



New York Reined Cow Horse Association

An NRCHA Affiliate

NYRCHA Class Rules

Equipment /Dress Code: AQHA western equipment is required; NRCHA equipment is acceptable but not required in non sanctioned classes. Exceptions to the equipment rules are outlined under for each division such as but not limited to green riders. Horses under the age of five may be shown in a snaffle bit with two hands on the reins. AQHA dress code requires boots, cowboy hat or helmet (NYS 14 and under helmet law required), long sleeve shirt, and western jeans. Chaps are optional.

Ranch Riding: All horses are shown together, at a walk, extended walk, jog, extended jog, lope, extended lope, stand, and back in both directions around the arena. Further testing may include but not limited to spins, side pass, and counter-canter. AQHA or NRCHA acceptable equipment required. Green riders may use equipment rules from respective classes.

Ranch Reining: Each horse and rider will complete a specified reining pattern chosen from the ARHA. All riders and horses are welcome to this class. AQHA or NRCHA acceptable equipment required. Green riders may use equipment rules from respective classes. The pattern is to be run as posted regardless of green rider status.

Ranch Boxing: Open to all levels of riders. The competitor will have 2 minutes to complete all the requirements of this class and there will be a 1 minute warning. The contestant will receive a cow in the arena. He/she must box the cow as many times as they feel necessary on the first end where the cow comes out before they take the cow down the fence. The competitor will then rate the cow down the fence. They must pull off the cow just enough at the end marker to show control of their horse and to not run the cow into the fence at the end of the arena. They will then resume boxing the cow on the far end, making at least 3 passes, but they may do as many as they feel necessary. There is no penalty for boxing it more than 3 times on the far end. They then have to take the cow back down the same side past the end marker before the time is up. If the cow does not pass the end marker before the final whistle, the score is a zero. Note: if you do all the required maneuvers you do not have to use up all the time and may finish before the final whistle.

Herd Work: Rules per NRCHA Rulebook Section 19.1 –Herd of cattle will be located in the center of back wall of the arena. Judging will begin at the timeline. 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 tough on a cow will be taken into consideration. The amount of time actually spent working cattle in the two and half minute period will also have an effect on the total score. The horse should show a great deal of expression but no ill will toward the cattle. Judging will end at the whistle. Each division (Green Rider, Green Horse, Open, Rookie, Non Pro & Youth) of herd work will abide by that division's general equipment rules as stated in this document.

Youth: A youth rider must be 18 years old or younger as of January 1st of the current show year. Youth riders are eligible for youth classes but not limited to: green, non-pro, rookie and open. A high school rodeo division will be made available when riders signify they are present. Youth riders 14 and under can enter the youth walk trot cow track or youth walk trot box class. However, if a youth participates more than three times in the box class they are no longer eligible for the cow track class.

Youth 14 and Under Walk Trot Cow Track Class: Youth will be required to perform a walk trot reining pattern including but not limited to circles, stops, spins, rollbacks and backing. At the riders signal a cow will then be turned loose in the pen and fifty seconds begin at the closing of the gate. A youth rider is expected to display proper cow tracking ability preferably at both the walk and trot. An adult rider is allowed in the pen during cow work but must provide limited help by remaining half a horse length behind the head of the youth horse or remain stationary in the pen. Adult rider may return the cow at the end of the fifty seconds. The pen size will be limited for this class with paneling. Green rider equipment rules and helmet laws apply. More than a two stride break of gait to the lope will result in a zero for that portion, cow work or reined work, of the class.

Youth 14 and Under Walk Trot Box Class: Youth will be required to perform a walk trot reining pattern including but not limited to circles, stops, spins, rollbacks and backing. At the riders signal a cow will then be turned loose in the pen and fifty seconds begin at the closing of the gate. A youth rider is expected to display proper boxing ability preferably at the trot. Cow work is scored like NRCHA limited classes. An adult rider is allowed in the pen during cow work but must provide limited help by remaining half a horse length behind the head of the youth horse or remain stationary in the pen. Adult rider may return the cow at the end of the fifty seconds. The pen size will be limited for this class with paneling. Green rider equipment rules and helmet laws apply. More than a two stride break of gait to the lope will result in a zero for that portion, cow work or reined work, of the class.

Rookie: Open to all riders, trainers and horses regardless of experience or age. A rider will not be eligible if they have earnings greater than \$500 in reined cow or working cow horse classes regardless of association. **Rider equipment rules apply specified by rider's ability or status.** Pattern is to be run as posted.

Advancing Divisions: Advancing from one division to the next happens when a total of 100 lifetime points is earned in a division or if the horse and rider wins the champion two years in a row. Points are cumulative from year to year. Riders may continue to show in their class for the remainder of a year once they accumulated 100 points. Advancement will take effect in the following year. Once the rider or horse advances out of his/her current division/class, the rider or horse is no longer eligible to compete in that division or lower divisions.

Section I. Green Rider Divisions:

Green As Green:

Qualifications: The rider must meet all NYRCHA Non-Pro declaration requirements and the rider's horse must not have any reining or cow horse earnings or points from the NRCHA, NRHA, AQHA or any other breed association. This is an entry level class, designed for riders and horses that do not have any cow horse experience. Cow horse experience is considered to be any participation in a competition, show or event involving a horse and cattle such as but not limited to roping, team penning, cutting, ranch sorting, steer stopping..

Equipment: Rider may use two hands or one, Rider who chooses to ride one-handed may go to two hands. However, the rider must return to one hand after the correction is made. Snaffle bit may be used regardless of horse's age.

Reined work: Same as NRCHA classes with the following exceptions: Rider may perform simple lead changes as specified by AQHA with no penalty. Rider does one or one and a half spins instead of number specified in the posted pattern.

Cow work: Same as NRCHA limited classes with the following exception: If the horse and rider loses the cow more than two times the three-point penalty will continue to apply instead of the contestant receiving a no score.

Green Rider I:

Qualifications: The rider must meet all NYRCHA Non-Pro declaration requirements and **the rider cannot** have earned more than \$500 in any cow horse discipline from the NRCHA, AQHA or any other breed association. **Equipment:** Rider may use two hands or one. Rider who chooses to ride one-handed may go to two hands. However, the rider must return to one hand after the correction is made. Snaffle bit may be used regardless of horse's age.

Reined work: Same as NRCHA classes with the following exceptions: Rider may perform simple lead changes as specified by AQHA with no penalty. Rider does one or one and a half spins instead of number specified in the posted pattern.

Cow work: Same as NRCHA limited classes with the following exception: If the horse and rider loses the cow more than two times the three-point penalty will continue to apply instead of the contestant receiving a no score.

Green Rider II:

Qualifications: The rider must meet all NYRCHA Non-Pro declaration requirements and the rider cannot have earned more than \$500 in any cow horse discipline from the NRCHA, AQHA or any other breed association.

Equipment: All horses six years and older must be shown one-handed in a NRCHA approved bridle. A rider on any horse shown in a bridle may go to two hands but must return to one-hand after the correction is made. Horses five years and younger may be shown in a snaffle bit, hackamore or two rein and may remain two handed.

Green Rider II (con't):

Reined Work: Same as NRCHA classes with the following exceptions: Rider does two or two and a half spins instead of number specified in the posted pattern.

Cow work: Same as NRCHA limited classes with the following exception: If the horse and rider loses the cow more than two times the three-point penalty will continue to apply instead of the contestant receiving a no score.

Section II. Green Horse Division:

Green Horse Box:

Qualifications: *All professional, non professional and green riders welcome. The horse must not have earnings greater than \$500 in any reining or cow horse disciplines from the NRCHA, NRHA AQHA or any other breed associations.*

Equipment: *Horses may be ridden in any NRCHA or AQHA approved western bridle. All horses may be ridden two hands regardless of bridle.*

Reined Work: *Same as NRCHA Classes*

Cow Work: *Same as NRCHA Limited Classes with the following exception: If the horse and rider loses the cow more than two times the three-point penalty will continue to apply instead of the contestant receiving a no score.*

Green Horse Fence:

Qualifications: All professional, non professional and green riders welcome. The horse must not have earnings greater than \$500 in any reining or cow horse disciplines from the NRCHA, NRHA AQHA or any other breed associations.

Reined Work: Same as NRCHA Classes

Equipment: Horses may be ridden in any NRCHA or AQHA approved western bridle. All horses may be ridden two hands regardless of bridle

Cow Work: Same as NRCHA Bridle Classes with the following exceptions.

Section III. Rookie Division:

Rookie Box:

Qualifications: Open to all riders, trainers and horses, professionals or non professionals regardless of age or experience. A rider will not be eligible if they have earnings greater than \$500 in reined cow or working cow horse classes regardless of association.

NYRCHA Class Rules

Effective January 1, 2016

Rookie Box (con't)

Equipment: Horses may be ridden in any NRCHA or AQHA approved western bridle. Rider equipment rules apply specified by rider's ability or status. All horses may be ridden two handed regardless of bridle.

Reined Work: Pattern is to be run as posted.

Cow Work: Same as NRCHA Bridle Classes.

Rookie Fence

Qualifications: Open to all riders, trainers and horses, professionals or non professionals regardless of age or experience. A rider will not be eligible if they have earnings greater than \$500 in reined cow or working cow horse classes regardless of association.

Equipment: Horses may be ridden in any NRCHA or AQHA approved western bridle. Rider equipment rules apply specified by rider's ability or status. **All riders may be ridden two handed** regardless of the bridle.

Reined Work: Pattern is to be run as posted.

Cow Work: Same as NRCHA Bridle Classes.

Section IV. End of the Year Awards and Lifetime Points:

Open: Rider must compete in half the total number of shows offered and in both an Open class and in the open herd work class. Riders must be a member of the NYRCHA to collect year-end points prior to a show for that show to count. If you choose to ride in more than one open rider division (Bridle or Hackamore; fence or limited) only your highest run score of the day will be taken and replaced among all other eligible open riders run score's from all open classes. Points are then assigned by the number of horse and rider combinations beat plus one. Ties will be broke by the cow work portion of the run score. Top riders at the end of the last show will be awarded accordingly at the awards banquet.

Non Pro: Rider must compete in half the total number of shows offered and in both a Non Pro class and in the Non Pro herd work class. Riders must be a member of the NYRCHA to collect year-end points prior to a show for that show to count. If you choose to ride in more than one Non Pro rider division (Bridle or Hackamore; fence or limited) only your highest score of the day will be taken and replaced among all other eligible non pro riders run score's from all non pro classes. Points are then assigned by the number of horse and rider combinations beat plus one. Ties will be broke by the cow work portion of the run score. Top riders at the end of the last show will be awarded accordingly at the awards banquet.

NYRCHA Class Rules

Effective January 1, 2016

Rookie: Rider must compete in half the total number of shows offered and in both a Rookie class and in the Rookie herd work class. Riders must be a member of the NYRCHA to collect year-end points prior to a show for that show to count. If you choose to ride in more than one rookie rider division only your highest run score of the day will be taken and replaced among all other eligible rookie riders run score's from all rookie classes. Points are then assigned by the number of horse and rider combinations beat plus one. Ties will be broke by the cow work portion of the run score. Top riders at the end of the last show will be awarded accordingly at the awards banquet.

Green Rider: The same horse and rider combination must compete in half the total number of shows offered and in both a green rider class and in the green rider herd work class. Riders must be a member of the NYRCHA to collect year-end points prior to a show for that show to count. If you choose to ride in more than one green rider division (green as green, green I, green II, green III) your highest run score of the day will be taken and replaced among all other eligible green rider run score's from all divisions. Points are then assigned by the number of horse and rider combinations beat plus one. Ties will be broke by the cow work portion of the run score. Top riders at the end of the last show will be awarded accordingly at the awards banquet. Lifetime point will be tallied by the number of horse and rider combinations beat in a single division. Once one hundred points have been accumulated a horse and rider will no longer be eligible for that division.

Youth: Rider must compete in half the total number of shows offered and in both a youth class and in the youth herd work class. Riders must be a member of the NYRCHA to collect year-end points prior to a show for that show to count. If you choose to ride in more than one youth rider division (bridle or limited) only your highest run score of the day will be taken and replaced among all other eligible youth riders run score's from all youth classes. Points are then assigned by the number of horse and rider combinations beat plus one. Ties will be broke by the cow work portion of the run score. Top riders at the end of the last show will be awarded accordingly at the awards banquet.

Youth Walk Trot: Rider must compete in half the total number of shows offered and in a youth walk trot class. Riders must be a member of the NYRCHA to collect year-end points prior to a show for that show to count. If you choose to ride in more than one youth walk trot division (track or box) only your highest run score of the day will be taken and replaced among all other eligible youth walk trot riders run score's from both youth walk trot classes. Points are then assigned by the number of horse and rider combinations beat plus one. Ties will be broke by the cow work portion of the run score. Top riders at the end of the last show will be awarded accordingly at the awards banquet.

Green Horse: Green horses must participate in half the total number of shows offered in a single show season to be eligible. Riders must be members of the NYRCHA to collect year-end points prior to a show for that show to count. A green horse **may** compete in both classes Green Horse Herd Work and Green Horse Box –or- Fence. Points are only tallied on the horse not the rider. The score for the Green Horse Herd Work and the highest scoring ride in either Green Horse Box or Green Horse Fence will be tallied and pointed for each show and totaled for the end of the year.

NYRCHA Class Rules

Effective January 1, 2016

Ranch Horse: Ranch horses must participate in half the total number of shows offered in a single show season to be eligible. Riders must be members of the NYRCHA to collect year-end points prior to a show for that show to count. A ranch horse must compete in at least two of the following classes per show but does not have to be the same two classes every show: Trail, Ranch Riding, Ranch Boxing, Ranch Reining and Working Ranch Horse. Points are only tallied on the horse not the rider. If a different rider or multiple riders ride the horse only the highest run score will be used (excluding Ranch Riding class as only one rider can show the horse in this class as it is a rail class). Points will be tallied only against other eligible ranch horses. The more Ranch Horse eligible classes the horse participates in per show the more points earned. Example Horse A participates in Ranch boxing and ranch reining while horse B participates in ranch boxing ranch reining and working ranch horse. Horse A only receives points from those two classes while horse B receives point from all three classes participated in for that day.

I have received, read and understand the rules and guidelines set forth by the New York Reined Cow Horse Association. I understand that judge's and/or NYRCHA Board of director's ruling is final and to be respected as such. Any disruption to the show made by myself may result in my dismissal from the show and the forfeiting of all points, awards and entry fees, cattle fees, and office fee.

Member Name

Date

Member signature

Legal guardian's signature

Office Secretary Name

Office Secretary Signature