

# 2026 NRHA RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS

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## MEMBERSHIP AND LICENSING

### 38-1-26 NON PRO INELIGIBLE TIME PERIOD

#### *INTENT*

The NRHA has numerous, successful professional members who have earned modest amounts in NRHA competition. As these professionals retire from training, showing or giving instruction for remuneration, this proposal would allow them to continue to stay involved in NRHA competition as a Non Pro. It would do so by allowing them to apply for Non Pro status after a reduced ineligible time period of one year rather than three years, many of them would never return to competition again. The proposal expands the earnings limitation to include Non Pro lifetime earnings in addition to the Open earnings. Finally, under the proposal, the member could only utilize the reduced time period once, preventing frequent switching back and forth between Open and Non Pro status. The proposal is more restrictive than AQHA SHW225.5, which provides immediate eligibility to apply for amateur membership once a person reaches age 85, with no waiting period and no earnings limitation.

#### *PROPOSAL*

PAGE 38 – INSERT NE (E) AND RE-LETTER SUBSEQUENT ITEMS.

**(d) Except as provided in (e) below, a** person who is ineligible to obtain Non Pro status may become eligible by meeting all Non Pro requirements for a period of three (3) years (“Ineligible Time Period”). During the Ineligible Time Period, the member may only show in NRHA Open competition.

**(e) The ineligible time period provided in (d) above shall be a period of one (1) year where, at the time of the member’s Non Pro application, the following conditions are met:**

- (1) The member is age sixty five (65) or older;**
- (2) The member has not won more than \$200,000 in Open and Non Pro reining competition (Categories 1, 2 and 6); and**
- (3) The member has never previously applied for Non Pro status using a one (1) year ineligible time period.**

### 42-1-26 COMPETITION LICENSES IN SHORT STIRRUP CLASSES

#### *INTENT*

Rule clarification adding short stirrup classes to the exception for competition license requirements.

#### *PROPOSAL*

PAGE 42 C. COMPETITION LICENSING (1) An NRHA competition license is a permanent identification record assigned to each horse. All horses competing in NRHA approved competition are required to have a competition license (except for those being shown only in Category 10 or **Youth Short Stirrup** classes).

## EVENTS AND SHOWS

### 44-2-26 CLASS ELIGIBILITY TIMEFRAME

#### **INTENT**

This rule is intended to aid staff in the preparation of eligibility for the upcoming show season.

Eligibility earnings are counted from 12/15/2025-12/14/2026.

This determines 2027 eligibility.

Eligibility earnings are counted December 15 to December 14

This determines eligibility starting January 1 the following year.

#### **PROPOSAL**

#### PAGE 44 D. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION AND CLASS ELIGIBILITY

~~Class Eligibility for the current year for horses and riders are based on NRHA recorded earnings on January 1. The Board will set eligibility levels for all categories for the next show year by August 31.~~ **Eligibility is effective January 1 of each year, and exhibitors and horses maintain eligibility through December 31. Money earned through December 15th, will be used to determine both horse and rider eligibility for the subsequent show season.**

#### PAGE 69 P. SHOW RESULTS

(1) Show management is required to send official show documents (results, NRHA official handwritten judges score sheets, membership applications, competition licenses, transfers, non pro declarations, fees, and other NRHA forms) and complete show results to be received in the NRHA office within ten (10) business days following the completion of the NRHA event or the event will be subject to late fines. **After December 1st, the NRHA Office may set a shortened deadline on show results submissions to allow for effective show results processing at year end.**

### 46-1-26 AMATEUR FUTURITY

#### **INTENT**

Add the Amateur division to the Non pro Futurity .

#### **PROPOSAL**

#### PAGE 46 D. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION AND CLASS ELIGIBILITY

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Amateur Derby <b>or Futurity</b> | Must have a Non Pro membership. See Show Rules and Regulations, I. Aged Show and Closed Aged Show Conditions for additional rules. |
|----------------------------------|--|

## 46-2-26 MATURITY DEFINITION

### **INTENT**

Remove the Maturity definition from the NRHA Handbook. Show management has the flexibility to set the ages and names for the aged shows at their events, so it is inconsistent to restrict only this type of aged show. Additionally, many show managers are rebranding 'Maturities' with names like '7 & Up Derby' or 'Senior Horse Derby' to include younger horses.

### **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 46. CATEGORY 2

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Maturity- | Limited to horses 8 years or older for classes held in North America and 9 years old or older for classes held in the European and Oceania regions. Can be run in either Open or Non Pro divisions. |
|-----------|---|

## 48-1-26 RANCH REINING

### **INTENT**

This proposal is linked to the “Ranch Reining” class pilot approved to run in 2025. The following is the basic framework which may be adjusted due to feedback from the pilot phase. This initiative aims to broaden participation in reining events by offering a more accessible, welcoming environment for both newcomers and seasoned competitors.

#### Key Benefits for Show Management

- Attract New Audiences: Tap into the popularity of ranch events to draw riders, horses, and owners unfamiliar with NRHA.
- Support Existing Members: Provide a fresh avenue for current competitors and older horses to remain active.
- Flexible Event Options: Simplified patterns and reduced time requirements make Ranch Reining an ideal addition for shows with a variety of schedule and arena conditions.

#### What is Ranch Reining?

The Ranch Reining class highlights fundamental reining maneuvers through simplified patterns and rules akin to other ranch-style events. Designed for inclusivity, this class fosters a relaxed, approachable format while maintaining the essence of reining competition.

The proposal is divided into several sections, grouping similar topics together to facilitate focused discussions:

- A - Classes Offered
- B - Class Structure
- C - Simple Lead Changes, Use of Two Hands and Holding the Saddle
- D - Equipment
- E - Judging Standards

F - Patterns

**PROPOSAL PART A - CLASSES OFFERED**

PAGE 48 – CATEGORY 5

After Senior Horse, add to the chart:

Ranch Reining (Not a Top Ten class)

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Ranch Reining Open</b>                        |   |
| <b>Ranch Reining Non Pro</b>                     | <i>Must use horses with ownership as defined in the Non Pro Conditions.</i>   |
| <b>Ranch Reining Youth All Ages</b>              | <i>For youth 18 &amp; under as of January 1 of the current year. Must use horses with ownership as defined in the Youth Show Rules and Regulations.</i>   |
| <b>Ranch Reining Youth 13 &amp; Under</b>        | <i>For youth 13 &amp; under as of January 1 of the current year. Must use horses with ownership as defined in the Youth Show Rules and Regulations.</i>   |
| <b>Ranch Reining Youth 14-18</b>                 | <i>For youth 14–18 as of January 1 of the current year. Must use horses with ownership as defined in the Youth Show Rules and Regulations.</i>  |
| <b>Ranch Reining Prime Time Non Pro</b>          | <i>For persons 50 and older as of January 1 of the current year. Must use horses with ownership as defined in the Non Pro Conditions.</i>   |
| <b>Ranch Reining Rookie</b>                      | <i>Must have a Non Pro membership. Riders may use a horse without the restrictions of ownership defined in the Non Pro Conditions. Horses are to be shown one handed. Open to riders who are eligible for Rookie Level 2 (5310) class.</i>  |
| <b>Ranch Reining Youth Rookie 18 &amp; Under</b> | <i>For youth 18 &amp; under as of January 1 of the current year. Riders may use a horse without the restrictions of ownership defined in the Youth Conditions. Open to riders who are eligible for Youth Rookie 18 &amp; Under (3300) class.</i>  |
| <b>Ranch Reining Other</b>                       | <i>Show management may apply to offer other divisions of classes. Conditions for these classes must be submitted with the event approval. Ranch Reining cannot be held as an aged event. NRHA reserves the right to approve or deny the class approval. Examples include: For riders who are active/retired Military, for riders who are collegiate team alumni, for horses of a specific breed or gender, etc.</i> |

**PROPOSAL PART B - CLASS STRUCTURE**

PAGE 68 – AFTER M. PARA-REINING SHOW CONDITIONS, ADD:

**N. RANCH REINING**

- (1) A Ranch Reining show may be held in conjunction with an NRHA Ancillary show, or it may be held as a stand-alone event.
- (2) Classes may be jackpotted or have money added (no maximum).
- (3) Entry and judges fees are to be determined by show management. It is recommended that entry fees do not exceed 10% of the added money and judges fees do not exceed entry fees.
- (4) Show management remits the standard NRHA 5% fee.

**(5) Show management can retain any percentage of entry fees.**

**Show management can determine the payback schedule to be used (e.g. Sched. A, Sched. B or custom).**

**(6) See Handbook's Rules For Judging section for allowable use of two hands and simple lead changes.**

**(7) Must use NRHA patterns 19-23.**

**(8) Show management may restrict entries to horses that have not cross-entered other NRHA classes. It is the responsibility of show management to clearly advertise which classes are excluded from cross-entry, to ensure this restriction is monitored prior to the classes being held and to properly reflect this in show results submitted to NRHA for recording. If the restriction is not enforced before a horse competes, show management must remove the horse from the draw (or results) of the subsequently held class.**

**(9) If held as a stand-alone event, the show secretary must be NRHA certified or pre-approved by NRHA. If the added money for the entire event is less than \$1,000, the event may request to use judge(s) who are not on the NRHA Judges List.**

<Update lettering after N.>

### **PROPOSAL PART C – SIMPLE LEAD CHANGES, USE OF TWO HANDS AND HOLDING THE SADDLE**

PAGE 95 (3) EQUIPMENT

...

(d) Only one hand may be used on the reins and the hand must not be changed, except in the Snaffle Bit, Freestyle, Green, Entry Level Ride & Slide, **Ranch Reining** and Para-Reining classes which allow the use of two hands. Green, Entry Level Ride & Slide, **Ranch Reining** and Para-Reining classes may use one or two hands at any time during the pattern.

PAGE 96 – B. SCORING.

(4) (m) closed reins are not allowed except as standard romal reins and mecates on snaffle bits and bosals in classes where the use of two hands is allowed and in the Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup, Para-Reining, **Ranch Reining** and Ride & Slide classes where closed reins are allowed.

(7) The following will result in a score of zero (0):

...

(b) use of two (2) hands (exception in Snaffle Bit, Hackamore, NRHA Green or **Ride & Slide and Ranch Reining** classes designated for two hands) or changing hands;

PAGE 97 – B. SCORING.

(8) The following will result in a penalty of five (5) points:

...

(c) holding saddle with either hand;

Exceptions:

1. Freestyle Reining
2. Entry Level

3. Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup
4. Age 65 and older (Non Pro classes only. Age as of January 1.)
- 5. Ranch Reining**

(9) The following will result in a two (2) point penalty: (a) break of gait; Note: Simple lead changes are allowed in NRHA Green, Ride & Slide, **Ranch Reining** and Para-Reining classes, no break of gait penalty should be applied during the lead change.

#### PAGE 101 – PATTERNS

7. With the exception of Entry Level Ride & Slide & Para-Reining classes, the following patterns are the only patterns to be used at NRHA events. NRHA Green **and Ranch Reining** classes should use NRHA patterns but simple lead changes are allowed.

#### PAGE 148 – PENALTY SCORE ZERO

Section 1. The NRHA Handbook specifies... Exceptions occur in the Snaffle Bit & Hackamore, Freestyle, Youth 10 & Under, NRHA Green, Ride & Slide, **Ranch Reining** and Para-Reining classes. See rules for each class.

#### PAGE 150 - 5 POINT PENALTIES

Section 1. There are five situations that require a judge to apply a five (5) point penalty. These situations are: spurring in front of the cinch, use of either hand to instill fear or praise, holding the saddle with either hand (except in the Freestyle Reining, Entry Level Green Reiner or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup class, **Ranch Reining** or for riders 65 and older (Non Pro classes only. Age as of January 1.), or blatant disobedience.

#### PAGE 151 – 2 POINT PENALTIES

Section 1...Note: Simple lead changes are allowed in NRHA Green classes **and Ranch Reining**; no break of gait penalty should be applied during the lead change...

### **PROPOSAL PART D – EQUIPMENT**

#### PAGE 100 – ADD NEW (25)

**(25) Ranch Reining Scoring and Equipment. NRHA rules will apply unless otherwise specified in the exceptions outlined below.**

**1. The following will result in a score of zero (0): The**

**(a) use of hoof polish and/or hoof black;**

**(b) Braided or banded manes/tails or tail extensions.**

**2. Holding the saddle horn with either hand will not be penalized in any Ranch Reining classes.**

**3. Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Excessive silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged.**



## ***PROPOSAL PART E – JUDGING STANDARDS***

Staff will involve the Judges Advisory Committee for recommendations on teaching standards for maneuver evaluation. This is an important piece to review and refine during the pilot phase, so the class has the best foundation for success. Staff will collaborate with the committee, teaching panel and alliance organizations to build this in more detail.

## ***PROPOSAL PART F – PATTERNS***

We propose to begin by offering the use of alliance organization Ranch Reining patterns: American Quarter Horse Association Versatility Ranch Horse Ranch Reining Patterns 3, 4, 6, 7 and American Paint Horse Ranch Reining Pattern 1.

Pending these are approved, the PATTERN DESCRIPTIONS will be added starting on page 164, after Pattern 18.

To view patterns, please refer to Addendum 48-1-24 at the end of this document.

## **48-2-26 NOVICE HORSE GREEN**

### ***INTENT***

Create a new Novice Horse division- a 2 handed class with a low earnings cap and a low added money cap. Precedence- 3 year old , Developing Horse futurities, with the special show condition allowing the use of 2 hands, with an added money cap of \$ 5,000, have been in place for several years now, and appear to attract significant entries. Why couldn't the same idea be implemented in the Novice Horse division?

A true, Green horse division is, in my opinion, lacking within the Ancillary group of classes- Snaffle/Hackamore classes historically are not often used by management teams simply because the interest is not there among exhibitors and owners. While the Novice Horse classes are thought of as, Novice, in truth they are not, on the average, inexperienced horses. The possibilities for such a Green, 2 handed class are numerous Horses that are far behind in training due to a variety of reasons, but may be ready to begin their show careers Exhibitors coming out of the entry level classes, not as well mounted, and/or perhaps not yet comfortable showing one handed Owners/exhibitors who train their own horses on the lower, less competitive scale

Benefits to NRHA –

- increase in membership
- uptick in competition license applications
- increase in entry numbers worldwide , which results in a larger 5% retainage for NRHA
- And most importantly, the PR value

Where NRHA is seen as supporting the ,grass roots, of it's membership? Benefit to NRHA Affiliates, worldwide, but especially for International Affiliates, where the development of trained horses is much

slower and in my opinion, shows a need for this proposal. ( in 2024, offered as a , Club class, non approved, in Japan , at its annual Affiliate show, Novice Horse Green had a major increase in entries compared to the Snaffle/Hackamore offered the previous 2 years). During the 2024 Cactus Classic, I spoke with some Professionals and Non Pros about this proposal. It was well received.

## **PROPOSAL**

Create a new Novice Horse division- a 2 handed class with a low earnings cap and a low added money cap.

PAGE 48 – CATEGORY 5 ADD NEW

### **NRHA Novice Horse Green**

### **NRHA Non Pro Novice Horse Green**

- (suggested)LTE cap-\$1,500 – *eligibility policy*
- Oceania Council would need to make a recommendation for Oceania earnings cap.
- Added money cap- \$500
- 2 hands, in any legal bit or Hackamore.
- Not for World Champion or Top Ten awards

## **51-1-26 SLIDE CONTESTS**

### **INTENT**

Goal D of the NRHA Strategic Plan directs that we pursue wider recognition and value of NRHA events through increased purses and participation. One such way to increase purses and participation is to seek out and pilot new activities to draw a larger audience to reining and NRHA. The recent resurgence of “Slide Contests” is an opportunity worthy of more broadly piloting across NRHA events.

Piloting this class will give us the opportunity to evaluate its potential impact on members, as well as spectators.

### Key Benefits

The class aims to bring several positive outcomes:

- It creates additional opportunities for current members (horses and riders) to compete.
- Gives show management a new way to encourage additional entries, horses and riders.
- It is a quick-paced class for spectators, as well as for current members, and can be enjoyed without prior knowledge of reining and its maneuvers.
- Mainstream sports fans are aware of the push to shorten the length of games to benefit attendance, to increase exposure and to attract a new generation of fans. These efforts have been met with significant success, demonstrating the value of such adjustments.
- If this class became formally approved in the future, it could be another source of income for events, as well as for NRHA (5% fee from entry fees).

## What is the Slide Contest?

The Slide Contest is a face-paced class focused on reining's signature sliding stop. Riders execute a run down through the middle of the arena, execute a stop and indication completion of the stop by hesitating. Judges use a 3-point system with a base start score of 70. Maneuvers for evaluation will include the approach, stop and hesitation.

The proposal is divided into several sections, grouping similar topics together to facilitate focused discussions:

- A - Classes Offered
- B - Class Structure
- C - Scoring

### **PROPOSAL PART A - CLASSES OFFERED**

PAGE 51 – CATEGORY 11

After the category definition, add:

#### **Slide Contest (Not a Top Ten class)**

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Slide Contest Open</b>           |  |
| <b>Slide Contest Non Pro</b>        | <i>Must use horses with ownership as defined in the Non Pro Conditions.</i>  |
| <b>Slide Contest Youth All Ages</b> | <i>For youth 18 &amp; under as of January 1 of the current year. Must use horses with ownership as defined in the Youth Show Rules and Regulations.</i>  |
| <b>Slide Contest Other</b>          | <i>Show management may apply to offer other divisions of classes. Conditions for these classes must be submitted with the event approval. Slide Contests cannot be held as an aged event. NRHA reserves the right to approve or deny the class approval. Examples include: For riders who are active/retired Military, for riders who are collegiate team alumni, for horses of a specific breed or gender, etc.</i> |

### **PROPOSAL PART B - CLASS STRUCTURE**

PAGE 68 – AFTER M. PARA-REINING SHOW CONDITIONS, ADD:

#### **N. SLIDE CONTEST**

- (1) A Slide Contest show may be held in conjunction with an NRHA Ancillary show, or it may be held as a stand-alone event.
- (2) Classes may be jackpotted or have money added (no maximum).
- (3) Entry and judges fees are to be determined by show management. It is recommended that entry fees do not exceed 10% of the added money and judges fees do not exceed entry fees.
- (4) Show management remits the standard NRHA 5% fee.
- (5) Show management can retain any percentage of entry fees.
- (6) Show management can determine the payback schedule to be used (e.g. Sched. A, Sched. B or custom).

### **PROPOSAL PART C – SCORING**

**(25) Slide Contest Scoring. NRHA rules will apply unless otherwise specified in the exceptions outlined below.**

- 1. No penalty shall apply for markers.**
- 2. Required maneuvers will be defined as follows:**
  - (a) Approach**
  - (b) Stop**
  - (c) Hesitate**

**3. The scoring will be on a basis of zero (0) to infinity with seventy (70) denoting an average performance. The individual maneuvers are scored in ½ point increments from a low of -3 (extremely poor quality) to a high of +3 (excellent quality).**

#### 52-1-26 CATEGORY 12 TOP 20

##### **INTENT**

To enhance consistency in the earnings counted toward various accolades, Category 12 should be included in the standings for the Top 20 Professionals, Non Pros and Owners. Currently, Category 12 earnings contribute to Lifetime earnings (for horses, riders and owners) and Million Dollar Milestones (for sires, dams, riders and owners). However, their exclusion from Top 20 standings can create confusion when members see a discrepancy between their total year earnings and these standings. Given the significance of these earnings, incorporating them into year-end tabulations ensures they are appropriately recognized and valued, aligning all accolades with a consistent methodology.

##### **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 52 – CATEGORY 12

NRHA Nominator Incentive Earnings. Not for rider/horse eligibility, ~~Top 20 Program~~ or World Champion and Top Ten awards.

#### 54-1-26 YOUTH SHORT STIRRUP HELMET

##### **INTENT**

We all know that event the most gentle horse can be startled into acts that injure riders. NRHA currently has no rule in place requiring helmets, and it is essential that riders who are 10 years old and younger be protected. Making helmets optional is not the answer. It is necessary to have a rule that ensures safety for all these young riders.

##### **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 54 SECTION F. GENERAL SHOW CONDITIONS, ITEM 14

(14) It is mandatory for all riders to use appropriate western tack and western attire while showing; this would include a long sleeve shirt, western hat or safety helmet, boots, western saddle, and western bridle. (Freestyle reining being exempt based on conditions.) Failure to use appropriate attire will result in a score of 0. The use of an ASTM/SEI certified helmet is optional in all Para-Reining classes and/or any time a Para-Reining rider is mounted. Except in the cases where the Para-Reining is a Category 4, then the Para-Reining class shall follow the rules of the World Para Reining or USA Para Reining. **The use of an ASTM/SEI certified helmet is required in all Short Stirrup classes and for any time a Short Stirrup rider is mounted.**

## 54-2-26 EQUIPMENT AND ATTIRE

### *INTENT*

As a participant in NRHA events, riders are ambassadors of the association and the sport of reining. Professional attire helps maintain the image and standards of the NRHA, reflecting positively on the association as a whole. The NRHA prides itself on being a prestigious organization, and the way riders present themselves is a direct reflection of the organization's values and professionalism. Reining has deep roots in Western riding culture, and professional attire reflects a respect for the traditions of the sport.

In any NRHA class, professional attire is not just a matter of appearance; it is a demonstration of respect for the judges, the organization, and the sport's traditions.

### *PROPOSAL*

#### PAGE 54. GENERAL SHOW CONDITIONS

(14) It is mandatory for all riders to use appropriate western tack and western attire while showing; this would include a long sleeve shirt **with collars and buttons, snaps, or zipper** western hat or safety helmet, boots, western saddle, and western bridle. **Long sleeves must be rolled down. All types of sweatshirts are not permissible. Sweaters may be worn over an appropriate shirt. Chaps must be worn in every class that has more than \$2,000 in added money.** (Freestyle reining being exempt based on conditions.) Failure to use appropriate attire will result in a **no score** ~~score of 0~~. The use of an ASTM/SEI certified helmet is optional in all Para-Reining classes and/or any time a Para-Reining rider is mounted. Except in the cases where the Para-Reining is a Category 4, then the Para-Reining class shall follow the rules of the World Para Reining or USA Para Reining.

#### PAGE 95 (4) ADD (O) FOLLOWING (N)

The following will result in no score:

...

**(0) failure to wear appropriate western attire as outlined in the NRHA Handbook, General Show Conditions. (moving this from (7) The following will result in a score of zero(0) to (4)**

## 54-3-26 TRADITIONAL ATTIRE

### **INTENT**

This proposal aims to provide flexibility for international members by respecting their unique horse-related customs, traditions, and attire. This change seeks to enhance accessibility and promote broader horizons for our sport.

### **PROPOSAL**

(14) It is mandatory for all riders to use appropriate western tack and western attire...

**(a) For shows conducted in international countries, the exhibitor has the option of wearing traditional attire of the country. Traditional attire shall not encompass informal attire such as baseball caps and T-shirts, but rather the industry standard for historical dress for the local or regional agricultural industry.**

## 55-1-26 EUROPEAN EVENT DEADLINES

### **INTENT**

This proposed rule change has been in policy form for the past several years, and in an effort to streamline and make all of our deadlines located in the same location, we are recommending adding it to the handbook. This will help with less confusion and more clarity on the requirements.

### **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 55. ADDING THE FOLLOWING CHART TO RESIDE UNDER THE CURRENT APPROVAL DEADLINE CHART:

#### For European Events

| Level of Event  | Event Approval deadline   |
|-----------------|---|
| AA, A           | Not less than ninety (180) days prior to the first day of the event. Added money may be changed up until 90 days prior to the first day of the event so long as it does not change the classification of the event. |
| B, BB & Top Ten | Not less than sixty (60) days prior to the Events first day of the show   |
| C & D           | Not less than thirty (30) days prior to the entry closing date  |

For European events, a AA event MAY only be allowed every three weeks, an A event will require 2 weeks in-between or a distance of 1000km. Any conflicts of event approvals for European events be determined by the European Executive Board or the European Council. The European Executive Board will review all AA and A approvals that are submitted after the 180-day deadline and will either grant or deny approval based off their conflict with other already existing events.

## 55-2-26 ANCILLARY EVENT APPROVAL

### *INTENT*

Adding this language better defines the result of preserving a preferential show date.

### *PROPOSAL*

PAGE 55. G. EVENT APPROVAL

(4) Show approvals are awarded on a first come basis except in cases of established events. To preserve a preferential show date, an established event must contact the NRHA office in writing not less than six (6) months in advance of the requested date. **By preserving the preferential date, the event will be given preference for G. Event Approval (5) listed below.**

(5) **For events with overlapping dates,** only one Ancillary event offering a Lawson Trophy reining may be held within 350 miles (550 kilometers) ~~on the same day.~~

## 55-3-26 SHOW MANAGER AND REPRESENTATIVE REQUIREMENT

### *INTENT*

The NRHA Handbook currently states that B-level events require only two roles: a Show Secretary and either a Show Manager or Show Representative. However, with added money between \$1,000 and \$14,999, these events can be significant in size. To ensure proper documentation and organization, it should be mandatory to fill all three roles—Show Secretary, Show Manager, and Show Representative.

### *PROPOSAL*

PAGE 55. 10) EVENT CLASSIFICATIONS:

~~All Events except BB, A, AA – events~~ **D & C Level events** must have **at least a** Show Secretary and a Show Manager/Show Representative, and they must be two separate individuals. The Show Secretary or Show Manager must be certified by NRHA. **B, BB, A, AA** events must have a Show Secretary, Show Manager, and a Show Representative/ Steward (must be at least three individuals).

## 56-1-26 EVENT APPROVAL STEWARDS GUIDELINES

### *INTENT*

According to the data show management is hiring more stewards. To support greater steward availability while maintaining exhibitor participation, the Steward Advisory Committee unanimously voted to permit shows with multiple stewards to have an exhibitor who is a family member of a steward, subject to approval by the NRHA.

### *PROPOSAL*

PAGE 56 SECTION G. EVENT APPROVAL (C) B EVENTS:

(C) Show Representative/Steward cannot be an immediate family member (as defined in the Non Pro conditions) of the Show Secretary and/or the Show Manager. **Exception: at shows with multiple stewards, an exhibitor may be a family member pending approval by the NRHA.**

PAGE 56 SECTION G. EVENT APPROVAL (D) BB EVENTS:

(B) Show Representative/Steward cannot be an immediate family member (as defined in the Non Pro conditions) of the Show Secretary and/or the Show Manager. **Exception: at shows with multiple stewards, an exhibitor may be a family member pending approval by the NRHA.**

PAGE 56 SECTION G. EVENT APPROVAL (E) A EVENTS:

(B) Show Representative/Steward cannot be an immediate family member (as defined in the Non Pro conditions) of the Show Secretary and/or the Show Manager. **Exception: at shows with multiple stewards, an exhibitor may be a family member pending approval by the NRHA.**

PAGE 56 SECTION G. EVENT APPROVAL (E) AA EVENTS:

(B) Show Representative/Steward cannot be an immediate family member (as defined in the Non Pro conditions) of the Show Secretary and/or the Show Manager. **Exception: at shows with multiple stewards, an exhibitor may be a family member pending approval by the NRHA.**

## 71-1-26 YEAR-END AWARDS

### *INTENT*

Starting in 2020, NRHA added the Novice Horse L3 Open and L3 Non Pro to the World Title / Top Ten Year-End Awards program. Since then, neither of the classes have fielded 10 in the year-end standings. In contrast, in 2024, NRHA added the Masters Non Pro to the Top Ten. In its first year, more than a dozen rider/horse teams met the standards to be in the World Title standings for the Masters Non Pro (e.g. earned a check in the class 7 or more times at a Top Ten event with 3 or more horses shown).

The Novice Horse L3 classes are a valuable class for events to offer. However, regarding World Title / Top Ten Year-End Awards, we believe it is prudent to moderate NRHA's expenses if these classes are not generating a high level of participation for year-end awards. This proposal does not remove a class from the World Title / Top Ten Year-End Awards program, but set a level of participation for NRHA to provide the awards. If the level of participation is not met, the awards will be offered for purchase to those making the year-end standings of the given class.

Related Data:

Top Ten awards expense = ~ \$5,000 annually

2023 entries in these classes:

NHOL3 = 1,621

NHNOL3 = 1,690

Masters Non Pro = 1,606

Number of Horses in the final Top Ten Standings - By Year



|                         | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | YTD 2024 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|----------|
| Novice Horse Open L3    | 3    | 2    | 6    | 6    | 2        |
| Novice Horse Non Pro L3 | 0    | 5    | 6    | 5    | 7        |
| Masters Non Pro         |      |      |      | 10   |          |

## PROPOSAL

PAGE 71. SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS. Q. YEAR-END AWARDS. (4)

(4) A Lawson trophy will be awarded to the year-end champion of each class. A Morrison trophy will be awarded to the year-end reserve champion of each class. A Morgan trophy will be awarded to Top Ten places 3–10. Year-end awards for the Top Ten standings will be titled: NRHA World Champion for the highest money earners and highest Youth point earners; NRHA Reserve World Champion for the second-highest money earners and second-highest Youth point earners; and NRHA Top Ten 3rd–10th top money earners and Youth point earners. **NRHA will provide awards when five (5) or more horses make the Top Ten Year-End standings list. When five (5) or less horses make the standings list, the winners will be recognized and have the option to purchase the award(s).**

## STEWARDS AND JUDGING

### 89-1-26 SHOW STEWARD REPORTS

#### INTENT

An NRHA Show Steward is responsible for submitting a comprehensive report to NRHA detailing the conduct of the competition, including any rule violations by the event or exhibitors, using the online form provided by NRHA. A five-day timeframe is sufficient to complete and submit this report.

#### PROPOSAL

SHOW STEWARD PAGE 89 . B. DUTIES OF THE SHOW STEWARD (3)

(3) To furnish the NRHA with a complete ~~written~~ report as to the conduct of the competition including any offenses or violations of the rules by the competition or any exhibitors within **five (5) fifteen (15)** days after the last recognized day of the competition, on the form furnished by the NRHA. If NRHA does not receive the completed report and/or attachments postmarked or electronically submitted within five (5) fifteen (15) days of the close of competition the Steward may receive a letter of reprimand upon the first offense, a second offense in the same competition year may result in a fine of \$100 and a third offense in the same competition year may result in automatic revocation of Steward License until said Steward reapplies and completes the testing requirements for Steward School.

**INTENT**

Bringing younger judges into the NRHA judging pool is critical for the continued growth and evolution of the organization.

Younger judges often bring new viewpoints that can help modernize the judging process. While seasoned judges have valuable experience, younger individuals may be more in tune with current trends, technology, and the evolving nature of the sport. This can lead to more progressive judging standards, updated interpretation of rules, and an openness to innovations that improve fairness and accuracy in scoring.

The long-term sustainability of the NRHA’s judging pool depends on recruiting and training younger judges. As experienced judges retire, the association risks losing valuable expertise and continuity. By introducing younger judges now, NRHA ensures a seamless transition as older judges step down. These younger judges can learn from seasoned professionals, preserving the quality of judging while also creating a continuous pool of qualified individuals.

Judging in modern competitive environments increasingly involves technology, from digital scoring systems to video reviews. Younger judges, who tend to be more tech-savvy, are likely to adapt more quickly to these tools, enhancing the efficiency and accuracy of the judging process. Their familiarity with new technologies can help streamline NRHA events and allow the association to implement innovations that might be slower to adopt with an older judging pool.

Introducing younger judges into the NRHA judging pool is essential for the organization's sustainability, growth, and relevance. By embracing fresh perspectives, modern technology, and fostering continuity, younger judges not only ensure the future of NRHA but also help connect with today’s competitors. Investing in this new generation of judges guarantees that the standards, fairness, and prestige of NRHA events will be maintained for years to come.

**PROPOSAL**

PAGE 91 A. JUDGING PRIVILEGES

(2) Approval and Testing:

(b) The applicant must be at least ~~twenty-five (25)~~ **twenty-one (21)** years of age and must have been an NRHA General, Non Pro, or Professionals members in good standing for 24 months prior to the date of application before he or she can be considered for approval as an NRHA judge.

## 94-2-26 BIT GUARDS

### *INTENT*

The Judges Advisory Committee wanted clarification on what is legal when an exhibitor uses a bit guard.

### *PROPOSAL*

B. SCORING (3) EQUIPMENT PAGE 94-95

(c) 6. Bit Guards

The use of a bit guard is considered legal as long as it is a round disk that is soft and flexible. A standard bit guard is used to gently stop the bit from pinching at the corner of the horse's mouth and is 3.5 inches in diameter. The middle hole should have a 1-inch diameter opening and should not be fixed in any way to the shank of the bit.

## 96-1-26 ALTER REIN LENGTH

### *INTENT*

A. Clarification to include and in beginning of sentence.

B. This is the judge's committee's current interpretation of the existing rule. It should say this in the rulebook. It currently says a zero will be applied and no special conditions are listed.

### *PROPOSAL*

PAGE 96 B. SCORING (5)

(5) ...Any attempt to alter tension or length of the reins from bridle to the rein hand is to be considered use of two hands **and** a penalty score of zero will be applied **with the exception of any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during a pattern.**

## 97-1-26 SIMPLE LEAD CHANGES

### *INTENT*

To be fair to all Short Stirrup, NRHA Green, Ride & Slide and Para-Reining exhibitors in these classes, the Judges Advisory Committee voted unanimously to adopt that in classes in which simple lead changes are allowed, riders have the ability to perform a simple lead change anywhere in the pattern where a lead change is necessary. To make sure verbiage is consistent adding Ride & Slide and Para-Reining to 2 point penalties (pg. 151) Section 1.

### *PROPOSAL*

## PAGE 97 B. SCORING (9)

The following will result in a two (2) point penalty: (a) break of gait; Note: Simple lead changes are allowed in NRHA Green, Ride & Slide, Para-Reining and **Short Stirrup** classes, no break of gait penalty should be applied during the lead change.

## PAGE 151 JUDGES' GUIDE. 2 POINT PENALTIES. SECTION 1.

**Note:** Simple lead changes are allowed in NRHA Green, **Ride & Slide, Para-Reining, and Short Stirrup** classes; no break of gait penalty should be applied during the lead change. NRHA Ride & Slide classes may use altered patterns and if simple lead changes are specified, no break of gait penalty should be applied during the lead changes.

## Page 153 SIMPLE LEAD CHANGE PENALTIES

Section 1. In classes which allow simple lead changes, **riders have the ability to perform a simple lead change anywhere in the pattern where a lead change is necessary.** The ideal change is to jog for one stride to change leads. Any deviation from the ideal change that takes place in the lead change area as described by the Handbook would not incur a penalty but deserves less credit. In order of decreasing difficulty would be jogging more than one stride, walking rather than jogging, stopping during the change and finally more than one attempt to execute the change. **Penalties would apply if the lead change was early or late just as they would for a flying lead change. Penalties would apply if the lead change is required before a certain point, i.e.: when exiting a rollback and coming out in the wrong lead, the exhibitor would need to perform a lead change before entering the end of the arena for a run around or if they fall out of lead and need to change back to regain the correct lead in the circles.**

## 97-2-26 WALKING PENALTY

### **INTENT**

As a judge, I have experienced this situation in entry level classes, but walking is not specifically addressed in this case. I feel it is a grey area that should be clear, in order to explain the resulting score to the exhibitor.

### **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 97(J), AND PAGE 150(4)

Add walking to the penalty score 0, pg. 97(j), pg. 150(4) jogging in excess of one-half(1/2) circle or one-half(1/2) the length of the arena.

## 98-1-26 WALKING WHEN EXITING THE ROLLBACK

### **INTENT**

Currently, per the Rulebook, exiting a rollback at the walk is less punitive than exiting the rollback at the jog. With reining being primarily a discipline exhibited at the lope, and beyond, it seems logical to assess the

same penalties( at the least) for walking out of a rollback, in great part due to the fact that the exit from a rollback is not a, walk forward and execute a lead departure. As it stands now, walking out of a rollback excessively merely brings a maximum maneuver deduction of -1.5, while exiting a rollback while jogging excessively can bring a penalty 2 with a maneuver deduction. My conclusion is the walking steps should not be ignored when exiting a rollback.

### **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 98(11) AND PAGE 153(1.)

Add walk/walking to the language pertaining to, exiting a rollback- exiting a rollback at a walk or jog. Walking or jogging up to two strides incurs 1/2 point penalty. Walking or jogging beyond two strides will incur a 2 point penalty.

## 151-3-26 PENALTIES IN DOWNWARD TRANSITION

### **INTENT**

For many reasons, it is nowadays possible to switch from ever-higher speed to ever-lower speed in circles, exciting and pleasing to watch.

In such cases, it is more in keeping with the horse's nature to slow down with a slide on both hind legs to come slow over the shortest distance. (Watch horses running free outside) Not only does it look softer and rounder, but it still corresponds to the spectacular nature of a reining (-horse) and thus delights the audience. When you look at the currently widespread reduction in speed, you can actually see that this bouncing and banging in the saddle and underneath, with the hindquarters bending inwards at the same time, is probably not the healthiest option for rider and horse in biomechanical and physical terms. You really can't talk about natural balance at that moment, let alone pleasant to watch.

### **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 151 JUDGES' GUIDE. 2 POINT PENALTIES. SECTION 1.

An important consideration is a horse which, while executing a required downward speed transition, ~~has its rear feet briefly slip on the ground without loss of the overall cadence and stride of the lope~~ **slides with one or both rear feet on the ground without loss of cadence and stride of the lope on both front legs** should not receive a 2 point break of gait penalty.

## 153-1-26 SIMPLE LEAD CHANGE PENALTIES

### **INTENT**

The problem is that if we as trainers are in the process of training a horse or a rider to do a flying leads change, purposely training a trot into a lead change can make the flying change more difficult and delay the successful completion of the ultimate goal. AQHA has also recently adopted a similar allowance in the Horsemanship to make walk and trot for one stride equally desirable.

## **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 153 SECTION 1.

In classes which allow simple lead changes, the ideal change is to jog **or walk** for one stride to change leads. Any deviation from the ideal change that takes place in the lead change area as described by the Handbook would not incur a penalty but deserves less credit. In order of decreasing difficulty would be jogging **or walking for** more than one stride, ~~walking rather than jogging~~, stopping during the change and finally more than one attempt to execute the change.

## **CLARIFICATION OF CURRENT PRACTICES**

### **35-1-26 MEMBERSHIPS ONLINE AT SHOWS**

#### **INTENT**

To update to reflect current technology and practice.

#### **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 35. SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS.

##### **A. MEMBERSHIP**

(1) ... New and renewing members can apply for membership **online or** at any NRHA approved show...

### **38-2-26 NON PRO RELINQUISHMENTS**

#### **INTENT**

Thanks to ReinerSuite, relinquishments do not take as long to process as they once did, and removing the 30 day period will be more reflective of current practices.

#### **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 38 B. NON PRO MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS

##### **(1) Eligibility**

(f) Non Pro Relinquishment: A Non Pro who gives up his/her Non Pro status to become an NRHA Professional member must complete and submit the Non Pro Relinquishment form ~~within 30 days of~~ **before** becoming an NRHA Professional or a professional trainer. When the form is received, NRHA may back out the applicable previous earnings. The Non Pro earnings in any category/class will not be utilized in determining current eligibility, with the exception of the Category 2 or 6 Level 1 Open and Rookie Professional class.

### **39-1-26 IMMEDIATE FAMILY CLARIFICATION**

## **INTENT**

This supports the current practice and interpretation of the rule where "aunt" and "uncle" are listed, therefore the reciprocal relationships of niece and nephew also are accepted. This more plainly spells out the specific relationships that are acceptable.

## **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 39. B. NON PRO MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS.

(b) Immediate Family is defined as: spouse, partner/mate, parent, spouse's parent, partner/mate's parent, step-parent, legal guardian, child, step-child, sibling, sibling's spouse, spouse's sibling, sibling's partner/mate, partner/mate's sibling, half sibling, step-sibling, aunt, uncle, **niece, nephew**, grandmother, and grandfather.

## 43-1-26 COMPETITION LICENSING

### **INTENT**

To update to reflect current technology and practice.

### **PROPOSAL**

PAGE. 43. C. COMPETITION LICENSING. (5) AND (10)

(5) It is the purchaser's responsibility to obtain a horse's competition license **and/or signed transfer documentation** from the previous owner, and to submit all transfer paperwork and fees prior to showing the horse. ...

(10) When a horse is gelded, the owner must report the gelding procedure date to the NRHA immediately and return the horse's original competition license to the NRHA with a statement indicating the gelding procedure date. The NRHA staff will make the appropriate notation in the records and ~~on the horse's competition license, and will return the~~ **digital license will be updated** ~~the license~~ at no charge.

## 44-1-26 FORFEITED EARNINGS

### **INTENT**

This rule change proposal updates the NRHA Handbook to reflect current practices.

### **PROPOSAL**

PAGE 44 D. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION AND CLASS ELIGIBILITY

...When a horse/rider is found to be ineligible, the earnings will be forfeited to the **NRHA show secretary or manager of the event** and redirected to the Show Committee for redistribution. NRHA will correct the class placing and earnings in the database. The disqualified exhibitor is responsible for returning all forfeited earnings, to the NRHA and all prizes, and awards to the show secretary **or show manager.**

## 45-1-26 CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION CLARIFICATION

### INTENT

This proposal clarifies current practices for the Categories of Competition and Class Eligibility, and adds the Legends Non Pro as a Category 2 & 6 option

### PROPOSAL

PAGE 45, D. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITIONS AND CLASS ELIGIBILITY.

#### Category 1

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Prime Time Open    | For persons 50 and older as of January 1 of the current year. <del>Can run concurrent with the Category 1 Open, Intermediate Open, Limited Open or Rookie Professional class.</del> Money won will not count toward World Champion awards |
| Prime Time Non Pro | For persons 50 and older as of January 1 of the current year. <del>Can run concurrent with the Category 1 Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro or Limited Non Pro</del>  |
| Masters Non Pro    | For persons 60 and older as of January 1 of the current year. <del>Can run concurrently with Category 1 Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, and Prime Time Non Pro.</del>   |

#### Category 2 & 6

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Prime Time Open    | For persons 50 and older as of January 1 of the current year. <del>Can run concurrent with the Category 2, Level 4, Level 3, Level 2, or Level 1 Open class.</del>   |
| Prime Time Non Pro | For persons 50 and older as of January 1 of the current year. <del>Can run concurrent with the Category 2 Level 4, Level 3, Level 2, or Level 1 Non Pro class.</del>   |
| Youth Non Pro      | For youth 18 and younger as of January 1 of the current year. <del>Can run concurrent with the Category 2 Level 4, Level 3, Level 2, or Level 1 Non Pro class.</del> 13 & under and 14-18 can also be approved if requested. |
| Masters Non Pro    | For persons 60 and older as of January 1 of the current year. <del>Can run concurrently with the Category 2 or 6 Level 4, Level 3, Level 2, or Level 1 Non Pro class.</del>  |

#### Category 5

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Legends Non Pro | For Persons 70 and older as of January 1 of the current year. <del>Can run concurrently with the Category 2 Level 4, Level 3, Level 2, or Level 1 Non Pro class.</del> Ancillary Legends Non Pro classes will not count as a top ten class. |
|-----------------|---|



## 47-1-26 PARA REINING

### *INTENT*

The intent of this change is to clarify the Para-Reining program as well as remove references to outside para-reining organizations while maintaining the intent of the initial development of the program.

### *PROPOSAL*

#### PAGE 47 CATEGORY 4

(NRHA approved Breed Restricted classes (excluding aged shows) restricted by breed or Para-Reining classes. ~~World Para-Reining (WPR) rules concerning grades and patterns apply for Para-Reining classes.~~ Not for NRHA World Champion and Top Ten awards. Requires a NRHA Professionals, Non Pro, Youth, Youth Non Pro or Associate (Para-Reining only) in order to show.)

Following the chart:

Any ~~WPR, USA Reining~~ or approved graded ~~restricted breed~~ para-reining

#### PAGE 53 F. GENERAL SHOW CONDITIONS

(14) ...Except in the cases where the Para-Reining is a Category 4, then the Para-Reining class shall follow the rules of the ~~World Para Reining or USA Para Reining~~ **must submit show conditions for approval. Show management is responsible for informing exhibitors and judges which category and any special conditions for Category 4 approved classes.**

#### PAGE 67 M. PARA-REINING SHOW CONDITIONS

(1) Category 11 Para-Reining shows cannot be restricted by any means other than the requirements set forth.  
(11) May use NRHA Patterns or other relaxed patterns meeting the following guidelines. Required maneuvers include at least: one (1) sliding stop; one (1) circle in each direction; a minimum of two (2) spins to the left and a minimum of two (2) spins to the right. Gaits may include a walk, jog and/or lope. Show management is responsible for informing the judge of the relaxed pattern prior to horses being shown. **Exhibitors within a class must run the same (modified) pattern.**

## 56-2-26 EVENT CLASSIFICATIONS; C EVENT

### *INTENT*

Clarify the rule for Event Classifications: C Level events must have a minimum of \$1 in added money. Events with \$0 added money are classified as D Level events.

### *PROPOSAL*

#### PAGE 56

(10) Event Classifications:

(b) C Events:

(A) \$01-\$999 added money to the entire event

## 57-1-26 EVENT CANCELLATIONS

### *INTENT*

The proposed rule change will streamline the cancellation process for Show Managers and allow NRHA staff to be efficient in updating ReinerSuite for members.

### *PROPOSAL*

PAGE 57 (11) EVENT CANCELLATION POLICIES

(a) Show Managers who intend to cancel an NRHA approved event must first get cancellation approval from the NRHA Executive Committee.

## 62-1-26 AGED SHOW AND CLOSED AGED SHOW CONDITIONS

### *INTENT*

This rule change will better define current show approval practices for aged and closed aged shows.

### *PROPOSAL*

PAGE 62 I. AGED SHOW AND CLOSED AGES SHOW CONDITIONS

(3) Added Money:

(a) An Aged show must have a minimum of \$2,000 in added money.

(b) Level 2 Non Pro may not exceed the added money in the Level 4 Non Pro or Level 3 Non Pro in Category 2 or Category 6 classes

**(b) The added money for any level cannot exceed the added money in any higher levels within the Open and Non Pro Category 2 or Category 6 classes.**

Insert (4-6) and renumber subsequent

**(4) Show management can retain any percentage of the entry fee.**

**(5) Show management retains and remits to the NRHA the standard five percent (5%) show fee.**

**(6) If a custom payout structure is requested, the payout formulas are required to be submitted to NRHA at the time of event approval.**

## 66-1-26 ENTRY LEVEL RIDE & SLIDE FEE

### **INTENT**

To better define current practice.

### **PROPOSAL**

#### PAGE 66 K. ENTRY LEVEL RIDE & SLIDE SHOW CONDITIONS

(2) A \$30 application fee must be submitted with the show approval form for all Entry Level Ride & Slide shows. **Show management does not remit the 5% NRHA retainage fee.**

(5) Horses do not have to have an NRHA competition license prior to showing in an Entry Level Ride & Slide **or Green Level** show.

## 70-1-26 PAYOUTS

### **INTENT**

With lessees competing and earning money on horses, we want to simply state that it is acceptable for the payouts to be made to the lessee. This is not a change, but better definition of what is allowed.

### **PROPOSAL**

(5) Payout to current recorded rider, agent, owner, **lessee**, or responsible party must be made within thirty (30) days following the completion of the NRHA event.

## 94-1-26 HACKAMORE MEASUREMENT CLARIFICATION

### **INTENT**

To clarify the legal equipment requirements regarding the use of a hackamore in reining.

### **PROPOSAL**

#### B. SCORING (3) EQUIPMENT PAGE 94-HACKAMORE MEASUREMENT CLARIFICATION

References to a hackamore mean the use of a flexible, braided, rawhide or leather, or rope bosal, the core of which may be either rawhide or flexible cable with. **Hackamores shall be round in shape and constructed of uniform braided rawhide or leather and have a non-metal flexible core. The noseband of the hackamore must measure at least 5 1/2" of smooth rawhide or leather before any braided buttons, a maximum diameter of 3/4" diameter at the cheek, and be at least 1/2" in diameter. The bosal must be a minimum one finger space (approximately 3/4") between the bosal and nose. Bosals shall be soft and flexible.** Absolutely no rigid material will be permitted under the jaws or on the noseband in connection with

the bosal, regardless of how padded or covered. Horsehair bosals are prohibited. This rule does not refer to the so-called mechanical hackamore which is illegal.

## 150-1-26 5 POINT PENALTIES

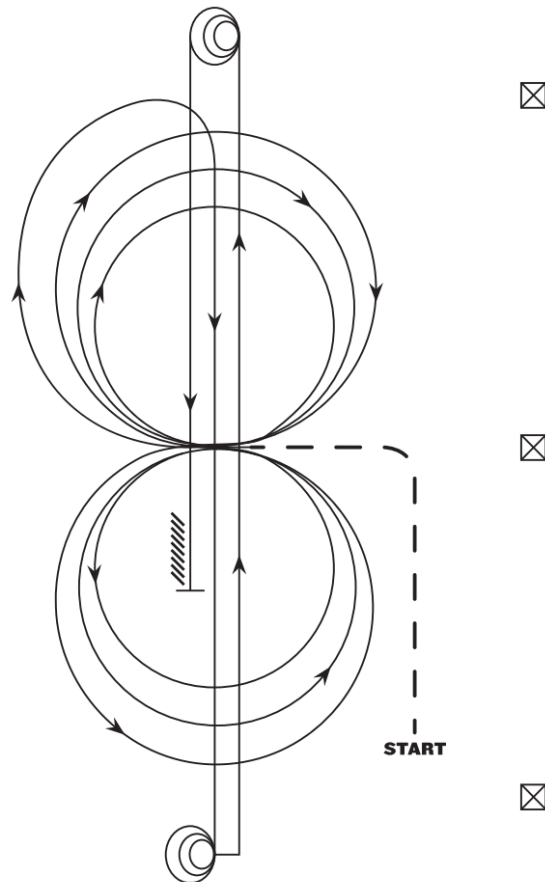
### ***INTENT***

This addition supports current practice that these situations apply to all classes in Category 10 (Green Reiner and Ride & Slide classes), not just Green Reiner.

### ***PROPOSAL***

Section 1. There are five situations that require a judge to apply a five (5) point penalty. These situations are: spurring in front of the cinch, use of either hand to instill fear or praise, holding the saddle with either hand (except in the Freestyle Reining, Entry Level Green Reiner, Entry Level Ride & Slide, **Entry Level Ride & Slide**, or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup class or for riders 65 and older (Non Pro classes only).

**VRH AND RHC RANCH REINING PATTERN 3**

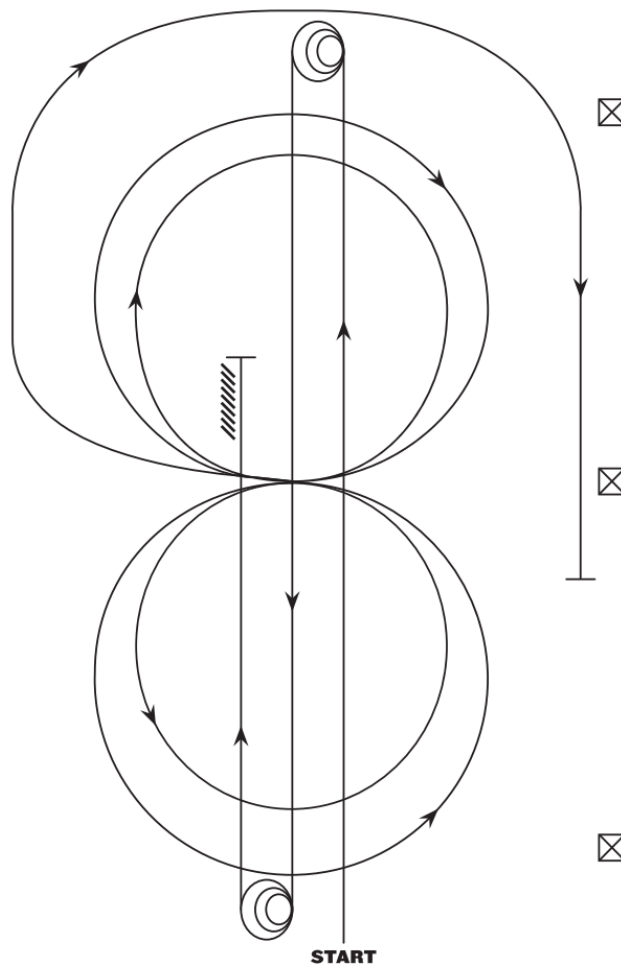


**Mandatory Marker along Fence or Wall:** The judge shall indicate with markers on arena fence or wall the center of pattern. Judge shall also place markers on fence or wall at least 50' from each end of the arena.

Ride pattern as follows: Trot to center of arena and stop or walk before departure. Start pattern facing toward judge.

1. Beginning on right lead, complete three circles to the right - the first two large and fast; the third one small and slow. Change leads at center of arena.
2. Complete three circles to the left - the first two large and fast; the third one small and slow. Change leads at center of arena.
3. Begin a large circle to the right, but do not close this circle. Run down center of arena, past the end marker, and do a sliding stop.
4. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the right.
5. Run up center of arena to the opposite end, past the end marker, do a sliding stop.
6. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the left.
7. Run back to the middle of the arena, past the center marker, and do a sliding stop. Back up at least 10 feet. Hesitate to show completion of pattern.

#### VRH AND RHC RANCH REINING PATTERN 4

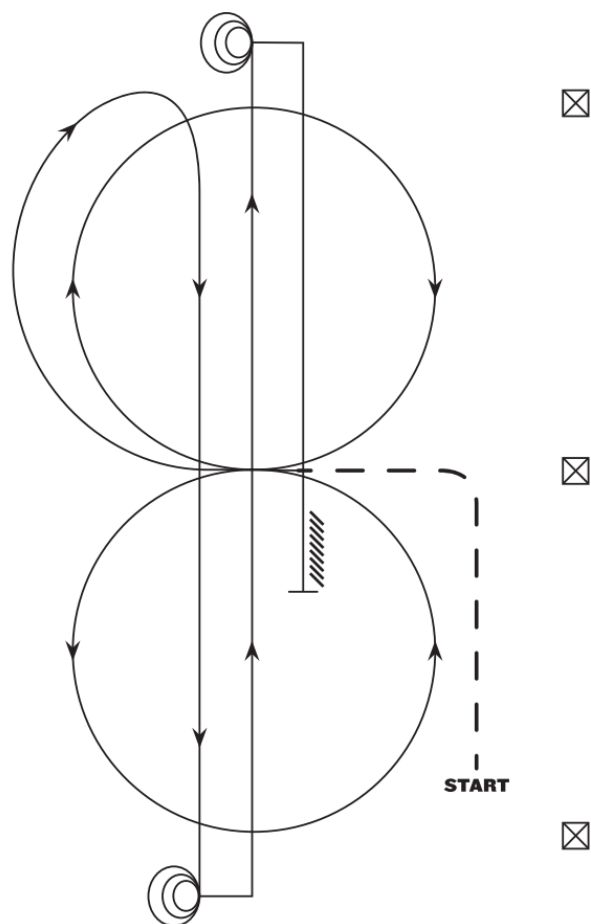


**Mandatory Marker along Fence or Wall:** The judge shall indicate with markers on arena fence or wall the center of pattern. Judge shall also end place markers on fence or wall at least 50' from each end of the arena.

Ride pattern as follows:

1. Run up center of arena past the end marker and do a sliding stop.
2. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the left.
3. Run down to opposite end of arena, past the end marker and do a sliding stop.
4. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the right.
5. Run past the center marker and do a sliding stop. Back at least 10 feet. Complete 1/4 turn to the left; hesitate.
6. Beginning on right lead, complete two circles to the right - the first one small and slow, the second one large and fast. Change leads at center of arena.
7. Complete two circles to the left - the first one small and slow, the second one large and fast. Change leads at center of arena.
8. Begin a large circle to the right but do not close this circle. Run down the right side of the arena, past the center marker and do a sliding stop at least 20 feet from the fence. Hesitate to show completion of pattern.

## VRH AND RHC RANCH REINING PATTERN 6

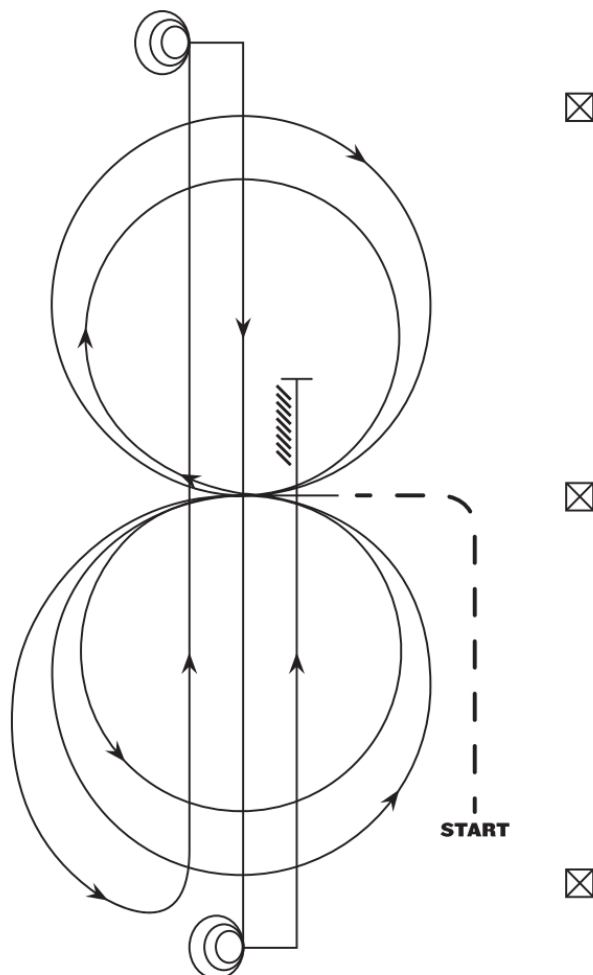


**Mandatory Marker along Fence or Wall:** The judge shall indicate with markers on arena wall or fence the center of pattern. Judge shall also place markers on fence or wall at least 50' from each end of the arena.

Ride pattern as follows: Trot to center of arena and stop or walk before departure. Start pattern facing toward judge.

1. Beginning on right lead, lope one circle to the right. Change leads at center of arena.
2. Complete one circle to the left. Change leads at center of arena.
3. Begin a circle to the right, but do not close this circle. Run down center of arena, past the end marker, and do a sliding stop.
4. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the right.
5. Run up to other end of arena, past the end marker, do a sliding stop.
6. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the left.
7. Run past the center marker and do a sliding stop. Back at least 10 feet. Hesitate to show completion pattern.

## VRH AND RHC RANCH REINING PATTERN 7



**Mandatory Marker along Fence or Wall:** The judge shall indicate with markers on arena wall or fence the center of pattern. Judge shall also place markers on fence or wall at least 50' from each end of the arena.

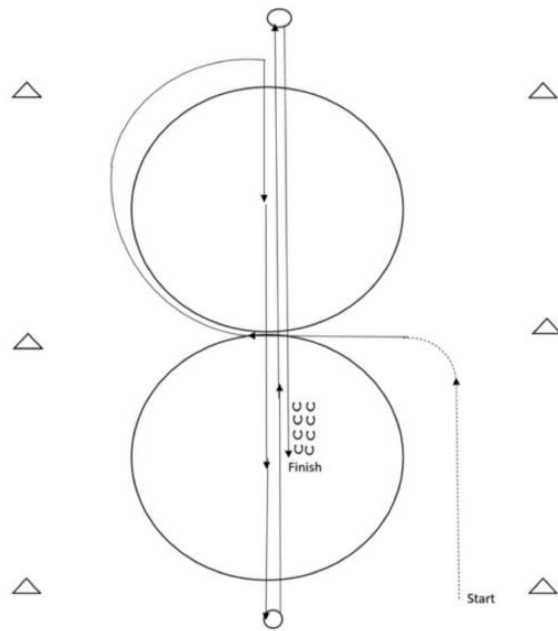
Ride pattern as follows: Trot to center of arena and stop or walk before departure. Start pattern facing toward judge.

1. Beginning on left lead, complete two circles to the left - the first one large and fast, the second one small and slow. Change leads at center of arena.
2. Complete two circles to the right - the first one large and fast, the second one small and slow. Change leads at center of arena.
3. Begin a circle to the left, but do not close this circle. Continuing around the end of arena, run up the center, past end marker, and do a sliding stop.
4. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the left.
5. Run down to other end of arena, past the end marker, and do a sliding stop.
6. Complete 3 1/2 spins to the right.
7. Run past the center marker and do a sliding stop. Back at least 10 feet. Hesitate to show completion pattern



## Ranch Horse Reining Pattern #1

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Trot to center of Arena, Stop. Start pattern facing towards Judge.

1. Beginning on the right lead Lope one circle to the right, Change Leads to the left.
2. Complete one circle to the left, Change leads to the right and go to the top of arena.
3. Run down center of arena past the end marker and come to stop.
4. Complete 1 1/2 spins to right
5. Run to the other end of the arena, past the end marker and come to a stop.
6. Complete 1 1/2 spins to the left.
7. Run past the center marker, stop, back 10 feet.
8. Hesitate to complete pattern.