



NRCHA E-Newsletter
November 14, 2009

NRCHA E-Cow Work

Member News For 2010

With the completion of the November 12 NRCHA Board of Directors meeting, this E-Cow Work outlines the following news and rules changes for 2010.

New Excitement Planned for 2010 Snaffle Bit Futurity

As the NRCHA celebrates 40 years of Snaffle Bit Futurity excitement it will also "return to its roots" so to speak. In days past, the scores were not announced during competition, which added an incredible tension and anticipation to the event.

In 2010 at the Snaffle Bit Futurity, the cow work scores will not be announced in the finals. At the conclusion of the finals, all the entries will be brought into the arena. Then, they along with the audience, will hear their placings and scores from the last place to the Champion. A spotlighted special awards presentation will then be held for the Champion.

The Numbers Are Up!

A look at the 2009 year-end stats, show that the number of NRCHA Approved events has increased by over 9%. The total number of entries for NRCHA events throughout the world has also increased by approximately 10%.

Practice Pen Rate Reduction

In response to feedback from the exhibitors, the following rates for herd work practice will be in effect at NRCHA events in 2010. \$65 on herd work days and \$45 for practice during the rest of the event.

Hackamore Classic Update

At the Hackamore Classic, the Bridle event will once again be a Bridle Sweepstakes. There will not be a practice pen available at the Hackamore Classic.

Check Out the 2010 NRCHA Rulebook Online

For more information on the rule changes for 2010, please visit the NRCHA Website (www.nrcha.com). All underlined text is new and/or clarified rules. The new NRCHA Rulebook will be posted on-line by November 20 and will begin to be mailed at that time.

New Non Pro Rules for 2010

Two changes in defining Non Pro eligibility and restrictions were made for 2010.

1. Any Non Pro who chooses to show in Open Competition who wins in excess of \$100,000 in Open Competition (beginning 11/16/09) will no longer be eligible to compete in Non Pro events. (Open money earned prior to 11/16/09 does not affect eligibility).

2. NRCHA Non Pros may now endorse products as long as they are not compensated in any way, either by services, cash or products for the endorsement. (See rulebook, Rule 2.1.2 for details).

Amateur Earning Limits Raised/Amateur Substitutions Allowed

Per recommendation of the Non Pro Committee, the Amateur Earnings limit has been raised to \$7,500. In addition, Amateur Snaffle Bit Futurity entries may substitute (same owner only) without a veterinary certificate.

Amateur Go-Rounds to Be Paid

The Non Pro Committee Chairman Paul Bailey reported that it was the consensus of the association's Amateurs that they would prefer to have the amateur division pay in each go-round at the Snaffle Bit Futurity and recommended that the entry fee for amateurs be raised by \$135. The board agreed with that recommendation and beginning in 2010, the Snaffle Bit Futurity Amateur entry fee will be \$1000. \$3000 of the purse will go to the go-round payoff (\$1,000 per go-round).

Non Pro Two Rein Classes to be held at NRCHA Premiere Events

In response to feedback from the Non Pro Committee, the NRCHA Board has voted to hold unapproved jackpot Non Pro Two Rein classes at the NRCHA Stakes, Hackamore Classic, Derby and Snaffle Bit Futurity. (These classes will be jackpot only, with no awards given.)

All Finalists to be Paid!

The payout for NRCHA Limited Age Events will be adjusted according to the number of horses in the finals. For example, if there are twenty-two horses taken to the finals with ties, the payout will be refigured based on that number and although no additional money will be added, all twenty-two places will be paid.

Slot Entry Convenience Fee Approved

The entry fee for the Snaffle Bit Futurity will remain the same in 2010. However, slot payments will include a \$200 convenience fee in addition to the entry fee.

Professional Representatives Meet With NRCHA Board

During the 2009 NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity, NRCHA Professionals met and came up with ideas they wanted to bring to the NRCHA Board. The group chose Todd Crawford as its representative to bring some of those ideas to the November 12 Board of Directors meeting.

The Board is considering recognizing this group as a Provisional Professional Committee for 2010 to take advantage of continued input from this group and looking at the possibility of a by-law change to create an NRCHA Professionals Committee.

Among the recommendations received from this group were ideas for making the Open Snaffle Bit Futurity Finals more of a spectator event, - including not announcing the scores in the Snaffle Bit Futurity finals - ideas for increasing payouts in the Intermediate and Limited Open division,

discussion of criteria for Limited Age Event eligibility, and the implementation of a slot convenience fee.

NRCHA Humane Rules/Drug Policy Expanded

The NRCHA has expanded its humane treatment rules to include a drug policy as a part of the NRCHA Rulebook. Please see the NRCHA website, i.e. Rulebook, for complete details. The first-ever drug testing will be held at the 2011 NRCHA Fort Dodge Animal Health Celebration of Champions.

Board of Directors Budgeting and Planning Strategy

Based on the current economic conditions, the NRCHA Board continued its conservative budget for 2010. With an anticipated 5% decrease in entries and general participation, the budget was trimmed accordingly. A 5% reduction of added money for the five 2010 NRCHA-Produced events was approved.

A temporary adjustment in judge staffing was made for NRCHA -produced events, which will result in using the 3-judge system for the NRCHA Fort Dodge Animal Health Celebration of Champions, the NRCHA Stakes, and NRCHA Derby. The 5-judge system will remain in effect for the Snaffle Bit Futurity. When the 3-judge system is used, all three scores will be counted.

2010 NRCHA World Show Qualification Changes

The top twenty horses fulfilling all the qualification requirements will be invited to compete at the NRCHA World Championship Show.

Board of Director Election Ballots Mailing

2010 Board of Director ballots will be mailed on Monday, November 16. If you are a current regular member and do not receive a ballot, please contact the NRCHA Office. Ballots are due (postmarked) December 15.

Bid Often!!

NRCHA Stallion Service Silent Auction is On-Line Until December 16!

The National Reined Cow Horse Association Stallion Service Silent Auction has long been a great way for NRCHA supporters to purchase a breeding to great cow horse stallions – often for much less than the advertised fee. The auction features donated breedings to top sires of the reined cow horse industry, and benefits the association each year by providing funds that are used for added money at premier events.

For 2009, the auction is again an On-line Auction. The Stallion Service Auction begins on November 16, and will end at 8 pm (CST) on Wednesday, December 16. To bid, visit the NRCHA website at www.nrcha.com, and click on the “Stallion Auction” button on the left side of the page to navigate to the Auction page.

While the successful bidders benefit by getting a breeding to an outstanding stallion, the owners of the stallions enjoy benefits of the program, as well. Each year, the owner of the sire of the Open and Non Pro Snaffle Bit Futurity Champions receive a monetary cash award as a thank you for the donation.

If you haven't gotten a chance to check out the stallions and place your bid, don't miss out on this excellent opportunity!

wide world of horses entry

Deadlines*

**The postmark deadline for the World's Greatest Horseman and the Circle Y Ranch Derby is December 28, 2009.*

Plan your trip to San Angelo for the NRCHA Fort Dodge Celebration of Champions!

For a convenient list of hotels and contact information, the list below will let you know the location as well as the distance from the Spur Arena.

Comfort Suites (8.5 mi) ""
4450 W Houston Harte Expwy
325-944-8600 - \$111.00 - \$139.00

Days Inn (8.5 mi) "
4613 S Jackson St
325-658-6594 - \$99.00

Fairfield Inn & Suites (8 mi) ""
1459 Knickerbocker
325-482-8400 - \$109.00 - \$119.00

Hampton Inn (11.5 mi) ""
2959 W Loop 306
325-942-9622 - \$139.00 - \$149.00

Holiday Inn Express (8.5 mi) ""
4613 Houston Harte
325-223-2200 - \$129.00

Inn Of The Conchos (4.5 mi) '
2021 N Bryant Blvd
325-658-2811 - \$89.95

Ramada Limited (4.5 mi) ""
2201 N Bryant Blvd
325-653-8442 - \$84.00

Rodeway Inn (9 mi) ""
2502 W Loop 306
325-944-2578 - \$99.00

Spring Hill Suites by Marriott (New) (8.5 mi) ""
2544 Southwest Blvd
325-949-6900 - \$139.00 - \$159.00

Staybridge Suites (8 mi) ""
1355 Knickerbocker Rd.
325- 653-1500 - \$129.00 - \$149.00

LaQuinta Inn (12 mi.) ""
2307 Loop 306
325-949-0515 - \$49.00- \$79.00