal at least once in each direction. The required pattern for the cow work is: boxing, fence turns, and circles, in that order.

The judge should take into consideration the size of the arena, condition of the ground and disposition of the cattle in scoring each work. If ground, arena and/or weather conditions are deemed unfavorable by the exhibitors, they may inform the judge who may elect to alter the required cattle work for safety reasons.

The greater the difficulty of the run, the more credit should be given. The difficulty may be due to the extreme speed or stubbornness of the cow, or the cow's reluctance to move down the fence when sufficiently driven by the contestant. The most controlled cow work with the highest degree of difficulty should be marked the highest. Bad manners exhibited by the horse will be penalized under run content. When enough cows are available the contestant should receive a new cow if the cow drawn is unreasonably difficult or unworkable. Allowing the horse to quit working before the judge signals for a new cow will result in a zero score. Once a rider has committed to circling a cow, if the cow falls down no new cow will be awarded. The rider should

complete the run by riding around the fallen cow to fulfill circling requirements. The judge may blow his/her whistle at anytime during the work. One whistle to terminate the work, two whistles to award a new cow. If the judge terminates the work with one whistle or awards a new cow the contestant does not have the option to continue working. If an exhibitor continues to work after the whistle has been blown for a new cow the exhibitor will be given a score of zero. With a multiple judge system, any one of the judges may terminate the work or signal for a new cow. Judging ends when the whistle blows. A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that point

In the cow work phase of any class one hand on the horn may be used to prevent the fall of the rider. Holding the horn excessively may be penalized under run content.

During the cow work, when a cow leaves the working area, it is automatic that the contestant will receive a new cow and scoring will begin again with the new cow.

**Boxing:** Working the cow on the end of the arena until such time as the contestant has proven the ability of the horse to hold the cow. The horse should exhibit superior cow sense and natural cow working ability without excessive reining or spurring. In the head-to-head working position, the degree of difficulty shall be considered.

**Turning on the fence:** A fence turn is defined as: A turn in which the cow, while being run down the fence on one side of the arena, or in the "open field", is turned in a different direction and held near the same fence, or the same side of the arena, while being run in the new direction. The exhibitor must be close enough to the cow to be the cause of the turn.

The situation where a horse and rider attempt to turn the cow and the cow exits the turn behind the horse is also considered to have satisfied the fence turn requirement. The route of the cow being worked has been altered because of the influence of the horse and rider. The actual stopping or turning of the cow by the end fence will not qualify as a fence turn. To qualify as a fence turn the turn must be accomplished without the aid of the end fences to actually stop or turn the animal being worked. During the turn the horse should use himself in a controlled athletic manner, using its hocks to stop and drive out of the turn, while using its front end to balance and turn.

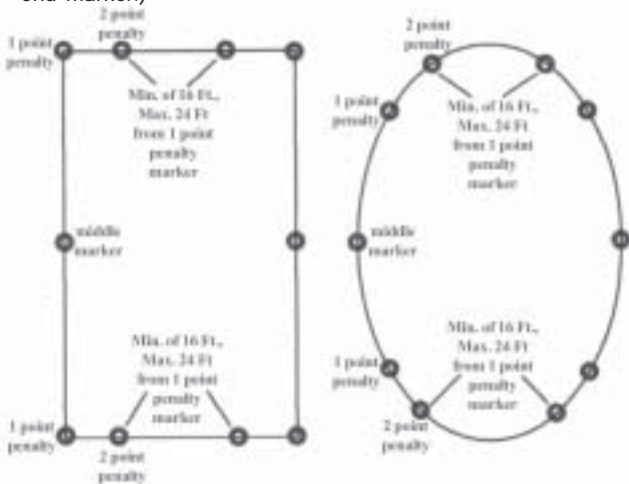
The contestant must get at least one turn in each direction. More than two good turns in each direction should not result in extra credit but also should not be penalized, unless the cow is thereby too exhausted to circle correctly. One turn each way may not necessarily result in extra credit if the horse and/or cow are out of control.

**Circling:** Maneuvering the cow smoothly at least 360 degrees in each direction without interference from the fence. The circle's size, symmetry, speed and relative balance from right and left show control. Tightening the circles down with fast head-to-head speed will be a credit situation. The circles should be completed before the cow is exhausted.

## Cow work - Penalty Points:

### 1 point penalties:

- A. Loss of working advantage.
- C. Using the corner or the end of the arena to turn the cow. (In an oval arena, when the cow's head breaks the plane of the end marker.)



- E. Changing sides of arena to turn cow. (1 point each time.)
- L. For each length horse runs past cow. A length by is 1 horse length of daylight between the cow's head and the top of the horse's tail.
- S. Slipping a rein.
- T. Failure to drive cow past middle marker on first run down the fence.
- W. Excessive whipping, spurring, or hollering.

### 2 point penalties:

- A. Going around the corner of the arena before turning the cow. (When the cow's head breaks the plane of the 2 point penalty marker.)

### 3 point penalties:

- E. Exhausting or overworking the cow before circling.
- H. Hanging up on the fence (refusing to turn).
- K. Knocking down the cow without having a working advantage.

### 5 point penalties:

- A. Not getting one turn each way (5 points each way).
- B. Spurring or hitting in front of cinch at anytime.
- C. Blatant disobedience, defined as kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking, or obviously insubordinate.

**-0- score:**

- A. Turn tail.
- B. Using 2 hands on the reins in a bridle or two-rein class.
- C. Fingers between the reins in a bridle class, except the two-rein class.
- D. Balking.
- E. Out of control (Any horse that is out of control while working the cow, thus endangering the rider, i.e. crossing the path of the cow, shall be called off the cow.)
- F. Bloody mouth. (inside)
- G. Illegal equipment.
- H. Leaving the work area before the pattern or work is complete.
- I. Fall of horse or rider.
- J. Schooling of the horse between the rein and cow work when the cow work immediately follows rein work.
- K. Schooling of the horse between cows, if a new cow is awarded.

Schooling is defined as gaining an advantage by excessive pulling, turning, stopping or backing.

- L. If a rider hits or kicks the animal being worked, with the romal or reins, in an abusive manner.

**N-E** – Failure of an exhibitor to attempt to complete the work

NOTE: A judge may blow his/her whistle at anytime to terminate the work. A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that time.

**19.4 Limited Class Cow Work Guidelines** – The goal of this class is to introduce the rider to the “boxing” phase of the cow work. Judging begins when the contestant enters the arena. There shall be no schooling between the completion of the rein work and the cow work, or between cows if a new cow is awarded. The penalty for this is -0-. Each contestant, upon receiving a cow in the arena, shall hold that cow on the prescribed end of the arena for a sufficient amount of time to demonstrate the ability of the horse and rider to control the cow. The judge will blow the whistle signaling the end of the work. The horse will be scored using the “limited cow work scoring guidelines”.

**Limited Cow Work - Penalty Points:**

**1 point penalties:**

- A. Loss of working advantage.
- P. Working out of position.

**3 point penalties:**

- C. Loss of control and animal leaves the end of arena.
- O. Second loss of control and animal leaves end of arena. Cow work is terminated.

**5 point penalties:**

- B. Spurring or hitting in front of cinch at anytime.
- C. Blatant disobedience, defined as kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking, or obviously insubordinate.

**-0- score:**

- A. Turn tail.
- B. Using 2 hands on the reins when using a bridle or two-rein.
- C. Fingers between the reins, except when using a two-rein.
- D. Balking.
- E. Out of control.
- F. Bloody mouth. (inside)
- G. Illegal equipment.
- H. Leaving the work area before the pattern or work is complete.
- I. Fall of horse or rider.
- J. Schooling of the horse between the rein work and cow work
- K. Schooling of the horse between cows if a new cow is awarded.

**N-E** – Failure of an exhibitor to attempt to complete the pattern

**Credits:**

- A. Maintaining control of cow at all times.
- B. Maintaining proper position.
- C. Degree of difficulty
- D. Eye Appeal.

**19.5 Steer Stopping** – In the steer stopping the horse will be judged on the rate of speed to the steer, ability of the horse to rate and stop a steer.

19.5.1 There will be a barrier in the steer stopping. The penalty for breaking the barrier shall be 5 points.

19.5.2 The roper on the horse being judged may throw as many loops as necessary within a 90 second time limit.

19.5.3 If more than 1 loop is thrown, the rider must recoil and build additional loops as required. If the rider fails to catch within the 90 second time limit, he/she will retire from the arena with -0- score.

19.5.4 Riders are to stay mounted. Loss of rope by the rider is automatic score of -0-.

19.5.5 Scoring will be on the basis of 60-80 points, with 70 points being average.

19.5.6 Legal catches are both horns, half head or around the neck. If a steer is roped any other way, and the rope can be removed while the rider is still mounted, he/she may continue to rope within the 90 second time limit. A score of -0- will be given for no catch.

19.5.7 Arena is to be clear except for the flagger. The flagger's only responsibility is to check for legal head catches, either in the arena or at the catch pen.

19.5.8 It is the contestant's responsibility to signal when the run is complete so the head catch can be checked.

19.5.9 Only one hand on reins is legal.

19.5.10 Romal reins, and roping reins are legal.

## 20 PATTERNS

**20.1** The NRCHA Board of Directors suggests the use of the patterns in the following section at NRCHA approved events. The following Patterns are to be worked as stated, not as drawn. The drawn pattern is just to give the general idea of what the pattern will look like in the arena.

**20.2** Markers are mandatory for all patterns. Markers will be placed on the wall or fence of both sides of the arena to the approval of the judges with the following as a guideline:

20.2.1 At the center of the arena.

20.2.2 The 1 point penalty marker for cow work shall be placed at each corner of the arena.

20.2.3 The 2 point penalty marker for cow work shall be placed a minimum of 16 feet to a maximum of 24 feet past the 1 point penalty marker.

20.2.4 For herd work, the start line marker shall be approximately 60 - 70 feet from the back fence marker to the time line.

The judges shall be located approximately 120 feet from the back of the arena. The placement of the back fence marker shall be at the judge's discretion.

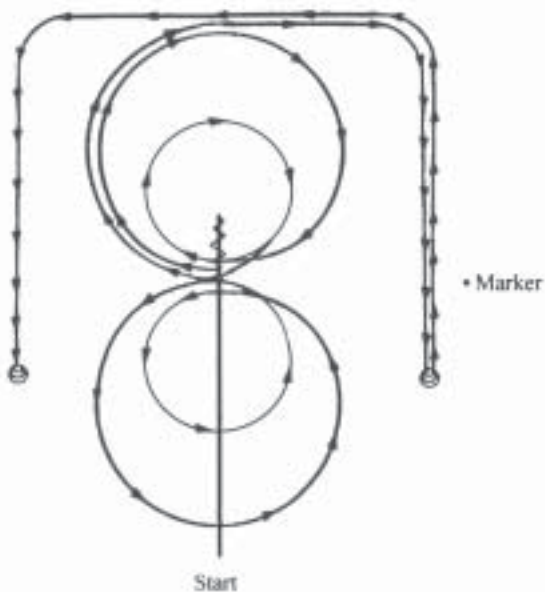
20.2.5 End markers for rein work shall be placed at least 50 - 60 feet from end of the arena.

**20.3** Where designated in the pattern for stops to be beyond a marker, the horse should begin the stop after he/she passes the specified marker.

**20.4** Run in Patterns are drawn so that the bottom of the page represents the end of the arena entered by contestants and must be run as such. In the event that an arena has only one gate and it is in the exact middle of the side, that side shall represent the right side of the page the pattern is drawn on. Walk in patterns are to be started either facing towards or away from the Judge.

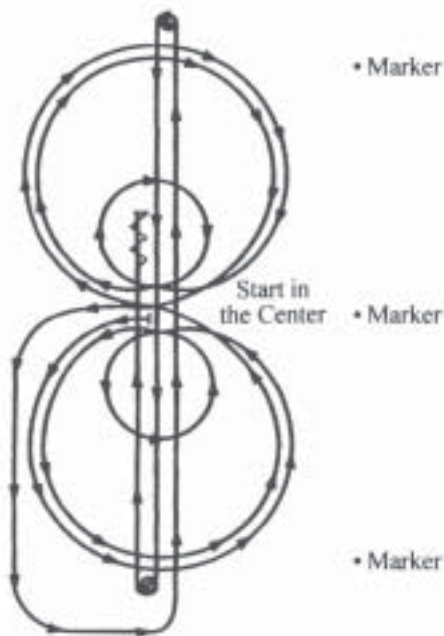
**20.5** All horses will be judged immediately upon entering the arena and judging will cease after the last maneuver. Any fault incurred prior to the commencement of a pattern will be scored accordingly.

**20.6** All judges decisions are final unless subject to the Self-Adjusted Monitor System.



## PATTERN 1

1. Start at end of arena. Run down middle past center marker to a sliding stop.
2. Back at least 10 feet to center. 1/4 turn left.
3. Pickup right lead, large fast circle, small slow circle.
4. Change leads to left, large fast circle, small slow circle.
5. Change leads to right, do not close this circle.
6. Run around end of arena and down the side (approximately 20 feet from fence) past center marker and come to a sliding stop.
7. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the right.
8. Continue back down side and end of arena to other side (approximately 20 feet from fence) go past center marker and come to a sliding stop.
9. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the left.
10. Hesitate to complete pattern.

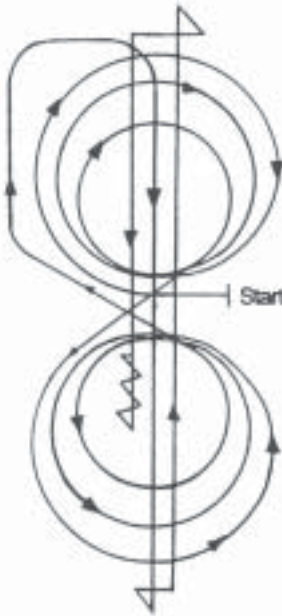


## PATTERN 2

Trot to center of arena, stop. Start pattern facing towards judge.

1. Beginning on the left lead, complete 3 circles to the left. The first one large and fast, the second small and slow, the third large and fast. Change leads at the center of arena.
2. Complete 3 circles to the right. The first one large and fast, the second small and slow, and the third large and fast. Change leads at the center of arena.
3. Continue loping to run down.
4. Run to far end past the marker to a sliding stop. Hesitate
5. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the left. Hesitate
6. Run to far end past marker to a sliding stop. Hesitate
7. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the right. Hesitate
8. Run past center marker to a sliding stop. Hesitate
9. Back at least 10 feet. Hesitate to complete pattern.

2 1/2 Turns Left



• Marker

• Marker

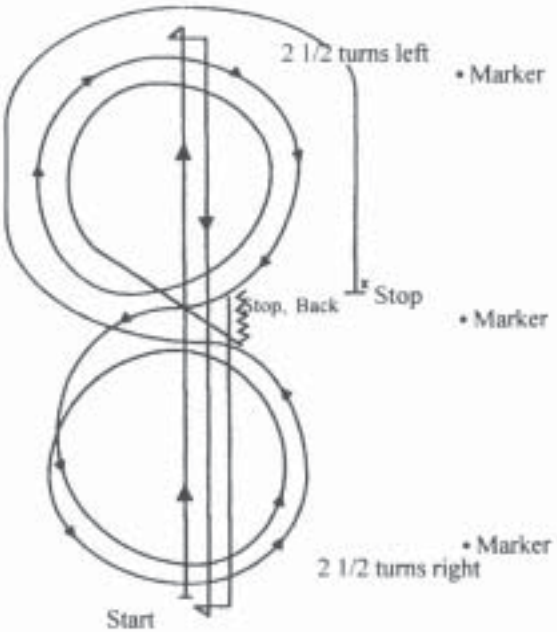
• Marker

2 1/2 Turns Right

### PATTERN 3

Trot to center of arena, stop. Start pattern facing towards judge.

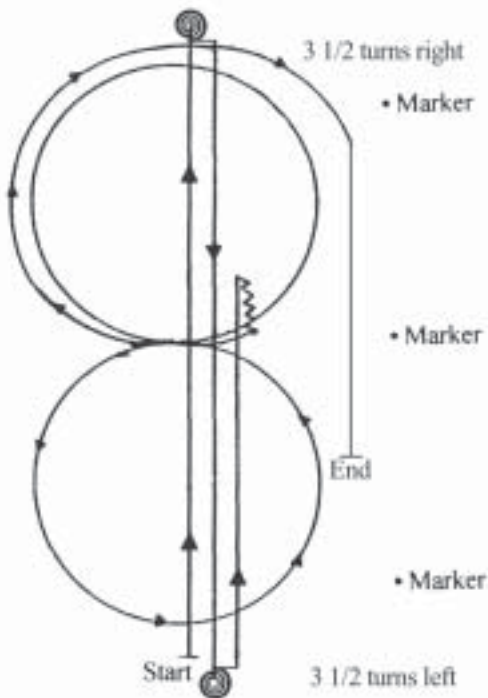
1. Begin on right lead complete 3 circles to right, 2 large fast circles followed by 1 small slow circle, change to left lead.
2. Complete 3 circles to left, 2 large, fast circles followed by 1 small slow circle. Change to right lead.
3. Continue loping around end of arena without breaking gait.
4. Run up center of arena to far end past the end marker and come to a sliding stop.
5. Complete 2 1/2 spins to the right.
6. Run up center of arena past the end marker, come to a sliding stop.
7. Complete 2 1/2 spins to the left.
8. Run back to middle of the arena past the center marker and come to a sliding stop.
9. Back at least 10 feet in a straight line.
10. Hesitate to complete pattern.



#### PATTERN 4

1. Start at end of arena.
2. Run up center of arena past the end marker and come to a sliding stop. Complete 2 1/2 spins to the left.
3. Run to other end of arena past the end marker and stop. Complete 2 1/2 spins to the right.
4. Run past the center marker and stop.
5. Back at least 10 feet in a straight line.
6. Complete 1/4 turn to the left, hesitate. Beginning on the right lead, complete 2 circles to the right, the first one small and slow, and the second large and fast. Change leads at the center of the arena.
7. Complete one small, slow circle and one large, fast circle, Change leads to the right.
8. Run around end of arena to the other side, past center marker, at least 20 feet from fence and come to sliding stop.
9. Hesitate to complete pattern.

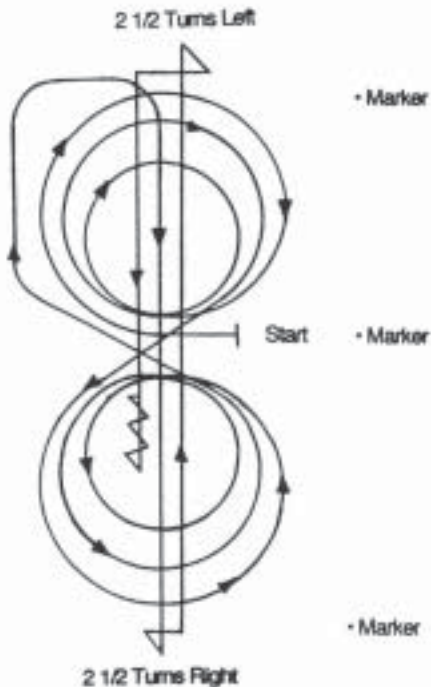




## PATTERN 6

Start at end of arena.

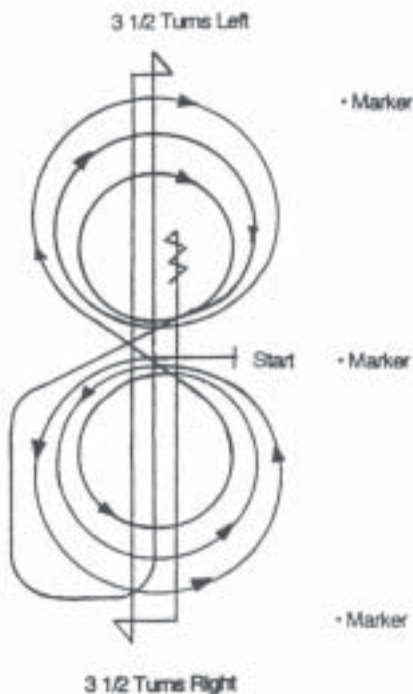
1. Run down the middle of the arena, past the end marker and come to a sliding stop.
2. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the right.
3. Run to the other end of the arena, past the end marker and come to a sliding stop.
4. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the left.
5. Run past the center marker, stop, back at least 10 feet, complete 1/4 turn to the left.
6. Beginning on right lead, complete one circle to right, change leads. Complete one circle to left, change leads.
7. Complete 3/4 of a right circle, run past center marker, stop. Hesitate to complete pattern.



## PATTERN 7

Trot to center of arena, stop. Start pattern facing towards judge.

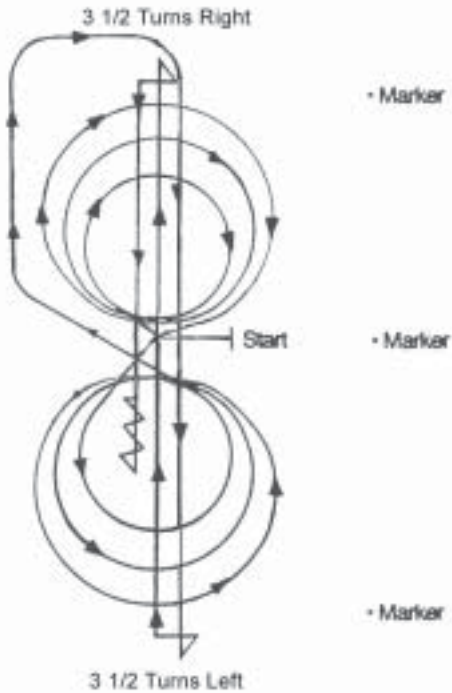
1. Beginning on right lead and complete 3 circles, the first large, fast, the second small, slow, the third large, fast. Change leads to the left.
2. Complete 3 circles, the first large, fast, the second small, slow, the third, large, fast. Change leads to the right.
3. Continue loping around end of arena without breaking gait or changing leads.
4. Run down center of arena, past end marker and come to a sliding stop. Hesitate.
5. Complete 2 1/2 spins to the right.
6. Run down center of arena past end marker come to sliding stop. Hesitate.
7. Complete 2 1/2 spins to the left.
8. Run past center marker come to sliding stop.
9. Back up at least 10 feet.
10. Hesitate to complete pattern.



## PATTERN 8

Trot to center of arena, stop. Start pattern facing towards judge.

1. Beginning on the left lead complete 3 circles; 2 large, fast circles, then 1 small slow circle. Change leads to the right.
2. Complete 3 circles to the right, 2 large, fast circles, then 1 small slow circle. Change leads to left.
3. Continue around end of arena without breaking gait or changing leads, run down center of arena past end marker come to square sliding stop.
4. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the left.
5. Run down center of arena past end marker come to square sliding stop.
6. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the right.
7. Run down center of arena past center marker come to square sliding stop.
8. Back up at least 10 feet.
9. Hesitate to complete pattern.

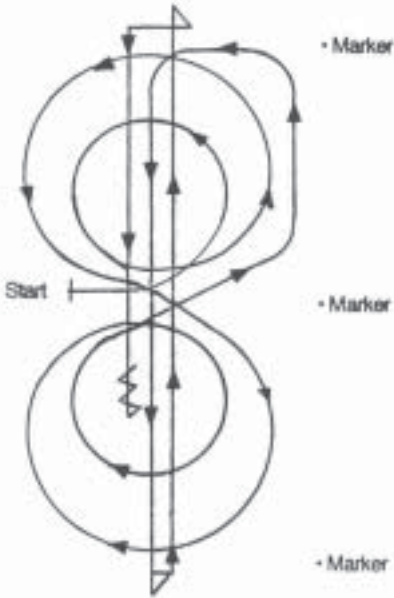


## PATTERN 9

Trot to center of arena, stop. Start pattern facing towards judge.

1. Beginning on the right lead complete 3 circles to the right; the first circle small and slow followed by two large fast circles. Change leads at the center of the arena.
2. Complete 3 circles to the left, the first circle small and slow followed by two large fast circles. Change leads at the center of the arena.
3. Continue around end of arena without breaking gait or changing leads, run down center of arena past end marker, and execute a square sliding stop.
4. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the left.
5. Run down center of arena past end marker, and execute a square sliding stop.
6. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the right.
7. Run down center of arena past center marker, and execute a square sliding stop.
8. Back up at least 10 feet.
9. Hesitate to complete pattern.

3 1/2 Turns Right



3 1/2 Turns Left

## PATTERN 10

Trot to center of arena, stop. Start pattern facing away from judge.

1. Beginning on the left lead, complete 2 circles to the left. The first circle small and slow, the second circle large and fast. Change leads at the center of arena.
2. Complete 2 circles to the right. The first circle large and fast, the second circle small and slow. Change leads at the center of arena.
3. Continue around end of arena without breaking gait or changing leads, run down center of arena past end marker, and execute a square sliding stop.
4. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the left.
5. Run down center of arena past end marker, and execute a square sliding stop.
6. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the right.
7. Run down center of arena past center marker, and execute a square sliding stop.
8. Back up at least 10 feet.
9. Hesitate to complete pattern.

## 21. PATTERN DESCRIPTIONS (MANEUVERS)

The NRCHA has divided its patterns into sets of seven Maneuver groups, which are scored as described below. These patterns break down as follows:

### Pattern 1

1. Stop and back up and 1/4 turn
2. Right circles
3. Left circles
4. Stop
5. 3 1/2 right spins
6. Stop
7. 3 1/2 left spins

### Pattern 2

1. Left circles
2. Right circles
3. Stop
4. 3 1/2 left spins
5. Stop
6. 3 1/2 right spins
7. Stop and back up

### Pattern 3

1. Right circles
2. Left circles
3. Stop
4. 2 1/2 right spins
5. Stop
6. 2 1/2 left spins
7. Stop and back up

### Pattern 4

1. Stop
2. 2 1/2 left spins
3. Stop
4. 2 1/2 right spins
5. Stop and back up and 1/4 turn
6. Right circles and left circles
7. Stop

### Pattern 5

1. Right and left circles
2. Stop
3. 2 1/2 right spins
4. Stop
5. 2 1/2 left spins
6. Stop and back up
7. Spins

### Pattern 6

1. Stop
2. 3 1/2 right spins
3. Stop
4. 3 1/2 left spins
5. Stop and back up and 1/4 turn
6. Right and left circles
7. Stop

### Pattern 7

1. Right circles
2. Left circles
3. Stop
4. 2 1/2 right spins
5. Stop
6. 2 1/2 left spins
7. Stop and back up

### Pattern 8

1. Left circles
2. Right circles
3. Stop
4. 3 1/2 left spins
5. Stop
6. 3 1/2 right spins
7. Stop and back up

### Pattern 9

1. Right circles
2. Left circles
3. Stop
4. 3 1/2 left spins
5. Stop
6. 3 1/2 right spins
7. Stop and back up

### Pattern 10

1. Left circles
2. Right circles
3. Stop
4. 3 1/2 left spins
5. Stop
6. 3 1/2 right spins
7. Stop and back up

EVENT	GO-ROUND	DATE	JUDGE
CLASS			

NATIONAL REINED COW HORSE ASSOCIATION

# HERD WORK JUDGES CARD



### 1 Point Penalties:

- A. (Miss) Losing working advantage
- B. Noise directed to cattle
- C. Working out of position
- D. Toe, foot, or stirrup on shoulder

### 3 Point Penalties:

- A. Hot quit
- B. Cattle picked up or scattered
- C. Failure to make deep cut
- D. Back fence

### 5 Point Penalties:

- A. Horse quitting a cow
- B. Losing a cow
- C. Changing cattle after a specific commitment
- D. Failure to separate a single animal after leaving the herd
- E. Blatant disobedience, defined as kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking, or obviously insubordinate
- F. Spurring or hitting in front of the cinch at anytime

### -0- Score

- A. Horse turns tail
- B. Using two hands on the reins in a bridle
- C. Fingers between the reins in a bridle
- D. Illegal equipment
- E. Leaves working area before time expires
- F. Fall of horse or rider

**NOTE: Judge may blow his/her whistle at anytime to terminate the work. A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that time.**

### Credit - Run Content

- Herd Work - (+ / -) ✓
  - Controlling the Cow - (+ / -) ✓
  - Degree of Difficulty - (+ / -) ✓
  - Eye Appeal - (+ / -) ✓
  - Amount of Working Time - (+ / -) ✓
  - Amount of Courage - (+ / -) ✓
  - Loose Reins - (+ / -) ✓
  - Excessive Herd Help - (+ / -) ✓
- (+ Above Average, - Below Average, ✓ Average)

#	HORSE	PENALTIES			RUN CONTENT							SCORE				
		1 point	3 point	5 point	Hard Work	Contrasting the Clay	Degree of Difficulty	Eye Appeal	Amount of Making Time	Amount of Courage	Loose Reins		Excessive Head Help			

EVENT	GO-ROUND	DATE	JUDGE
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## NATIONAL REINED COW HORSE ASSOCIATION

# REINED WORK JUDGES CARD



### 1/2 POINT PENALTIES

Not changing leads simultaneously Over or under spin 1/8 turn

Jogging first two strides

### 1 POINT PENALTIES

Out of lead

Slipping rein in the bridle

Over or under spin 1/4 turn

### 2 POINT PENALTIES

Lead missed around end of arena past second corner

Not ever changing leads in patterns where there is only 1/2 circle

Failure to run by marker before stop is initiated

Freezing up in turn or rollback

Breaking gait

Jogging beyond two strides

On trot in patterns, failure to stop before executing a canter departure

A stop in the first 1/4 of the circle, after a lope departure, is a break of gate

### 5 POINT PENALTIES

Spurring or hitting in front of cinch at anytime

Blatant disobedience including kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, and striking or

obviously insubordinate

### -0- SCORE

Not following pattern (i.e. over or under spin more than 1/4)

Two hands on the reins in a bridle or two-rein class

Fingers between the reins in a bridle class, except the two-rein class.

Horse balking

Bloody mouth inside

Illegal equipment

Leaving working area before pattern is complete

Fall of horse or rider

Backing more than 2 strides when no back up is called for in the pattern

Jogging in excess of one-half circle or one-half the length of the arena

NE - Failure of an exhibitor to attempt to complete the pattern

MANEUVER SCORES: -1 <sup>1/2</sup> Extremely Poor, -1 Very Poor, -1 <sup>1/2</sup> Poor, 0 Correct, +1 <sup>1/2</sup> Good, +1 Very Good, +1 <sup>1/2</sup> Excellent											
#	HORSE	MANEUVER DESCRIPTION	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	PENALTY TOTAL	SCORE
		PENALTY									
		SCORE									
		PENALTY									
		SCORE									
		PENALTY									
		SCORE									
		PENALTY									
		SCORE									

EVENT	GO-ROUND	DATE	JUDGE
CLASS		<b>NATIONAL REINED COW HORSE ASSOCIATION</b>	

# COW WORK JUDGES CARD



GUIDE FOR "NEW COW" JUDGES: alterations shall involve new cow(s) as necessary to show horse!

A. Cow that won't turn. B. Cow that doesn't respect the horse. C. When cow leaves arena.

### CREDITS:

- A. Maintaining control of the cow at all times
- B. Exhibiting superior cow sense and natural ability without excessive raising or spurring
- C. Degree of difficulty
- D. Eye appeal

### 1 POINT PENALTIES

- A. Loss of working advantage
- C. Using corner or the end of the arena to turn cow
- E. Changing sides of arena to turn cow
- W. Excessive whipping, spurring, or hollering

### 2 POINT PENALTIES

- A. Going around corner of arena before turning cow

### 3 POINT PENALTIES

- H. Hanging up on fence (excluding to turn)
- K. Knocking down cow without losing working advantage

### 5 POINT PENALTIES

- A. Not getting a turn each way (5 points each way)
- C. Excess discordance including kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, and shying or obviously insubordinate
- Q. SCORE

- A. Turn bad
- C. Fringes between the reins is a bad class, except the two-rein class
- D. Bailing
  - E. Out of control
  - F. Bloody mouth (snick)
  - G. Illegal equipment
- H. Leaving working area before pattern is complete
- I. Fall of horse or rider
- J. Schooling between rein work and cow work
- K. Schooling horse between cows, if new cow is awarded
- L. If a rider hits or kicks the animal being worked, with the animal or reins, is an abusive manner

NOTE: Judge may blow the whistle at any time to terminate the work. A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that time.

### COW WORK SCORING GUIDELINES

75 & higher - Total control. Excellent form & position on animal, high degree of difficulty, excellent eye appeal.

73 - 74 - Good form & position on animal, good control of animal, high degree of difficulty with good eye appeal.

71 - 72 - A credit earning run with correct form and position, better than average control of animal with some degree of difficulty and eye appeal.

70 - Control. Correct form, average degree of difficulty

68 - 69 - Slight loss of form or position on animal. Average degree of difficulty and eye appeal. Good work with a major penalty (3 or 5) or average work with 1 point penalties.

66 - 67 - Trouble controlling animal and/or rider/horse is out of position. Loss of eye appeal.

65 & below - Incurs major penalties, loss of control and position. Total lack of credit.

NE - Failure of an exhibitor to attempt to complete the work.

#	HORSE	PENALTIES					RUN CONTENT (below Ave., ✓ Ave., +above Ave.)					SCORE						
		1 point	2 point	3 point	5 point		boxing	rating	form & quality of form	Position & Control	degree of diff.		eye appeal	circling				

EVENT	GO-ROUND	DATE	JUDGE
CLASS			

## NATIONAL REINED COW HORSE ASSOCIATION

# LTD COWWORK JUDGESCARD



GUIDE FOR "NEW COW" judges' discretion, rider will receive new cow(s) as necessary to show horse)

A. Cow that won't run. B. Cow that doesn't respect the horse. C. When cow leaves arena.

### CREDITS:

- A. Maintaining control of the cow at all times
- B. Maintaining proper position
- C. Degree of difficulty
- D. Eye appeal

### 1 POINT PENALTIES

- A. Loss of working advantage
- P. Working out of position

### 3 POINT PENALTIES

- L. Loss of control and cow leaves end of arena
- O. Second loss of control and cow leaves end of arena. Cow work is terminated.

### 5 POINT PENALTIES

- B. Spurring or hitting in front of arch at anytime
- C. Excess disobedience defined as kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking or obviously insubordinate.

### 0- SCORE

- A. Turn tail
- B. Using 2 hands on the reins in a braid or the loosen
- C. Fingers between the reins in a braid class, except in the two-man
- D. Bailing
- E. Out of control
- F. Bloody mouth (inside)
- G. Illegal equipment
- H. Leaving working area before pattern is complete
- I. Fall of horse or rider
- J. Schooling between man work and cow work
- K. Schooling between cows. If new cow is awarded

NOTE: Judge may blow the whistle at anytime to terminate the work.

A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that time.

### COW WORK SCORING GUIDELINES

- 75 & higher - Total Control. Excellent form & position on animal, high degree of difficulty, excellent eye appeal.
  - 73 - 74 - Good form & position on animal, good control of animal, high degree of difficulty with good eye appeal.
  - 71 - 72 - A credit earning run with correct form and position, better than average control of animal with some degree of difficulty and eye appeal.
  - 70 - Control. Correct form, average degree of difficulty.
  - 68 - 69 - Slight loss of form or position on animal. Average degree of difficulty and eye appeal. Good work with a major penalty (3 or 5) or average work with 1 point penalties.
  - 66 - 67 - Trouble controlling animal and/or rider/horse is out of position. Loss of eye appeal.
  - 65 & below - Incurs major penalties, loss of control and position. Total lack of credit.
- NE - Failure of an exhibitor to attempt to complete the work.

#	HORSE	PENALTIES					RUN CONTENT (-below Ave., ✓ Ave., +above Ave.)				SCORE	
		1 point	3 point	5 point	- 0 -	Control	Position	Deg. of Difficulty	Eye Appeal			

EVENT	GO-ROUND	DATE	JUDGE
CLASS			

NATIONAL REINED COW HORSE ASSOCIATION

# STEER STOPPING JUDGES CARD



**CREDITS:** Box and Barrier; Run and Rate; Stop; Degree of Difficulty; Eye Appeal.

**SCORING:** Will be on the basis of 60-80, with 70 denoting an average performance. Each maneuver will be scored from a plus three (excellent), to a minus three (extremely poor), in 1/2 point increments. Degree of difficulty and eye appeal will be recorded with a: plus (above average); check (average); or a minus (below average). Time limit is 90 seconds.

**PENALTIES:**

Penalty 1: Nervous in box; Turns head severely; Squats in corner; Stopping crooked.

Penalty 2: Freeze-up in box; Jumping the barrier; Scotching; Missing second loop.

Penalty 3: Missing first loop; Taking off illegal catch.

Penalty 5: Refusing to enter box; Breaking barrier; Rearing up in box; Running into steer; Blatant disobedience.

Penalty Score 0: Loss of rope; Failure to make legal catch; Fall of horse or rider; Excessive schooling; Whipping or hitting horse with rope; Failure of horse to stop steers forward motion, and Failure to have steer face horse before dally is released.

#	HORSE	Maneuver Description	Box & Barrier	Run & Rate	Stop	RUN CONTENT (- below Ave., ✓ Ave., + above Ave.)			
						Degree of Difficulty	Eye Appeal	PENALTY TOTAL	SCORE
		Penalty							
		Maneuver Score							
		Penalty							
		Maneuver Score							
		Penalty							
		Maneuver Score							
		Penalty							
		Maneuver Score							
		Penalty							
		Maneuver Score							
		Penalty							
		Maneuver Score							
		Penalty							
		Maneuver Score							

## Notes:

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