

2019 NRHA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP CONDITIONS

This program is designed for the NRHA European affiliates to give them the freedom necessary to structure shows effectively to meet the needs of their members and location. In addition, this program provides a format by which the local champions can compete against their European competitors for NRHA awards. It is the aim of the NRHA and the European Council for this program to increase and promote the “up-and-coming grass roots” reining and continue to promote our sport at all levels.

The NRHA Board of Directors reserves the right to interpret, modify or amend conditions for the 2019 NRHA European Championships. If requiring immediate attention, those rights will be deferred to the Executive Committee.

GENERAL SHOW CONDITIONS

1. The qualifying period will be January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018. For the Championships held in 2019 an additional qualifying period from January 1st of 2018 through 45 days prior to the start of the Championships will also qualify riders for those Championships. These riders will be added to the qualifiers list that consists of the riders qualifying in the year of 2018.
2. A country must have an NRHA affiliate to participate.
3. If a rider or the owner of a horse wishes to participate but resides in a country that does not have an NRHA affiliate and has less than 25 NRHA members, that rider or owner may join an NRHA affiliate in another country and participate in that country's qualifying shows, however the rider and horse will represent their country of residence at the European Affiliate Championships.
4. An affiliate must be an NRHA approved Affiliate in good standing prior to January 1, 2018 in order to participate in the 2019 European Championship.
5. A country must hold a minimum of two (2) shows to qualify riders during the qualifying period. All shows must be NRHA approved and meet the requirements for approval as stated in the *NRHA Handbook*.
6. The European Championships will offer the following classes: Open, Intermediate Open, Limited Open, Rookie Professional Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, Youth 13 & Under, Youth 14-18, and Rookie I.
7. It is not mandatory for a show to offer all classes, but a class must be offered in at least two (2) qualifying shows within each country to qualify riders for the European Championships.
8. In the event a corporate sponsor is procured, the management of the European Championships must agree to abide by contract stipulations between the NRHA and said sponsors.
9. The National Reining Horse Association reserves the right to amend these conditions at any time with immediate notice of such changes being made to the recognized affiliates.
10. Horses owned by an owner in a country that do not have a recognized European Affiliate can qualify for the European Championships. Owners and riders should be a member of the affiliate prior to the first show of the affiliate show schedule. These horse/rider combos need to compete in a minimum of two shows in this country in order for points to count towards qualification.

QUALIFICATION

1. A rider in the Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, Youth 13 & Under, Youth 14-18, or Rookie I class may only qualify in the country in which they reside (live) at end of

each qualifying period. Residence will be determined by the address as recorded in the NRHA database.

2. In Open, Intermediate Open, Limited Open, and Rookie Professional, the horse must qualify in the country in which the owner of the horse resides at the end of the qualifying period, as determined by the mailing address recorded in the NRHA database.
3. **Owners and qualifying riders must be members of an NRHA affiliate and the NRHA to qualify and show in the European Championships. Any monies earned prior to obtaining these memberships will not be counted for qualifying purposes.**
4. Points will be awarded based on the number of horses actually competing in the class, i.e. if fifteen (15) horses compete, first place will be awarded 15 points, 2nd-14 points, etc. Points will be calculated on horses actually competing excluding the horses entered but scratched. Zeros and no scores will not be awarded points.
5. A horse/rider combination may only qualify to European Championships if at least one (1) point has been earned during the qualification period. Horse/Rider combinations not earning at least one (1) point will not be eligible to qualify to the European Championships.
6. The points are to be awarded on a "one horse-one rider" combination in the Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, Youth 13 & Under, Youth 14-18, and Rookie I. The points in the Open, Intermediate Open, Limited Open, and Rookie Professional are to be awarded to the horse.
7. A horse/rider must have participated in the specific class in at least two of the qualifying shows offered in the country of residence. When this requirement is met, ALL points earned at NRHA approved shows in Europe throughout the qualifying period will count toward his/her qualifying total for that class.
8. The top ten (10) qualified placings plus ties at 10th in each class offered during the qualifying period from each country will qualify to attend the European Championships.
9. Money earned in European shows will determine the 20 highest money earning European-owned horses in each open class, the 20 highest money earning Non Pros, and the 20 highest point earning Youth horse and rider combinations. These top 20 riders/horses will also qualify to participate in the European Championships. **All other affiliate membership conditions must also be met.**
10. A qualified Youth or Non Pro rider may substitute a horse for the European Championships if the qualified horse is deceased or has been sold. **A substitution fee of 250€ will be charged for any substitution made. Payment must be submitted to the NRHA office prior to European Championships.** In the instance that a horse has been sold, a transfer must be completed with the NRHA office. **If the transfer is not available then either a bill of sale or a letter from the agent providing proof of purchase to the new owner must be received by the NRHA office prior to the European Championships.** If a horse is deceased, the original NRHA competition license must be returned to the NRHA office to be marked "Deceased".
11. Show management will be responsible for reporting a complete list of entries in each show to the NRHA office with its NRHA show results. The NRHA will be responsible for determining class qualifiers by calculating NRHA approved monies and points earned. **Show results NOT RECEIVED by January 10th, 2019 will not be used for determining qualifiers.**
12. Those entries qualified for the European Championships may enter only the European Championship classes in which they have qualified, even if they are no longer eligible for that class at the time of the European Championships. **Category 1 eligibility will be used to determine rider eligibility.** Riders qualified in Non Pro classes including Rookie I must have current NRHA Non Pro status to enter any Non Pro classes including the Rookie I class.

13. Rookie I class qualification will be the top ten riders from each country in the Rookie I division.
14. A horse may qualify in more than one class and a rider may qualify more than one horse per class. However a rider may show only three (3) horses per class at the European Championships.
15. An open rider may represent more than one country at the European Championships.

AFFILIATE TEAM RECOGNITION

1. The European Championships will offer a Team Competition between affiliates.
2. Each country sending riders to the European Championships is eligible to participate.
3. Winners will be calculated based on points, not money earned.
4. Points will be awarded based on the number of horses placing below the rider plus one (1) point. For instance, a rider who placed first in a class of 15 will be awarded 15 points; the second place rider will be awarded 14 points, etc.
5. The top three point earners per class for each country will be used for the Teams total points per class.
6. Points will be awarded based on the rider's country for all classes. However if both the owner and the rider are from two different European Countries, both National Anthems can be played during the awards ceremony.
7. Special awards will be presented to the highest placing team.

YOUTH TEAM TOURNAMENT

1. All of the Youth entries in the European Championship classes and any NRHA ancillary youth classes that are running concurrent with the EAC Youth classes will be automatically entered into the Youth Team Tournament.
2. Youth will be separated into two categories: Youth 13 & Under and Youth 14-18.
3. On each team there will be four riders, two (2) Youth 13 & Under and two (2) Youth 14-18.
4. All teams will be drawn at random prior to the run of the Youth Classes after the classes entries have closed.
5. These teams will be posted either online, on the show grounds, or both so they are visible for all to see.
6. If there are more riders in one division than the other, the youth will be redrawn in the division that has less riders to make up the teams for the division with more riders, and will therefore be a part of multiple teams. For Example if there are twelve 13 & Under riders and only ten 14-18, then two 14-18 riders will be redrawn at random to fill the team for the additional 13 & Under riders, and these two 14-18 riders will have their score count for two teams.
7. The lowest score in each team will be dropped.
8. Scratches will be considered the dropped score.
9. An awards ceremony with all youth present (if possible) will follow the completion of the Youth Classes and individual Youth awards ceremonies.