

2023 NSBA Rule Changes

3. NSBA regular memberships are available by paying ~~\$65~~ \$75 (U.S.) for the first individual or owner membership and ~~\$35~~ \$40 (U.S.) for each additional immediate family member at the same address. Three year regular memberships are available for ~~\$475~~ \$200 (U.S.). International memberships are available for \$35 (U.S.). Lifetime memberships are available for \$1,500 (U.S.). Youth memberships are available for ~~\$35~~ \$40 (U.S.) with current 4H/FFA verification card or recognized breed youth card. Regular membership includes the magazine. Lifetime membership includes the magazine for one year.

Other fees:

c) Rush Membership - ~~\$35~~ \$45 + membership fee (2 business days)

22. In all classes, each judge must complete a signed judges' card. In the circumstances of a multi-judged event, NSBA ~~strongly recommends~~ requires that the composite results will be attained from the placing order on each judges card and not the raw score awarded to establish said placings at an NSBA stand alone event.

56. The fees for NSBA Horse Registration are as follows:

- a) Registration - ~~\$35~~ \$45
- b) Transfer of ownership - ~~\$35~~ \$45
- c) Duplicate certificate - ~~\$35~~ \$45
- d) Rush - ~~\$35~~ \$45 + registration fee (2 business days)
- e) Purchased at an approved show - \$10 + applicable fee

66. NON PRO WESTERN PLEASURE

a) Open Non Pro classes

- 1) All Non Pro riders are eligible for participation in any Non Pro WP class.
- 2) All Non Pro riders whose lifetime earnings exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) are automatically in the Open Non Pro.
- 3) Riders whose lifetime earnings do not exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) but are in the top 50 money earners in Non Pro Western Pleasure in the last three years.

b) Limited Non Pro classes

- 1) All Non Pro riders are eligible for any Limited Non Pro class except those whose lifetime earnings exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) or in the top 50 money earners in Non Pro Western Pleasure in the last three years.

68. NON PRO HUNTER UNDER SADDLE

a) Open Non Pro classes

- 1) All Non Pro riders are eligible for participation in any Non Pro HUS class.
- 2) All Non Pro riders whose lifetime earnings exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) are automatically in the Open Non Pro.
- 3) Riders whose lifetime earnings do not exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) but are in the top 15 money earners in Non Pro Hunter Under Saddle in the last three years.

b) Limited Non Pro classes

- 1) All Non Pro riders are eligible for any Limited Non Pro class except those whose lifetime earnings exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) or in the top 15 money earners in Non Pro Hunter Under Saddle in the last three years.

70. NON PRO TRAIL

a) Open Non Pro classes

- 1) All Non Pro riders are eligible for participation in any Non Pro Trail class.
- 2) All Non Pro riders whose lifetime earnings exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) are automatically in the Open Non Pro.
- 3) Riders whose lifetime earnings do not exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) but are in the top 15 money earners in Non Pro Trail in the last three years.

b) Limited Non Pro classes

- 1) All Non Pro riders are eligible for any Limited Non Pro class except those whose lifetime earnings exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) or in the top 15 money earners in Non Pro Trail in the last three years.

72. NON PRO WESTERN RIDING

a) Open Non Pro classes

- 1) All Non Pro riders are eligible for participation in any Non Pro Western Riding class.
- 2) All Non Pro riders whose lifetime earnings exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) are automatically in the Open Non Pro.
- 3) Riders whose lifetime earnings do not exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) but are in the top 15 money earners in Non Pro Western Riding in the last three years.

b) Limited Non Pro classes

- 1) All Non Pro riders are eligible for any Limited Non Pro class except those whose lifetime earnings exceed \$150,000 (all divisions and categories, except Longe Line) or in the top 15 money earners in Non Pro Western Riding in the last three years.

73. NON PRO LONGE LINE

Classes may be offered in combinations of divisions (a-b). To offer the Limited division, a show must also offer the Open Non Pro division and it must run concurrently with the Open Non Pro division.

a) Open Non Pro classes

- 1) All Non Pro participants are eligible for participation in any Non Pro Longe Line class.
- 2) All Non Pro participants whose lifetime earnings that exceed \$25,000 are automatically in the Open Non Pro
- 3) Participants whose lifetime earnings do not exceed \$25,000 but are in the top 15 money earners in Non Pro Longe Line in the last three years

b) Limited Non Pro ~~Longe Line~~ classes

- 1) All Non Pro participants eligible for participation in any Limited Non Pro Longe Line class except those whose lifetime earnings in Non Pro Longe Line exceed \$25,000 or are in the top 15 money earners in Non Pro Longe Line in the last three years
- 4) ~~All Non Pro participants eligible for participation in any Limited Non Pro Longe Line class except:~~

c) ~~Those participants whose lifetime earnings in Non Pro Longe Line exceeded \$7,500~~

79. MAIDEN

In Western Pleasure, Ranch Rail and Hunter Under Saddle a horse must not have been shown astride in any event prior to the class. Other classes, including but not limited to Trail, Western Riding and Working Hunter, entries will be limited to horses that have never shown in that specific discipline. Once the horse has competed in any go round of a multi go round class, it is no longer considered maiden and may be shown in other classes.

82. \$25,000 LIMITED

a) Horse must not have won more than \$25,000 the event/discipline (i.e. Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Trail, etc.) as of December 31, 2022. All monies are considered as recorded by NSBA, any NSBA REA, any NGB, EquiStat and QData formerly Robin Glenn Pedigrees.

b) NSBA equipment rules apply according to age restriction of class offered (Rule # 130-138).

99. SPORTSMANSHIP

~~Exhibitors, owners, and agents~~ NSBA members, non members, exhibitors, trainers, owners, owners representatives, spectators and all other persons on the show grounds or facilities of an NSBA approved event must display good sportsmanship at all times. Good sportsmanship includes, but is not limited to, the conduct of the exhibitor, owner, or agent anywhere on the show grounds. All exhibitors, owner and agents are expected to conduct themselves in appropriate manner at all times with show management, judge(s), NSBA steward, show participants or spectators.

Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Unsportsmanlike conduct will be defined as, but not limited to, any action of disrespect, misrepresentation, deceit, ~~or~~ fraud or use of profanity directed to judges, show management, NSBA, NSBA Staff or personnel, NSBA members or other exhibitors or spectators. Any conduct that involves the use of physical force and/or results in physical harm to another individual (s) or property will be dealt with severely by the appropriate committee. The suggested minimum penalty for each individual is \$10,000 fine and a one years suspension per incident. Violators will be handled by Disciplinary Hearing Committee or other such committee as deemed acceptable by the NSBA per the rules and guidelines under the "Disciplinary Procedure" section of this handbook. NSBA has the right to publish the name of any member, non member, or legal entity who has been disciplined by the Association, to include those suspended, put on probation or involved in the aforementioned disciplined process. Additionally, show management may immediately expel individuals exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct from show grounds. Show management must notify the NSBA Executive Director immediately (within 1 hour) of knowledge of said incident and/or expulsion, followed by a written report submitted to NSBA concerning the conduct in question within 14 days following the event.

a) Exhibitors, owners or spectators who wish to file a formal complaint to take action against another owner, exhibitor or spectator for a violation of this rule may do so by submitting a letter in writing within 30 days of said incident to the NSBA office accompanied by a \$200 (U.S.) deposit. Said deposit will be refunded if complaint is sustained in the formal hearing process. Judges and show committees may file a complaint without payment of the \$200 deposit.

128. RULES

k) Disqualifications

3) No placing (DQ) - Failure to back a minimum of 2 strides or 4 steps with the front legs, unless otherwise specified, in classes where the back is required.

140. WESTERN GAITS

f) THE BACK UP:

2) Average or Correct Back Up: ~~The horse should back straight at least one horse length quietly.~~ The back should be straight, smooth and fluid without resistance and be a minimum of 2 strides or 4 steps with the front legs. This should be done smoothly with light contact and without hesitation.

3) Good Back Up: This horse will display balanced and smooth flowing movements, self-carriage, and look to be a pleasure to ride. The horse should back straight ~~at least one horse length~~ a minimum of 2 strides or 4 steps with the front legs quietly and without gapping his mouth. This should be done smoothly with light contact and without hesitation.

141. HUNTER UNDER SADDLE GAITS

f) THE BACK:

2) Average or Correct Back Up: ~~The horse should back straight at least one horse length quietly.~~ The back should be straight, smooth and fluid without resistance and be a minimum of 2 strides or 4 steps with the front legs. This should be done ~~smoothly~~ with light contact and without hesitation.

142. RANCH HORSE GAITS

f) THE BACK: ~~The horse should back straight at least one horse length quietly and without gapping his mouth.~~ The back should be straight, smooth and fluid without resistance and be a minimum of 2 strides or 4 steps with the front legs. This should be done ~~smoothly~~ with light contact and without hesitation.

149. WESTERN PLEASURE – JUDGING

FAULTS

b) To be severely penalized:

1) Blatant disobedience

150. WESTERN PLEASURE – JUDGING

DISQUALIFICATIONS

e) Failure to back more than 2 strides or 4 steps with the front legs

f) Excessive schooling or training

207. RANCH RIDING – CLASS FORMAT

g) One of the suggested ~~five~~ 15 patterns may be used, however a judge may utilize a different pattern as long as all required maneuvers and the three (or more) optional maneuvers are included. Suggested patterns are available at nsba.com, under the Showing tab, under Patterns & Score Sheets.

208. RANCH RIDING - FAULTS

1) ONE POINT

- a. Too slow (per gait)
- b. Over-bridled (per maneuver)
- c. Out of frame (per maneuver)
- d. Break of gait at walk or trot for 2 strides or less
- e. Wrong lead or out of lead for 2 strides or less

2) THREE POINTS

- a. Break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 strides
- b. Break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead
- c. Wrong lead or out of lead for more than 2 strides
- d. Draped reins (per maneuver)
- e. Out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides when changing leads trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change

- f. Severe disturbance of any obstacle
- g. Trotting more than three strides in a lope departure or exiting a rollback into a lope from a stop or walk

211. RANCH TRAIL - FAULTS

d) The following reductions will result:

1) One (1) Point Penalties:

- a. Over-bridled (per maneuver)
- b. Out of frame (per maneuver)
- c. Each hit, bite or stepping on a log, cone plant or any component of the obstacle
- d. Incorrect or break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less
- e. Both front or hind feet in a single-stride slot or space at a walk or trot
- f. Skipping over or failing to step into required space
- g. Split pole in lope-over
- h. Incorrect number of strides
- i. If specified; one to two steps on mount/dismount or ground tie except shifting to balance
- j. Wrong lead or out of lead for 2 strides or less

2) Three (3) Point Penalties:

- a. Wrong lead or out of lead for more than 2 strides
- b. Draped reins
- c. Break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead
- d. Break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides
- e. Three to four steps on mount/dismount on ground tie
- f. Trotting more than three strides in a lope departure or exiting a rollback into a lope from a stop or walk
- g. Knocking down or over, or severely disturbing an obstacle
- h. Stepping out of or falling off an obstacle with one foot
- i. Missing or evading part of a log/obstacle that is part of a series of an obstacle with one foot

3) Five (5) Point Penalties:

- a. Spurring in front of cinch
- b. Blatant disobedience
- c. Use of either hand to instill fear/praise
- d. ~~Knocking over~~, stepping out of, or falling off an obstacle with more than one foot
- e. Dropping an object required to be carried
- f. 1st or 2nd cumulative refusal
- g. Letting go of gate
- h. Five or more steps on mount/dismount or ground tie
- i. Missing or evading part of a log/obstacle that is part of a series of an obstacle with more than one foot

214. RANCH HORSE CONFORMATION

1. For a show to offer this class the show must also offer at least one other NSBA approved Ranch Horse class.

a) No horse may cross enter into any Performance Halter class at the same show.

2. Classes to be offered are:

- a) Open Ranch Horse Conformation
- b) Amateur Ranch Horse Conformation

c) Youth Ranch Horse Conformation (geldings and mares only)

d) Non Pro Ranch Horse Conformation

3. The purpose of Ranch Horse Conformation is to select well-mannered individuals that are the most positive combination of balance, structural correctness and movement appropriate for various activities of a working ranch horse.

4. The Ranch Horse Conformation class must be held after the conclusion of the other ranch horse classes.

5. To be eligible to compete in ranch horse conformation, the horse must be shown in at least one of the NSBA approved ranch horse classes offered by the show.

6. All sexes will be shown together as one class.

7. Horse to be shown in a good working halter: rope, braided, nylon or plain leather halter. No adornment is allowed on either halter or lead.

8. Horses will walk to the judge(s) one at a time. As the horse approaches, the judge(s) will step aside to enable the horse to trot straight to a cone placed 50 feet away. At the cone, the horse will continue trotting, turn to the left and trot toward the left wall or fence of the arena. After trotting, horses will be lined up head to tail for individual inspection by the judge(s).

9. The judge shall inspect each horse from both sides, front and rear and place the horses in order of preference.

10. This class will not be eligible for Grand and Reserve as all sexes show together.

219. HUNTER UNDER SADDLE – JUDGING

FAULTS

b) To be severely penalized

1) Blatant disobedience

c) Faults which shall be cause for disqualification, except in Novice Non Pro or Novice Youth which are faults, scored according to severity:

3) Failure to back more than 2 strides or 4 steps with the front legs.

4) Excessive schooling or training

239. HUNT SEAT EQUITATION OVER FENCES – CLASS FORMAT

d) Except for refusals, jumping faults of the horse are not to be considered unless it is the result of the rider's ability. If a refusal occurs in a double or triple, competitors must re-jump all obstacles in the combination. In the case of knockdowns, a penalty of 4 points per obstacle will be deducted from base score.

240. HUNT SEAT EQUITATION OVER FENCES – SCORING

60-69: Major equitation faults, poor body position, loose legs and seat, failure to obtain or maintain trot to a trot fence approach, 2 or 3 misses at the fence, obvious wrong lead before or on the courtesy circle.

~~**If a rider steps into the obvious wrong lead for one or two strides only before or on the courtesy circle, it is noted on the score sheet, which may be used as a tie breaker in the event of a ride of equal quality and score.~~

359. EQUESTRIANS WITH DISABILITIES – DIAGNOSIS

In order to participate an exhibitor must have a physical and/or cognitive medically diagnosed condition that causes a permanent impairment that can be measured objectively. Examples of conditions, diseases or disorders that may lead to permanent impairment are: paresis, amputation (partial to full joint), ankylosis, upper motor neuron lesions, vision impairment, and intellectual disability. Eligible conditions include: amputation, arthrogryposis, ~~Asperger syndrome~~, autism spectrum disorder, Batten disease, cerebrovascular accident (stroke),

cerebellar ataxia, cerebral palsy, Coffin-Lowry syndrome, cystic fibrosis, Down syndrome, dwarfism, fragile X syndrome, Friedreich's ataxia, Guillain-Barre syndrome, hearing impairment, Hunter syndrome, microcephaly, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, Prader-Willi syndrome, Rett syndrome, spina bifida, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, trisomy disorders and visual impairment. Additional diagnosis will be considered upon request.

383. WALK/JOG/LOPE WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP – INDEPENDENT – PATTERNS

The judge may select an appropriate EWD pattern. In the event that the judge in concert with the show management develops a Walk/Jog/Lope Western Horsemanship pattern instead of using existing EWD pattern(s). Unacceptable maneuvers: mount or dismount or ride without stirrups, back in a curved line, ~~spins~~, rollbacks ~~on the haunches~~ and/or turn on the forehand.

407. NSBA INCENTIVE FUND PROGRAM

d) Breeding Information

5) Mare owners who purchase a breeding through the NSBA Stallion Service Auction will receive a complimentary foal enrollment into the Incentive Fund. This certificate must be used on the resulting foal by December 15th of the weanling year. If the enrollment is not submitted during the weanling year, the complimentary enrollment certificate can be used as a voucher for the value of the December 15th enrollment price. Any fees over the original price are to be paid by the mare owner.

409. INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATE ASSOCIATION

~~a) International Affiliates must be formed with the intent to 1) promote and improve the quality of the show horse by promoting exhibits, events, and contests in expositions and shows; 2) promote interest in training show horses among younger horsemen; and 3) encourage the use of the NSBA rules for holding and judging contests of show horses. An International Affiliate Association will be allowed to hold NSBA sanctioned events and receive the NSBA trophies, plaques or medallions to be given for each sanctioned class.~~

~~b) Applications shall be in the form of a letter of agreement signed by the President of applicant association, attesting to the accuracy of the information submitted and his/her personal affirmation that the NSBA rules will be upheld to the best of his/her ability. Enclose a one-time application fee of \$75 with the letter. The letter shall include the following:~~

~~1) Name of the association~~

~~a. Any affiliate group of the NSBA must use the words "snaffle bit" or "show horse" in their affiliate's name and must not use a specific breed in their affiliate's name.~~

~~2) Current set of bylaws~~

~~3) Name, address, email addresses and phone number of the elected officers~~

~~4) Names and addresses of at least 20 members in good standing.~~

~~5) Names of NSBA National or Area Directors within same geographic location~~

~~6) Geographic area expected to service (please list the area(s))~~

~~c) International Affiliate Association members are not required to become NSBA members unless they desire to compete for an NSBA Year-end Award, participate in the NSBA World Championship Show or NSBA Breeders Championship Futurity.~~

~~d) An International Affiliate Association will be encouraged to establish and maintain its own points and awards program. The International Affiliate may choose to follow the point system published in the current NSBA handbook or establish its own point system for the purpose of the International Affiliate Association year end awards.~~

~~1) The NSBA will publish current standings for the International Affiliate Association's awards program in its monthly publication.~~

~~e) The NSBA will also offer an editorial page section to each International Affiliate Association for its news, upcoming events, and publicity, with the news items being submitted by the International Affiliate Association's secretary.~~

~~f) The International Affiliate Associations will be encouraged to combine efforts within one particular geographic location.~~

~~1) The Board of Directors will act on each application request by an application association based on the perceived influence on the growth of the NSBA's membership, philosophies and established goals.~~

~~2) An application association may be requested to work with an existing International Affiliate Association based on the perception described above.~~

~~g) NSBA requires an annual membership list, current bylaws and annual list of officers from each International Affiliate Association.~~

~~h) NSBA will waive the 90 day approval deadline for all International show applications.~~