

East Texas Stock Horse

2022 Rule Book

Updated 4/09/2022

East Texas Stock Horse is a dba and for-profit business created by the founder, owner, CEO Martha Stamm-Hayward. The business address is P.O. Box 90, Dike, TX 75437 phone 903-440-0118 email office@easttexasstockhorse.com

The purpose of the business is to promote the western stock horse enthusiasts in our area of East Texas. We want to ride and train a versatile western stock horse, to teach other riders knowledge and skills to maximize horse trainability, performance and safety, to offer affordable, fun and standardized versatile western stock horse educational programs and competitions, to perpetuate and preserve the western tradition and heritage of working stock and ranch horses, to encourage the use of standard rules for conducting and judging contests for the western all-around stock horse, to define, promote and improve the quality of the versatile western stock horse, and to encourage honesty, integrity, respect, sportsmanship and family values.

The business shall cover the eastern side of the state of Texas, holding its clinics and shows along a boundary of I-45 and Hwy 75 to the eastern state line. But members may be residents of any state.

Goals of the Business

- 1) Provide Clinics and Shows throughout the calendar year for the members
- 2) Provide Added Money to ETXSH and USCHA Jackpot classes and Awards at the monthly shows but not guranteed
- 3) Provide Year End Awards for the Top 3 in each division in each class and all-arounds
- 4) Maintain memberships and points for all Divisions offered during the current year.
- 5) Provide clinicians for our members to learn from in all the classes we offer, and these clinicians may then judge the show
- 6) Provide Judges /Scribes, Secretaries, cattle help, cattle and other personnel needed to produce quality show experiences for our members

- 7) Book quality facilities that provide ample arenas, stalls, rv hookups that support our growing membership
- 8) Build relationships with sponsors to support our local east Texas businesses that in return support our members and the goals of ETXSH our sponsorships will be used for year end awards to the members showing ETXSH
- 9) Keep costs affordable for our members but pay for facilities and personnel as needed plus awards, insurance and other business expenses incurred. Members that volunteer to work or help promote ETXSH may be compensated with RV hookups, stalls, shavings max 3 bags, or a room by show management.

Volunteers: To get compensation for working a show please sign & check in at the registration desk. We will have a Volunteer Work form at the ETXSH office at each show for Show Management as we sometimes have people scheduled to work in a specific area already.

Family members or friends that work a clinic or show that has a member showing can receive compensation for their family member that is competing. (i.e., stalls, shavings, rv spots or hotel accommodations are possible at upcoming shows) Please make sure to write their name on the form.

About this Rule Book:

The Rules contained herein have been considered and approved by Committee Members of the East Texas Stock Horse. These Rules will be strictly adhered to and enforced by the Committee Members, and Staff of the ETXSH show management.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the ETXSH is a privilege, not a right, application for which shall be made on forms and by procedures prescribed by the ETXSH. Membership, or application thereof, may be cancelled or denied by the ETXSH management for any cause detrimental to the interest of the ETXSH, its programs and policies, or harmonious relationship of its members as determined by Show Management of ETXSH.

Such decision of cancellation or denial shall be final. The effect of membership cancellation or denial may be denial of privileges, including show privileges, of the ETXSH. A suspended member is prohibited from entering the warmup area or the contest arena either on foot or on horseback. Every member, by joining the ETXSH, or a non-member, by participating in ETXSH approved events, does hereby agree:

- 1) If legal action is taken against the ETXSH, whether in law or equity, such action must be taken in courts located in Hopkins County, Texas.

Members of the East Texas Stock Horse shall be admitted, retained, suspended, and expelled in accordance with such rules and regulations as ETXSH and show management may adopt from time to time.

Each member in good standing is entitled to participate in clinics and shows at the rates set by show management, all active members in good standing may audit clinics for free.

There shall be only one class of members and membership shall be open to all persons who subscribe to the aims of the East Texas Stock Horse mission, abide by the rules and regulations, and assist in furthering its purpose. Membership is required to participate in events and activities of the East Texas Stock Horse.

To be eligible for any ETXSH monetary awards or prizes, both owners and riders of horses must be current

ETXSH members in good standing. Riders in all divisions may ride any horse regardless of ownership. Any non-pro, Ltd non-pro, intermediate, novice or youth can ride a horse they do not own as long as they are NOT getting PAID to ride the horse and the rider is the one paying the entry fees. If the horse owner is paying the rider or reimbursement is being made to the rider, the horse must be shown in the Open or Jr Horse (5 years old and younger) division only. Any member violating this will be disqualified and no points will be given, no refund in entry fees. Points cannot be transferred to another division.

If something arises that the ETXSH Rule Book does not cover on a specific rule ETXSH show management has the right to consult with the division committee members to come up with a rule for ETXSH or the option to use the following Rule Books – SHTX Rule book or USCHA Rule book to find an answer but final decisions will be made by ETXSH show management.

Annual Memberships

Membership is available for individuals, for a one-year period beginning with the day of receipt and expiring 12/31 a new membership can be renewed on January 1 of each year. Memberships may only be issued to individuals and may not be transferred.

Adult Annual membership for persons 19 years and older provides privileges of participating in all ETXSH events and activities

YOUTH Annual membership

A youth membership is provided for boys and girls ages of 8 to 18 as of January 1 of the current year, which entitles a youth to receive a membership card of eligibility to show in the youth division and participate in ETXSH events and activities. Youth may not vote or hold office on the board of directors.

Life membership - \$300

A life membership entitles the recipient to receive a life membership with ETXSH

Membership Fees

The annual adult membership fees for 2022 are \$30.00

The annual youth membership fees for 2022 are \$25.00

GR-040 PROPOSED CHANGES TO RULES AND POLICIES

A member, ETXSH show management or staff may propose a rule change. A rule change is any change to the General Rules pertaining to the show rules in each division or class. Final decisions will be made by the ETXSH Show management as is felt best for the majority of the members in that division.

GR-040.1 All proposed changes must be submitted to the office in writing.

GR-040.2 The ETXSH show management with the volunteer division committee members will vote on the proposed change but may refer the matter out to any committee or group for study, review and recommendation prior to voting.

GR-050. RELEASE OF LIABILITY

The show management and co-sponsoring organizations, if any, and their officers, directors, employees, members and agents shall not be responsible for any personal injury, for injury to animals, or for loss or damage to property, occurring at any activity. Each owner, exhibitor, handler, trainer, participant, member or consignor shall indemnify and hold harmless the ETXSH, its owners, volunteers, members and employees from and against all claims, demands, causes of actions, and expenses of every kind, including attorney's fees, arising out of or related in any manner to the acts or omissions of an owner, exhibitor, handler, or consignor, to the actions of any animal under the care, custody or control of the owner, exhibitor, handler or consignor, or as a result of participation in or attendance at a show or event or on the grounds thereof. Presentation of signed entry or consignment forms shall be deemed acceptance of the conditions of this rule. In the event an entry or consignment form is not signed or presented, appearance on the grounds or at the sale ring of any activity as an exhibitor, handler, owner, trainer, participant, member or consignor shall be deemed to be acceptance of the conditions of this rule. **GR-050.1** Without assuming the affirmative duty to monitor possible physical or mental handicaps of exhibitors, if condition of exhibitors' physical or mental disability comes to the attention of the ETXSH, the individual may be denied participation privileges in ETXSH-approved events until such time as he or she provides ETXSH with sufficient information to conclusively establish physical or mental capability to participate, without posing a

significant risk to the health or safety of the individual and/or the other exhibitors of the class in which he or she desires to participate. At ETXSH's sole discretion, the individual may be authorized to use special equipment to enhance physical ability to safely exhibit in ETXSH-approved or sponsored shows/events.

GR-060 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

GR-060.1 The ETXSH show management reserves the right to independently direct disciplinary action or sanction against individuals coming under the jurisdiction of ETXSH show management membership by participating in ETXSH-sponsored events.

The ETXSH show management and division's volunteer Committee members is the forum within that initially or ultimately hears or reviews evidence of alleged violations of rules and regulations by members and/or participants in approved events. A member may be disciplined, suspended, fined, and/or expelled from the ETXSH membership, and any non-member participant may be denied any or all privileges.

GR-065 VIOLATIONS

GR-065.1 Financial Violations – Any member may be suspended and denied privileges of ETXSH events, or any non-member may be denied the privilege participating in ETXSH events, for the failure to pay, when due, any obligation owing the ETXSH show management. Upon receipt of a fraudulent payment, a member or non-member will be notified in writing and given a reasonable amount of time to make the payment good. Repeat offenders will be put on a cash only basis. Failure to pay the amount owed to ETXSH show management or its sponsoring groups will result in suspension of membership and all privileges.

GR-065.2 Unsportsmanlike Conduct – Conduct by members, non-members, exhibitors, trainers, owners, owner's representatives, spectators, and all other persons present on the event grounds shall be orderly, responsible, sportsmanlike, and humane in the treatment of horses. Any of these violations will be subject to disciplinary procedures.

GR-065.3 Disciplinary Actions of Other Associations – ETXSH management may honor the disciplinary actions of other major equine organizations including but not limited to unsportsmanlike conduct, cruel or inhumane treatment and medication violations of horses from 26

27 other recognized equine related associations, states, provinces, or countries. However, any action taken by that organization will not limit any authority or jurisdiction of East Texas Stock Horse.

GR-200 APPROVAL FOR EAST TEXAS STOCK HORSE EVENTS

A request for information regarding a Clinic/Show or special event approval shall be made through the ETXSH show management office. Sanctioned events require compliance with all fees, guidelines and documentation. Requirements for hosting an ETXSH Event are available from the office. Approvals for events shall be made in the calendar year preceding the event. Prior approval for all judges and clinicians to be used at any approved event must be granted by the ETXSH show management.

GR-205 SAFETY AT ETXSH EVENTS

Exhibitors are encouraged to be aware of their surroundings, especially in the warmup areas. Riders should familiarize themselves with proper warm up etiquette.

GR-205.1 Any competitor or clinic participant riding a horse that is out of control will be asked to leave the premises at the discretion of Show Management, the designated Show Representative, or Judge. This applies to all horses, especially to stallions.

GR-205.2 Judges will have the authority to blow a whistle at any time to stop or excuse any exhibitor who is not in control of the horse. This is especially critical to the working cow class. The goal of the working cow class is for the horse/rider to control the cow. To accomplish this goal, the exhibitor **MUST** be in control of the horse. Judges also have the authority to blow the whistle at any time to stop or excuse any exhibitor if there is concern about the safety or welfare of the cow, horse, or rider. Inhumane treatment of horses or cattle will not be tolerated.

GR-205.3 Dogs are not allowed closer than ten feet to any arena fence, horse exhibition area or horse practice/ warm-up area. Dogs must be on an in-hand leash and managed by a competent handler.

GR-205.4 In the case of a fallen horse (defined as the horse on the ground with all four feet pointed the same direction) or rider (defined as no longer astride the horse) the run will end, and judges will score the run for

the work performed to that point, however the run will result in disqualification. Horse and rider may be checked for injuries and asked to leave the arena as soon as reasonably and safely possible. GR-205.5 In classes that involve the use of cattle, the Association strives to safeguard the welfare of the cattle, as well as the welfare of both the horses and riders competing in the class. Association Events are encouraged to provide proper equipment and medication should accidental injury occur.

GR-220 GENERAL RULES FOR EVENTS

All riders and owners of horses riding and/or showing in ETXSH events must be members in good standing. Class or clinic entry forms must contain the contestant's and owner's correct ETXSH member number. Horses must be a minimum of 3 years old to compete in ETXSH shows. No horse can be shown in any class in the same division by more than one rider.

GR-225 GENERAL RULES FOR ETXSH COMPETITIONS

Any riders, if in question of their division qualifications the ETXSH show management, Committee member or a member in that division can sign a written request stating the facts of their complaint and provide a \$50 deposit. The member in question will have 30 days to provide ETXSH show management with records from industry records showing their current winnings or breed association points in question. If the member is not at fault and in the correct division the complainant's \$50 deposit will be forfeited to ETXSH.

If the member is found to be in violation disciplinary actions may be taken. Actions maybe simply moving to the correct division, but no points will be moved to the new division. If blatant violations are found the member could be suspended of their membership.

ETXSH will be checking industry records such as Equi-stat records to verify your earnings in other western events to determine Open L1 and Novice eligibility.

USCHA will be checking Equi-stat for both Horse & Rider earnings for all co-sanctioned USCHA cutting participants.

GR-225.1 Open Division Eligibility: The Open Division is open to any professional or nonprofessional member in good standing with any horse regardless of past winnings. In addition to the normal entry fee, this division may collect and offer jackpot fees, which will be

paid back to winners according to the payout schedule below. These jackpot fees may range from a minimum of \$10 to a maximum of \$20 per class except for special events or championships. a) Class paybacks: Half of the jackpot will be for the class entered. Open class entries are competing for class points, plus a payback (½ of the jackpot monies collected for that class) according to the following schedule. b) All-Around paybacks: Exhibitors in the required four classes will be eligible for the All-around paybacks – (½ of all Open entries go to jackpot money). The All-Around paybacks will be figured on the total number of All Around entries and will be paid accordingly.

GR225.1c Payout Schedule is as follows: d) Open Level 1 Division Eligibility: The Open Level 1 division will be offered as a side pot in 2022 as a subdivision of the Open for individuals with moderate to no showing experience who have taken money for starting colts; been paid to ride the ranch horses not owned by them; given basic riding lessons or local clinics for pay; or by other circumstances that make them ineligible for Amateur or Non Pro status, but are not experienced professional trainers in western performance disciplines. Any age horse may be ridden. • Earnings Restrictions for **Open Level 1: Riders that have combined earnings of \$5,000 in any of the following or similar organizations: NCHA, NRCHA, NRHA, RHAA, AQHA, APHA, SHTX, ASHA, etc. in any western performance discipline (western pleasure, working cow horse, reining, cutting, trail, etc.),** are not eligible for this division. If a member loses Level 1 eligibility through competition, he or she may finish that year as an Open Level 1 rider. Thereafter, the member is eligible only for Junior Horse or Open Divisions. The Open L1 division will have a jackpot separate from the Open. However, if a Level 1 entry desires be eligible for both the Level 1 and Open, he/she may pay both jackpot fees and be eligible for both payouts and placement in both divisions. • Provisional Class Status: The Open Level 1 division will be offered on a provisional basis as a subdivision of the Open to provide a place for these competitors to compete against their peers. As such, there will be no expectation of added money to the jackpot, awards at the shows or year end awards in the Level 1 Open. However, by entering both Level 1 and Open, competitors would be eligible for Open awards.

GR-225.2 Non-Pro Division Eligibility: The description of Non-Pro Eligibility is as follows:

- a) The rider has not received payment directly or indirectly for riding, training, assisting in training, or showing horse(s) at any time during the past five years.
- b) The rider has not received payment directly or indirectly for instructing another person or conducting a seminar in riding, training, driving or showing a horse any time during the past five years.
- c) The rider has not had any expenses (including lodging, transportation, mileage, etc.) paid by someone other than family members.
- d) EXCEPTIONS for “b” and “c” above: i) A Non-Pro who otherwise qualifies under these rules may conduct clinics provided the only remuneration they receive is for reasonable expenses. If questions are raised about Non-Pro eligibility, the contestant must be able to document any remuneration. ii) Collegiate members who are enrolled in an equine program or as part of an educational curriculum are exempt from items b and c above. iii) Certification as an instructor in equi-therapy by Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH) or similar organizations recognized by national equine associations are exempt from b and c above, provided the instructor ONLY teaches students enrolled with the recognized organization or rehabilitation prescribed by a medical doctor.
- e) Premium money won is not considered remuneration.
- f) A Non-Pro rider may show in the Open Division without losing Non Pro eligibility as long as requirements for a Non Pro are still met.
- g) The Non-Pro Division is open to any nonprofessional member in good standing with any horse regardless of past winnings. In addition to the normal entry fee, this division may collect and offer jackpot fees, which will be paid back to winners according to the payout schedule below. These jackpot fees may range from a minimum of \$10 to a maximum of \$20 per class except for special events or championships.
- h) Class paybacks: Half of the jackpot will be for the class entered. Non-Pro class entries are competing for class points, plus a payback (½ of the jackpot monies collected for that class)
- All-Around paybacks: Exhibitors in all four classes will be eligible for the All-around paybacks – (½ of all Non Pro entries go to jackpot money). The All-Around paybacks will be

figured on the total number of All Around entries and will be paid according ETXSH Payback.

Entries	Places Paid	%
3	1	100%
4-5	2	60% - 40%
6-9	3	50%-30%-20%
10-13	4	40%-30%-20%-10%
14-17	5	30-25-20-15-10
18-21	6	30-24-18-12-9-7
22-25	7	26-21-17-13-10-8-5
26-29	8	25-20-15-12-10-8-6-4
30-33	9	24-18-14-10-9-8-7-6-4
34-37	10	22-16-13-10-9-8-7-6-5-4
38-41	11	21-15-12-10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3
42+	12	20-15-11-10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2

GR-225.3 Limited Non-Pro Division Eligibility:

Exhibitors who qualify as Non-Pro riders may choose to show in this division because of class routine or other personal choice. Exhibitors may also show in the Open or Non-Pro divisions without losing their eligibility in the Limited Non-Pro division. There will be an optional jackpot in this division. Riders in this division will work a modified version of the working cow horse class that will not involve turns down the fence or circling or roping. (See LTD Non-Pro rules for specifics on rules for this division.)

GR-225.4 Intermediate Division Eligibility and Restrictions:

The Intermediate Division is reserved for individuals with moderate riding and showing experience who wish to learn more about showing in ETXSH at a more advanced pace. There will be an optional jackpot in this division.

Eligibility for the ETXSH Intermediate division is as follows:

- a) The rider must meet all non-Pro eligibility requirements listed above. For ETXSH this is a fix for our Ltd Non-Pro riders that did not want to box drive box drive so they can move down and a place for riders with more experience but not NOVICE. **This division will work a Novice, Youth, Intermediate Working Cow Horse Pattern (boxing only).** The cow horse pattern is a shortened version

of cow work that will not involve turns down the fence, circling or roping. (See Intermediate/Novice/ Youth Working Cow Horse class rules for specifics on rules for this division.)

GR-225.5 Novice Division Eligibility and Restrictions:

The Novice Division is reserved for individuals with limited riding and showing experience who wish to learn more about showing in ETXSH at a beginner's pace. Novice riders have developed only the basic riding skills, such as loping, backing and side pass, etc. and have had little or no success competing in other equestrian events. The Novice Division is considered an entry level division that will allow the rider to develop confidence and additional horsemanship skills to allow the rider to move into the Intermediate Division. The purpose of the Novice Division is to provide a division that is fair to all base level riders. Novice riders are allowed to ride "up" into higher Divisions of competition. New members in ETXSH do not necessarily need to ride in the Novice division. Advanced skills may be better suited for one of the other divisions. There will be an optional jackpot in this division, jackpot fees are in addition from entry fees and must enter same jackpot classes as entered in the show.

Eligibility for the Novice division is as follows: a) The rider must meet all Non-Pro eligibility requirements listed above. b) The rider has not won any champion titles or reserve champion titles at any show or cumulative year-end award in SHTX, ASHA, or Texas State 4-H finals or open shows; earned more than 5 points in any breed association (AQHA, APHA, AQHA VRH All Around, etc.); or \$250 in a national organization (NCHA, NRCHA, NRHA, RHAA, EXCA, etc.) in any western performance discipline (western pleasure, working cow horse, reining, cutting, trail, etc.) Collegiate Novice riders must meet all general Novice eligibility restrictions. Because the Collegiate Novice is a subset of novice riders, eligibility and advancement out of the Collegiate Novice division is different than the general Novice division. A rider in the Collegiate Novice division has not won two Collegiate champion or reserve champion titles at any show in SHTX, ASHA, NRCHA or other similar recognized collegiate competition. A rider in the Collegiate Novice division has also not won any Collegiate Year End or cumulative Collegiate SHTX World Show champion or reserve champion title. A rider who advances out of the

Collegiate Novice division is no longer Novice eligible. c) If a member loses novice eligibility through competition, he or she may finish that year as a novice rider. Thereafter, the member is eligible only for Junior Horse, Youth, Limited Non-Pro, Intermediate, Non-Pro or Open Divisions. d) Riders in this division will work a Novice and Novice Youth Working Cow Horse Pattern (boxing only). The cow horse pattern is a shortened version of cow work that will not involve turns down the fence, circling or roping. (See Novice/Novice Youth Working Cow Horse class rules for specifics on rules for this division.) e) Stallions are prohibited in this division.

GR-225.6.1 ETXSH Youth Division Eligibility and Restrictions: ETXSH does not offer at this time but just a Youth division.

Exhibitors in the Novice Youth division must be aged 8 through 18 as of January 1 of the current year. The Novice Youth Division is reserved for individuals with limited or no riding and showing experience who wish to learn more about showing in SHTX at a beginner's pace. Eligibility for the Novice Youth division is as follows: a) The rider must meet all Non-Pro eligibility requirements listed above. b) The rider has not won any combination of 2 champion or reserve champion titles at any show or 2 cumulative year-end awards in SHTX, ASHA, or Texas State 4-H finals; more than 10 points in any breed association (AQHA, APHA, AQHA VRH All Around, etc.); or \$500 in a national organization (NCHA, NRCHA, NRHA, RHAA, etc.) in any western performance discipline (western pleasure, working cow horse, reining, cutting, trail, etc.) c) If a member loses Novice Youth eligibility through competition, he or she may finish that year as a Novice Youth rider. Thereafter, the member is eligible only for Youth, Junior Horse, Limited Non Pro, Non Pro or Open Divisions. d) Riders in this division will work a shortened version of cow work that will not involve turns down the fence, circling or roping. The working cow horse pattern will be boxing only. (See Novice Working Cow Horse class rules for specifics on rules for this division.) There will be no jackpot in this division. e) A youth may not cross enter the Youth, Novice Youth and Novice Divisions at the same show. f) Stallions are prohibited in this division.

GR-225.7 Junior Horse Division Eligibility and Restrictions

Horses in this division will show in the same patterns as the Open and Non Pro with the exception of the working cow horse class which uses the Modified Working Cow Horse pattern Box-Drive-Box-Drive. There will be an optional ETXSH jackpot in this division. (See LTD Non Pro and Junior Horse Working Cow Horse class rules for specifics on rules for this division.) A horse is eligible to be shown in this division if the following criteria are met: a) The horse is five years of age or younger as of January 1 of current year. b) A junior horse may be shown by a rider from any division.

GR-225.8 Division Eligibility Exceptions a) 10-year rule:

Any rider who is deemed ineligible for the Intermediate, Novice or Level-One Open divisions due to earnings, points, or awards they received more than 10 years ago may step down one division from their current eligibility to compete at SHTX shows with approval of the SHTX Board of Directors. However, if the Board of Directors feels that a rider is competing in a division lower than their current skill level, they can be excluded from that division. The board of directors is committed to the integrity of these divisions. Please consider your personal riding experience and ability before stepping down one division according to the 10-year rule. If a rider is found to be competing at a level higher than designed for the division, they will not receive a refund of their entry fees and their points earned cannot transfer to another division. Eligibility for all divisions is determined by a rider's accomplishments prior to the first SHTX show of the year. b) A member may petition, in writing, the Association Board of Directors for a change in division eligibility. The written petition will be reviewed and the member notified of the ruling. In addition, the board may reclassify a member for a division. c) Eligibility Violations. Riders who compete in a division and are discovered to be ineligible for that division will be disqualified. They will not receive a refund of entry fees and the points earned are not transferable to another division. It is the rider's responsibility to know the divisions for which they are eligible. Eligibility may be revoked at any time for violations of any ETXSH rule or regulation. A person who loses eligibility statuses must relinquish their membership card and return it to the ETXSH office upon notice if requested.

GR-226 Recommendations for ETXSH Approved Competitions:

ETXSH-approved competitions must offer four classes and seven divisions - Open, Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, JR Horse, Intermediate, Novice, and Youth It is recommended that buckles or other awards have the words East Texas Stock Horse or ETXSH visible or identified. It is recommended that entry fees be kept as low as possible. This is in keeping with the ETXSH goal of offering affordable education and competitions.

Division Eligibility Exceptions

10-year rule: Any rider who is deemed ineligible for the Intermediate, Novice or Level-One Open divisions due to earnings, points, or awards they received more than 10 years ago may step down one division from their current eligibility to compete at ETXSH shows with approval of the ETXH owners. However, if the owner or her consultants feels that a rider is competing in a division lower than their current skill level, they can be excluded from that division. The owner is committed to the integrity of these divisions. Please consider your personal riding experience and ability before stepping down one division according to the 10-year rule. If a rider is found to be competing at a level higher than designed for the division, they will not receive a refund of their entry fees and their points earned cannot transfer to another division **Eligibility for all divisions is determined by a rider's accomplishments prior to the first ETXSH show of the year.**

A member may petition, in writing, the ETXSH for a change in division eligibility. The written petition will be reviewed, and the member notified of the ruling. In addition, the owner may reclassify a member for a division.

Eligibility Violations. Riders who compete in a division and are discovered to be ineligible for the division will be disqualified. They will not receive a refund of entry fees and the points earned are not transferable to another division, It is the rider's responsibility to know the divisions for which they are eligible. Eligibility may be revoked at any time for violations of any ETXSH rule or regulation. A person who loses eligibility statuses must relinquish their membership card and return it to the ETXSH office upon notice if requested.

ETXSH BUSINESS & Volunteer Committee Members

ETXSH is a for profit business owned and operated by Martha Stamm-Hayward who is the founder of the East Texas Stock Horse.

Members in good standing will be allowed to participate on a Volunteer Division Committee as a Consultant to ETXSH show management. There will be 1 (one) member from each Division – Open, Non-Pro, Ltd Non-Pro, Jr Horse, Intermediate, Novice and Youth. These members may volunteer to be a spokesperson for their division, chosen by their divisions members or recruited by ETXSH show management.

These members of ETXSH will be an advisory committee to ETXSH show management to help make rules and decisions pertaining to their show level division. To be on this committee the member must be actively showing or working and participating on a regular basis (minimum of half of the scheduled events either clinics or shows) to maintain this position or they can be replaced by ETXSH show management or their respective division members.

Show management has the discretion of offering to compensate clinic & show working members that volunteer their services for meals at concessions, RV Hookups, Stalls, 3 bags of shavings or hotel accommodations for their services throughout the show season for members or family members that help work the shows. These areas are clinics, scribes, gates, announcing, cattle pens, office, runners, etc and members and their family members that work need to sign in at the office for the hours / days they worked and it what areas to receive compensation by ETXSH.

Show management will not compensate clinic fees, entry fees or jackpot fees for any member.

ETXSH Show management is responsible for paying for the advertising, website, insurance, facility rentals, cattle and any staff that may be hired for positions such as registration, data entry, secretarial positions, judges, clinicians, scribes, announcers, gate help and cattle working areas if needed. ETXSH show management also provides and pays for awards, buckles, ribbons that they choose to provide at each show. ETXSH management also provides the added money to the jackpots, side pots and USCHA classes at their discretion.

ETXSH show management is using all sponsorship money for Year End awards. In 2022 the goal is to raise enough sponsorship money for Top 3 placings in each class and all-around divisions. All members will be asked to help sign up sponsors for a minimum of \$200 each minimum to receive their year-end awards.

ETXSH Show management retains the rights to have the final decision on any and all decisions pertaining to ETXSH clinics, shows, and rules but encourages and seeks out the advice and consultation from any and all members of the East Texas Stock Horse.

A List of the Current 2022 Members that have Volunteered in specific areas and may receive compensation of concession meals, stalls, rv, 3 bags of shavings, hotel accommodation by ETXSH management.

Trail Course Designs – Holly Lindberg 2022

Judges/Clinicians/Scribes – Nathan Wells / Josey Butler 2022

Show Help - Thea & Jon Eubanks Curt Webb / Ray Sebastian / Shelly Logan

Volunteers to help with stalls/shavings/ – Teresa Biggers 2022

Sponsorships – Stacy Sehl 2022

Awards – Thea Eubanks

Cattle Helpers - Willie West, Brett Biggers, Joe Nichols, Cathi Wright, Belle Grider

Hospitality – Farmer Family

Stall Assignments/Shavings – Brooke Hayward

If you would like to be involved with the rules in particular to the division that you are currently actively showing in please contact ETXSH show management.

Volunteer Division Committee Members

Open Division –

Jr Horse Division -

Non-Pro Division -

Ltd Non-Pro Division -

Intermediate Division -

Novice Division – Stacy Webb

Youth Division -

ETXSH RANCH HORSE EVENT RULES

The East Texas Stock Horse Scoring System is designed to be positive, straightforward, and always encourage growth and improvement in both horse and rider. The scoring system is designed to give credit for the work done.

Each horse/rider team is scored between 0-100 points and automatically begins the run with a score of 70 points. The horse/rider team is scored on the quality of each maneuver (e.g., -1 ½ Extremely Poor, -1 Very Poor, -1/2 Poor, 0 Correct, + ½ Good, +1 Very Good, and + 1 ½ Excellent). Pluses and minuses are a reflection of the smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness and authority of the horse/rider team when performing the various maneuvers. Penalties may be accrued for incorrect maneuver execution. For more detail on credits and penalties, see the details in “CLASSES”.

The entire class will be scored and placed (i.e. 45 horse/rider teams will result in 45 placings) 1st place 45 points and last place 1 point. In the case of a horse/rider team being Off-Pattern (e.g. Off-Pattern (OP): Breaking pattern; Repeated blatant disobedience), the horse/rider team cannot place above other horse/rider teams who have completed the pattern correctly.

No horse/rider team shall be disqualified except for illegal equipment, obvious lameness, inhumane treatment, rider misconduct or disrespect; leaving the

working area before the pattern is complete or fall of horse/rider (run ends; the run will be scored up to that point but will not be placed). Disqualified horses will count as entries in the class but will not receive points. (For example, in a class with twenty-one horses here one horse/rider team is disqualified, the first place horse/rider team gets 21 points, the twentieth place horse/rider team gets 2 points and the disqualified horse/rider team gets 0 points. The last point is not given because the disqualified horse/rider team gets no points). This system will be used for any size class and may include more than one disqualification.

In the case of a fall by a horse or rider, the run shall end when the rider or horse falls to the ground. A horse is considered fallen when his shoulder or ribs contact the ground with all four feet pointing the same direction. A rider is considered fallen when the rider is no longer astride the horse. A horse/rider team will be scored for what was accomplished prior to the fall, but the horse/rider team will be disqualified and will not be placed,

In the case of equipment failure that delays competition or becomes unsafe, the run is stopped, and the horse/rider team is scored for what they have accomplished prior to that point, but the horse/rider team will be disqualified and will not be placed

Specific maneuvers will be designated by the Judge to be tiebreakers in a class. The tiebreaker maneuvers will be made prior to the start of the class and so noted on score sheets for show secretaries to use in breaking ties in the class. Every horse/rider team in the class is awarded one point for each horse/rider team they beat, plus one point. (Examples: In a ten horse/rider team class, the first-place horse/rider team gets 10 points and the tenth-place horse/rider team gets 1 point. In a five-horse/rider team class the winner gets 5 points, and the last place gets 1 point. All-around ties for each competition and year-end awards will be decided by the highest placing in the Cow Work Class. If this doesn't break the tie, other classes will be used in the following order: Cutting, Reining, Ranch Riding, Trail, Pleasure

JUDGING PROCEDURES

ETXSH Score sheets shall be used to judge all classes except cutting which will be USCHA score sheets. Judges will select specific maneuvers prior to the class

as tie-breaking maneuvers. These maneuvers will be ranked as first tiebreaker, second, third, fourth, fifth, et

During the class a scribe shall assist each judge by recording the score after each of the maneuvers on the appropriate class score sheet. Judges shall sign their score sheets, and the score sheets will be turned into the show secretaries.

Show secretaries shall total individual scores and use the judge's tiebreakers if necessary to place the class. They will check back with the judge if there are any questions.

All exhibitors will be ranked according to scores, placed from highest to lowest scores, and given class points according to their placing.

Class score sheets shall be posted as soon as possible after each class to allow riders to evaluate their performance.

All Around Points calculation

Exhibitors competing in all six classes shall have their class placing points entered in the all-around tabulation. **BUT Only 4 classes** points will be counted toward the all-around. 4 classes are required to be in the all-around. The show secretary will automatically take the highest place ranking with the highest points earned class and the lower points will be removed (0). The points in these 4 classes will take all of the entries that qualify for the all around and will calculate their points. The Ranch Trail and Ranch Pleasure classes are required to be included in the all-around tabulations. Ties will be broken with the highest score in the working cow horse class, cutting, reining, ranch riding, trail, pleasure.

Example

Ranch Pleasure 10 in class placed 1st = 10 points – Counts towards AA 10 pts

Ranch Trail 10 in class placed 2nd = 9 points – Counts towards AA 9 pts

Ranch Reining 10 in class placed 8th = 3 pts – for AA

Ranch Riding 5 in class placed 2 = 4 pts – for AA

Cow Work 4 in class placed 1st = 4 pts – for AA

Cutting 6 in class placed 2nd = 5 pts - for AA

Example Pleasure 10 pts / Trail 9 pts Use Ranch Riding 4 pts and Reining is not counted, Use cutting 5 pts and cow horse is not counted. WE ONLY COUNT a total of 4 classes for the all-around!!

Individual classes will use regular points per # in class for class points 10 1st = 10 pts 2nd = 9 pts

COMPEITION EQUIPMENT AND ATTIRE

Equipment: Horses shall be shown in a western stock saddle. Silver equipment will not count over good clean, working equipment. Horses of all ages may be shown in a snaffle, bosal, or curb bit. Absolutely no iron will be permitted under the jaws. Judges may perform a bit inspection and disqualify violators at any time. The judge, steward or show management may prohibit the use of any bit or equipment they consider inhumane or would tend to give a horse/rider an unfair advantage. Use of illegal equipment is prohibited anywhere on the event grounds. Hobbles may be carried and used as appropriate.

If the horse is shown in the two-rein or bridle/curb bit, the mouthpiece must be at least 5/16 inch and not more than 3/4 inch in diameter measured 1 inch from the cheek and must be smooth (no chain bits). Nothing may protrude below the mouthpiece such as extensions or prongs including upward prongs. Split reins or romal reins shall be used with bridle/curb bits. Curb staps are required and may be leather or flat chain, must be at least 1/2 inch in width, and must lie flat against the horse's chin. No wire curbs are permitted, regardless of the amount of padding or tape. Horses shown in the bridle/curb bit must be exhibited one-handed. Using two hands on a bridle/curb bit or using more than one finger between split reins or any finger between romal reins (except in the two-rein where any number of fingers are allowed between the romal and hackamore reins) will result in an Off Pattern. In all classes, when using a romal, the free hand may be used to adjust the rider's length of rein.

If the horse is shown in a snaffle bit, it shall be "D" or "O" ring type, no larger than 4 inches and no smaller than 2 inches in diameter on inside of the ring. It must have broken, two- or three-piece mouthpiece. A minimum of 5/16 inch in diameter, measured 1 inch from the inside of the ring, with a gradual decrease to

the center of the snaffle. The mouthpiece shall be round, oval or egg-shaped and made of smooth, unwrapped metal. No twisted-wire mouthpieces may be used. A leather or fabric woven chinstrap may be used. No iron, chain or other metal may be used. A horse ridden in a snaffle or hackamore must use either split reins or mecate reins.

If the horse is shown in a hackamore, the bosal must be made of braided rawhide or braided leather and will be a maximum of 3/4 inch at the cheek. There must be a minimum of two finger widths, approximately 1 1/2 inch, between the bosal and the nose. Absolutely no metal under the jaw or on the noseband in connection with the bosal is allowed.

Mechanical hackamores, cavessons, tie downs and running martingales are prohibited. ETXSH rules regarding other prohibited equipment apply.

Tie downs, cavessons, gag bits, twisted-wire mouth pieces, mechanical hackamores and running martingales are prohibited. A judge may prohibit the use of any equipment deemed to be inhumane.

Any horse found to have blood present on the mouth or anywhere else on its body may be disqualified at the discretion of the judges.

Any question on equipment that is not disclosed in ETXSH Rulebook, refer to AQHA Equipment rule SHW300 and/or NRCHA Equipment rules 5.1 to 5.7

Riders shall wear protective headgear or western hats, long-sleeved shirts and western boots. Western boots shall include typical cowboy boots and lace-up ropers. All other footwear is prohibited. The use of spurs and chaps shall be optional. Clothing should be neat and clean.

EAST TEXAS STOCK HORSE CLASSES

Following is a list of the six classes, designed to measure the versatility of a western stock horse, to be offered at each ETXSH competition with descriptions and guidelines for judging.

ETXSH RANCH PLEASURE CLASS (Signs)

The purpose of the stock horse pleasure class is to measure the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from performing one ranch task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines of an arena. The horse should be well-trained, relaxed, quiet, soft and cadenced at all gaits. The ideal ranch horse will travel with forward movement and demonstrate an obvious lengthening of stride at extended gaits. The horse can be ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein without requiring undue restraint, but not shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the ranch riding horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner, as well as the quality of the movement are of primary considerations. The ideal stock horse pleasure horse should have a natural head carriage at each gait.

Gaits

Ordinary Walk – The stock horse ordinary walk is straight, square, flat-footed, and relaxed. The horse moves freely with no anticipation to move to the next gait.

Extended Walk – The stock horse extended walk is straight, square, and flat-footed, relaxed, and moves out freely with the horse looking ahead. The extended walk shows more length of stride than the ordinary walk.

Trot – The stock horse trot is a square two-beat diagonal trot and is steady, soft, and slow enough for riding long distances. The rider is seated at this gait.

Extended Trot – The stock horse extended trot shows lengthening of stride from the regular trot with the same cadence that will cause an increase in speed. This gait is level, flat, and steady with the appearance that the horse would hold this gait for long distances. The rider may be seated, posting or standing.

Lope – The stock horse lope is a 3-beat gait that is cadenced, straight and steady and is comfortable to ride over long distances.

Extended Lope – The stock horse extended lope shows lengthening of stride from the regular lope with the same cadence that will cause an increase in speed. The horse holds the steady gait and increased speed while being under control.

Stop – From both the lope and the trot, the horse should be in the correct stopping position (i.e. both hocks engaged and stopping on the hindquarters). All four feet stop moving before the next maneuver is attempted.

Horses shall be shown individually, and the class may be conducted inside or outside of an arena. The pattern may be started either to the right or left direction. Marker shall be set up to designate gait changes. If the class is held inside an arena, the course shall be set up to make approximately one pass of the arena in each direction. This may be modified due to space constraints or other conditions. If the pattern follows a different path in the arena, show management is strongly encouraged to offer a drawing of the path for exhibitors.

Markers shall be set up to designate gait changes. When establishing the course, the following distances between markers are recommended

PATTERN I • Extended Walk - 75 feet • Trot - 120 feet • Extended Trot - 240 feet • Lope - 150 feet • Stop and Reverse • Ordinary Walk - 30 feet • Lope - 150 feet • Extended Lope - 200 feet • Trot - 90 feet • Stop and Back 48 49

PATTERN II • Ordinary Walk - 30 feet • Lope - 150 feet • Extended Lope - 200 feet • Trot - 120 feet • Stop and Reverse • Extended Walk - 75 feet • Trot - 90 feet • Extended Trot - 240 feet • Lope - 150 feet • Stop and Back

PATTERN III • Ordinary Walk - 30 feet • Lope - 150 feet • Extended Trot - 240 feet • Trot - 120 feet • Stop and Reverse • Trot - 90 feet • Lope - 150 feet • Extended Lope - 200 feet • Extended Walk - 75 feet • Stop and Back

PATTERN IV • Trot - 90 feet • Extended Walk - 75 feet • Lope - 150 feet • Extended Trot - 240 feet • Stop and Reverse • Lope - 150 feet • Extended Lope - 200 feet • Ordinary Walk - 30 feet • Trot - 90 feet • Stop and Back

PATTERN V • Lope - 150 feet • Extended Lope - 200 feet
• Ordinary Walk - 30 feet • Trot - 120 feet • Stop and Reverse • Extended Trot - 240 feet • Trot - 90 feet • Extended Walk - 75 feet • Lope - 150 feet • Stop and Back

These distances will make for a fluid class and facilitate judging. Order of maneuvers may be varied per Judge's discretion, but the stop should not follow the extended lope. Judges are encouraged to walk the course prior to judging.

Credits and Penalties

Part of the evaluation of this class is on smoothness of transitions. A horse may be collected a bit from the extended trot or walk as the horse moves into the lope. During the transition from the extended lope down to the trot, walk or extended walk an extra cue to achieve this gait is expected horses that complete this total transition within three strides calmly and obediently should be rewarded. Horses that attempt to stop or do stop prior the specified gait will be penalized. Judges expect to see horses that have been trained to respond to cues. To see these cues applied discreetly and the horse responding correctly could be a credit-earning situation. All runs begin upon entering the pen; any infractions (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.) are subject to penalty at that time. Penalties will be assessed as follows:

1 Point Penalties: Over-bridled (per maneuver); Out of frame; Too slow; Break of gate at the walk or trot for two (2) strides or less.

3 Point Penalties: Wrong lead; Draped reins; Break of gait at lope except when correcting an incorrect lead; Break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides

5 Point Penalties: Spurring in front of cinch; Blatant disobedience; Use of either hand to instill fear/praise.

Off-Pattern (OP): Breaking pattern (Eliminates or adds maneuver); Repeated disobedience; Use of two hands (except in snaffle bit or hackamore); More than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except two rein); Cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly.

Disqualification (DQ): Lameness; Abuse; Illegal equipment; Disrespect or misconduct; Leaving working area before pattern is complete; Fall of horse/rider (run

ends; scores will be given for work done, but the horse/rider team will be disqualified and will not be placed), Improper western attire. Disqualified entries are counted as an entry in the class but cannot receive points or credits for that class toward the all-around.

ETXSH RANCH RIDING (Patterns)

The purpose of the ranch riding class is to measure the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a mean of conveyance from performing one ranch task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines of an arena. The ideal ranch horse will travel with forward movement and demonstrate an obvious lengthening of stride at extended gaits. The horse can be ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein without requiring undue restraint, but not shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the ranch riding horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner, as well as the quality of the movement are of primary considerations. The ideal ranch riding horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver.

Each horse will work individually.

One of the 15 approved ETXSH/AQHA patterns must be used.

The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be as those described in the Ranch Pleasure above with an emphasis on forward movement, free-flowing, and ground covering for all gaits. Transitions should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness.

Gaits

Ordinary Walk – The stock horse ordinary walk is straight, square, flat-footed, and relaxed. The horse moves freely with no anticipation to move to the next gait.

Extended Walk – The stock horse extended walk is straight, square, and flat-footed, relaxed, and moves out freely with the horse looking ahead. The extended walk shows more length of stride than the ordinary walk.

Trot – The stock horse trot is a square two-beat diagonal trot and is steady, soft, and slow enough for riding long distances. The rider is seated at this gait.

Extended Trot – The stock horse extended trot shows lengthening of stride from the regular trot with the same cadence that will cause an increase in speed. This gait is level, flat, and steady with the appearance that the horse would hold this gait for long distances. The rider may be seated, posting or standing.

Lope – The stock horse lope is a 3-beat gait that is cadenced, straight and steady and is comfortable to ride over long distances.

Extended Lope – The stock horse extended lope shows lengthening of stride from the regular lope with the same cadence that will cause an increase in speed. The horse holds the steady gait and increased speed while being under control.

Stop – From both the lope and the trot, the horse should be in the correct stopping position (i.e. both hocks engaged and stopping on the hindquarters). All four feet stop moving before the next maneuver is attempted.

No time limit

The use of natural logs is encouraged.

Sitting the regular trot and lope is recommended; standing in the stirrups at the extended trot and extended lope or posting the extended trot is acceptable.

Touching or holding the saddle horn is acceptable.

Ranch Riding Penalties

Maneuver evaluations and penalty applications are to be determined independently. The following penalties will be applied to each occurrence and be deducted from the final score.

One Point Penalties – Too slow (per gait); Over-bridled (per maneuver); Out of frame (per maneuver); Break of gait at walk or trot for 2 strides or less

Three Point Penalties – Break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 strides; Break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead; Wrong lead or out of lead; Draped reins (per maneuver); Out of lead or cross-

cantering more than two strides when changing leads; Trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change; Severe disturbance of any obstacle.

Five Point Penalties – Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.) for each refusal

10 Point Penalties – Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)

Off-Pattern (OP): Breaking pattern (Eliminates or adds maneuver); Repeated disobedience; Use of two hands (except in snaffle bit or hackamore); More than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except two rein); Cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly.

Disqualification (DQ): Lameness; Abuse; Illegal equipment including hoof black, braided, or banded manes or tail extensions; Disrespect or misconduct; Leaving working area before pattern is complete; Fall of horse/rider (run ends; scores will be given for work done, but the horse/rider team will be disqualified and will not be placed), Improper western attire. Disqualified entries are counted as an entry in the class, but cannot receive points or credits for that class toward the all-around.

ETXSH RANCH TRAIL CLASS

The ETXSH ranch trail class should test the horse's ability to cope with situations encountered while being ridden through a pattern of obstacles generally found during the course of everyday ranch work. The horse/rider team is judged on the correctness, efficiency, and pattern accuracy with which the obstacles are negotiated, and the attitude and mannerisms exhibited by the horse. Judging emphasis is on identifying the well-broke, responsive, and well-mannered horse which can correctly navigate and negotiate the course.

The ranch trail course (the course) will include no less than six and no more than nine obstacles. It is mandatory the horse be asked to walk, trot and lope during the course. Walk can be part of the obstacle score or be scored with the approaching obstacle. Trot must be at least 35 feet and scored with approaching

obstacle. Lope must be lead-specific, at least 50 feet, and score with approaching obstacle. Care must be exercised to avoid setting up any obstacles that may be hazardous to the horse or rider.

When setting courses, management will be mindful that the idea is not to trap a horse/rider team or eliminate it by making an obstacle too difficult. All courses and obstacles are to be constructed with safety in mind as to reduce the risk for accidents. Show committees have the option of setting up the trail course to best fit the arena conditions an outdoor course is recommended if appropriate terrain is available. Each single-performance event can be time consuming, especially with large classes, so it is imperative that time restrictions are placed on this class. The show committee, either through a pilot run or estimation, shall select a course that has a continuous, positive flow that can be negotiated in four minutes or less.

Judges must walk the course and have the right and duty to alter the course if it is not in keeping with the intent of the class. Judges may remove or change any obstacles they deem unsafe, non-negotiable, or unnecessarily difficult. Any time a trail obstacle becomes unsafe during a class, it shall be repaired or removed from the course. If it cannot be repaired and some horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle shall be deducted from all previous draws for that class.

The course must be designed using the mandatory obstacles and maneuvers, plus optional obstacles. Combining of two or more of the obstacles is acceptable.

Prohibited obstacles: Tarps, water obstacles with slick bottoms, PVC pipe used as a jump or walk over, tires, rocking or moving bridges, logs or poles elevated in a manner that permits such to roll in a dangerous manner. Only live or stuffed animals which would normally be encountered in an outdoor setting, and which are not used in an attempt to "spook" a horse may be used.

Mandatory obstacles and/or maneuvers:

Ride over obstacles on the ground – usually logs or poles. Walk, trot or lope may be used, but only one gait is required.

Walk-over: Walk over no more than 5 logs or poles no more than 10 inches high. The space between logs or poles should be 26-30 inches. The formation may be straight, curved, zigzagged or raised.

Trot-overs: Trot over no more than 5 logs no more than 10 inches high. The space between logs 36-42 inches. The formation can also be straight, curved, zigzagged, or raised.

Lope-overs: Lope over no more than 5 logs no more than 10 inches high. The space between logs 6 to 7 feet. The formation can be straight, curved, zigzagged or raised.

Opening, passing through, and closing gate: Use gate that will not endanger horse or rider and requires minimum side passing.

Ride over wooden bridge: Bridge should be sturdy, safe and negotiated at a walk only. Heavy plywood lying flat on the ground is an acceptable simulation of a bridge. Suggested minimum width shall be 36 inches wide and at least 6 feet long.

Backing obstacles: Backing obstacles are to be spaced at a minimum of 28 inches. If elevated, 30 – inch spacing is required. Back through and around at least three markers. Back through L, V, U, straight or similarly shaped course which may be elevated no more than 24 inches

Side pass obstacle: Any object which is safe and of any length may be used to demonstrate responsiveness of the horse to leg signals. Raised side pass obstacles should not exceed 12 inches.

Rope drags: For Open, Jr Horse, Non-Pro, Limited Non-Pro, Intermediate ONLY. Rope drag is not to be used in Novice or Youth Classes. Drag may be a complete figure eight and may begin in either direction.

Distances may be adjusted for Junior horses only, if so desired. The exhibitor must have the rope dallied on the saddle horn (half or full dally) for the duration of the drag

Optional obstacles: Members may suggest new obstacles provided the obstacles can be found in everyday ranch work. Optional obstacles from which selections can be made include, but are not limited to:

A jump obstacle whose center height is not less than 14 inches high or more than 24 inches high. Holding the saddle horn is permissible for this obstacle.

- Carry object from one part of the arena to another
- Remove and replace materials from mailbox
- Trot through cones spaced a minimum of 6 feet apart.
- Cross natural ditches or ride up embankments
- Swing rope or throw rope at dummy steer head
- Step in and out of obstacle
- Put on slicker or coat
- Stand to mount with mounting block
- Walk through water obstacle
- Open gate on foot
- Pick up feet
- Walk through brush
- Ground tie
- Lead at the trot
- Load in trailer

It is up to show management if the competition trail course will be made available to exhibitors or posted prior to the day of competition. It must be posted at least one hour prior to competition. Printed handouts for exhibitors are helpful and encouraged.

Once competition for the specific class/division begins, no extra verbal instructions will be given to exhibitors by the judge.

CREDITS and PENALTIES

All runs begin upon entering the pen; any infractions (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.) are subject to penalty at that time. The rider has the option of eliminating any obstacle, however, this will result in being "Off Pattern" and the horse/rider team may not place above others who have completed the pattern correctly. A Judge may ask a horse to pass on an obstacle after three refusals or at any time for safety concerns.

Credit is given to horse/rider teams who negotiate the obstacles correctly and efficiently. Horses should receive credit for showing attentiveness to obstacles and ability to pick through the course when the obstacles warrant it while willingly responding to riders cues on more difficult obstacle. Quality of movement and cadence should be considered part of the

maneuver score for the obstacle. Penalties are assessed as follows:

1 Point Penalties: Each hit, bite, or stepping on a log, cone, plant or any component of the obstacle; Incorrect or break of gait at walk or trot for two strides or less; Both front or hind feet in a single-stride slot or space at a walk or trot; Skipping over or failing to step into required space; split pole in lope-over; Incorrect number of strides, if specified; One to two steps on dismount/remount or ground tie except shifting to balance; Over-bridled (per maneuver).

3 Point Penalties: Wrong lead; Draped reins: Break of gait at lope except when correcting an incorrect lead; Break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides, three or four steps on dismount/remount or ground tie.

5 Point Penalties: Spurring in front of cinch; Blatant disobedience; Use of either hand to instill fear/praise; Knocking over, stepping out of, or falling off of an obstacle; Dropping an object required to be carried; 1st or 2nd cumulative refusal; Letting go of gate; Five or more steps in dismount remount or ground tie.

Off-Pattern (OP): Breaking pattern (Eliminates or adds maneuver); Repeated disobedience; Use of two hands (except in snaffle bit or hackamore); More than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except two rein); Failure to dally and remain dallied; Failure to open and shut gate or failure to complete the gate; Cannot place above others who completed pattern correctly.

Disqualification (DQ): Lameness; Abuse: Illegal equipment; Disrespect or misconduct; Leaving working area before pattern is complete; Fall of horse/rider (run ends; scores will be given for work done but the horse/rider team will be disqualified and will not be placed), Improper western attire. Disqualified entries are counted as an entry in the class but cannot receive points or credits for that class toward the all around.

ETXSH RANCH REINING (Pattern)

The ETXSH Ranch Reining Class measures the ability of the stock horse to perform basic handling maneuvers. ETXSH has several recognized regular patterns (please see "Patterns") Each pattern is a combination of maneuvers, and these maneuvers include:

Stops: Stops are the act of slowing the horse from a lope to a stop position. The horse enters the stop position by rounding its back, bringing the hind legs further under the body while maintaining forward motion and ground contact and cadence with front legs. Throughout the stop, the horse continues in a straight line while maintaining ground contact with the hind feet.

Spins: Spins are cadenced 360-degree turns executed with the inside hind quarter (pivot) remaining stationary. Spins shall be smooth and efficient. The location of the hind quarters shall be fixed at the start of the spin. The horse shall stop the spin exactly as dictated by the pattern description. The right and left spins shall have a similar speed and balance.

Rollbacks: Rollbacks are the 180-degree reversal of forward motion completed by running to a stop, rolling (turning) the shoulders back to the opposite direction over the hocks and departing in one continuous motion. There should be no hesitation; however, a slight pause to regain footing or balance should not be deemed hesitation. The horse should not step ahead or backup prior to rolling back.

Circles: Circles are maneuvers at the lope, of designated size and speed, which demonstrate control, willingness to guide, and degree of difficulty in speed and speed variations. Circles must at all times be run in the geographical area of the arena specified in the pattern description. There must be a clearly defined difference in the speed and size of a small, slow circle and a large, fast circle. Symmetry is credit-earning (i.e., speeds and shapes to the left and right should be consistent).

Backups: A Backup is a maneuver requiring the horse to be moved in a reverse motion in a straight line over a required distance of at least ten feet or as the pattern designates.

Hesitate: To hesitate is the act of demonstrating the horse's ability to stand in a relaxed manner at a designated time in a pattern. In a hesitation, the horse is required to remain motionless and relaxed. Reining patterns require a hesitation at the end of the pattern to demonstrate completion.

Lead Changes: Lead changes are the act of changing the leading legs of the front and rear pairs of legs. The lead change must be executed at a lope with no change

of gait or speed and be performed in the exact geographical position in the arena specified in the pattern description. Credit-earning lead changes will be change of front and rear leads taking place within the same stride.

Run Downs: Run downs are runs through the middle of the arena, along the side, or ends of the arena. Run Downs demonstrate control and gradual increase in speed to the stop.

CREDITS AND PENALTIES

All runs begin upon entering the pen; any infraction (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.) are subject to penalty at that time.

To rein a horse is not only to guide him, but also to control his every movement. The best reined horse should be willingly guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance and dictated to completely. Any movement on his own must be considered a lack of control. All deviations from the exact written pattern must be considered a lack of, or temporary loss of, control and therefore a fault that must be marked down according to severity of deviation. The horse/rider team's overall performance should be credited for smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness and authority of performing various maneuvers, while using controlled speed which raised the difficulty level and makes the horse/rider team more exciting and pleasing to watch. Penalties will be assessed as follows:

½ Point Penalties: Starting a circle or exiting a roll back at a trot for up to two strides; Delayed change of lead by one stride where either lead change is required by the pattern description; Failure to remain a minimum of twenty feet from the wall or fence when approaching a stop and/or rollback; Over-spin or under-spin up to 1/8 turn

1 Point Penalties: Out of lead in the circles, figure eights or around the end of the arena (this penalty is cumulative and will be deducted for each quarter of a circle the horse is out of lead); Over or under spinning 1/8 to ¼ turn; Slipping rein; Over-bridled.

2 Point Penalties: Break of gait; Freeze up in spins or rollbacks; Failure to stop or walk before executing a lope departure on trot-in patterns; Failure to be in a lope prior to the first marker on run-in patterns; Failure

to completely pass the specified marker before initiating a stop position; When starting a circle, rundown or exiting a rollback, trotting beyond two strides but less than ½ circle or ½ length of arena

5 Point Penalties: Spurring in front of cinch; Blatant disobedience; Use of either hand to instill fear/praise.

Off-Pattern (OP): Breaking pattern; Repeated disobedience; Trotting in excess of ½ circle or ½ length of the arena; Use of two hands (except in snaffle bit or hackamore) per maneuver; More than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except two rein) per maneuver; Cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly.

Disqualification (DQ): Lameness; Abuse: Illegal equipment; Disrespect or misconduct; Leaving working area before pattern is complete; Fall of horse/rider (run ends; scores will be given for work done, but the horse/rider team will be disqualified and will not be placed), Improper western attire. Disqualified entries are counted as an entry in the class but cannot receive points or credits for that class toward all around.

Patterns will be chosen from the ETXSH website or other patterns approved by ETXSH show management. Patterns may be modified to be lope in patterns. Patterns that start with the circles may be used as lope to center patterns when posted as such by show management. Rider has the option to lope through the gate or walk through the gate and, without trotting, pickup the correct lead within the first quarter circle. Continue loping around the circle to the center of arena. At the center, without stopping or breaking gait, begin pattern. When using a lope to the center pattern, judging of the pattern will begin at the center of arena.

ETXSH WORKING COW HORSE CLASS

The ideal stock horse must also be a cow horse and this class demonstrates and measures the horse's ability to do cow work. Holding the saddle horn is permitted in this class. There is a time limit per horse/rider team to perform the work depending on the division and the time begins when the cow is turned into the arena. If the time has not elapsed and the Judge is satisfied that all requirements of the class have been met, the Judge should blow the whistle for the Exhibitor to cease work. The Judge may blow a whistle at any time for the

Exhibitor to cease work for safety reasons. Judges will score what they have seen, but the horse/rider team is disqualified because they did not complete the pattern. Only the Judge may award a new cow to a contestant to replace a cow that will not honor a horse. If the Judge awards a new cow, the Exhibitor has the option to refuse the new cow by continuing to work. If the Exhibitor accepts the new cow. The time for working the cow will start over. If the Exhibitor intends to accept the new cow, the Exhibitor must pull up immediately. When multiple Judges are scoring, any one of the Judges may terminate the work or signal for a new cow.

OPEN and NON-PRO DIVISIONS

Exhibitors in the Open and Non-Pro divisions are allotted **three minutes** to complete the work. When there is one minute left, the announcer will announce, **"one minute remaining"**. At 3 minutes, the announcer will call **"time"**. There are three parts to this division's work: boxing, fence work, roping or circling.

Boxing the Cow – The rider shall ride into the arena, face the cattle entry gate and signal for their cow to be turned into the arena. The cow shall be controlled on the entry end of the arena for a sufficient amount of time to demonstrate the horse's ability to "hold" the cow. If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate his horse's ability to drive and block the cow on the entry fence.

Fence Work – After the cow has been controlled on the end of the arena, the rider shall set the cow up and drive it down the side of the arena. The cow should be turned on the fence at least once in each direction. The first run out for a turn shall be past the half-way mark of the arena. All turns down the side shall be completed before reaching the end fence.

Optional Roping or Circling – The rider has the option to either rope the cow or to take the cow to the middle of the arena and circle it at least once each direction. A rider may circle or rope the cow but cannot combine the two to get credit for this portion of the class.

To rope the cow, the Exhibitor must be carrying a rope when the run starts. The Exhibitor may pull up after the fence work, take down the rope and proceed to rope and stop the cow. The Exhibitor must then rope the cow and bring it to a stop. In the roping portion of this

class, the Exhibitor is permitted two throws and the horse will be judged on two (2) maneuvers: tracking/rating, and stopping the cow. It is not necessary that the Exhibitor catch to receive a score in the roping portion. The catch is legal as long as the cow looks through the loop and the rope pulls tight on any part of the animal's body except the tail. The Exhibitor may tie the rope on or dally. If the Exhibitor does not catch, or if it is an illegal catch the horse will be given credit for rating and tracking and will be assessed a penalty specific for the division.

To circle the cow, the Exhibitor will maneuver the cow smoothly at least 360 degrees in each direction without interference from the fence. The circle's size, symmetry, speed and relative balance from right and left show control. Tightening the circles down with fast head-to-head speed will be a credit earning situation. The circles should be completed before the cow is exhausted. Once an Exhibitor has committed to circling a cow, if the cow falls down no new cow will be awarded. The Exhibitor will complete the run by riding around the fallen cow to fulfill circling requirements. In the circling portion of the judging, one whistle will terminate the work, two whistles will award a new cow.

CREDITS AND PENALTIES for Open and Non-Pro

All runs begin upon entering the pen; any infractions (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.) are subject to penalty at that time.

During "Boxing," credit will be given for the horse's expression and its "cow sense" (i.e., making moves with little rider assistance); holding, controlling, and turning the cow; the amount of work actually done; and the degree of difficulty of the work. Credit will be given during "Fence Work" for making the first run past the center of the arena; making turns right on the cow; and controlling a difficult cow. If "Roping" credit will be given for rating and following cow to allow rider the optimal roping position; stopping hard; and staying in the ground during the hold. Credits for each element of roping range from - 1 ½ to + 1 ½ points. If "Circling" credit will be given when the horse works willingly; acknowledges the cow; and gets close enough to the cow to control the circles. Credits for Circling range

from -1 ½ to + 1 ½ points for each direction. Penalties will be assessed as follows:

1 Point Penalties: Loss of working advantage; Using the corner or the end of the arena to turn the cow when going down the fence; Changing sides of arena to turn cow; For each length horse runs past cow; Working out of position; Slipping rein; Failure to drive cow past middle marker on first turn; two-loop catch in the Non-Pro; Over-bridled

2 Point Penalties: Going around the corner of the arena before turning cow; When working an animal in the open field (at least 20' from the side of arena) and the animal gets within 3 feet from the end fence before being turned, when roping, an illegal catch, or failure to catch if roping in the Non-Pro

3 Point Penalties: Exhausting or overworking the cow before circling or roping; Hanging up on the fence (refuse to turn); Knocking down the cow without having a working advantage; two-loop catch in Open

5 Point Penalties: Failure to turn the cow both directions on the fence; Spurring in front of cinch; Blatant disobedience; Use of either hand to instill fear/praise; Failure to catch or an illegal catch if roping in the Open

Off-Pattern (OP): Turning Tail; Complete loss of rope in the Non-Pro or Open class, once committed to roping; Failure to attempt to complete any part of the class; Repeated blatant disobedience; Schooling after entering the arena prior to calling for cow; schooling horse between cows, if new cow is awarded. Use of two hands (except in snaffle bit or hackamore) per maneuver; More than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except two rein); Cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly

Disqualification (DQ): Lameness; Abuse: Illegal equipment; Disrespect or misconduct; Leaving working area before pattern is complete; Fall of horse/rider (run ends; scores will be given for work done but the horse/rider team will be disqualified and will not be placed), Improper western attire. Disqualified entries are counted as an entry in the class but cannot receive points or credits for that class toward all around.

If the exhibitor runs out of time to rope, there will be no credit for the stop/hold maneuver and a penalty for

failure to catch. Riders may still earn credit for tracking/rating/control/position and speed/degree of difficulty.

LTD NON-PRO & JR HORSE DIVISION

(Box-Drive-Box-Drive)

Exhibitors in the Ltd Non-Pro, and Junior Horse Divisions are **allotted one minute and forty-five seconds** to complete the work. Announcer will give a **"50 seconds left"** time warning. At one minute and forty-five seconds, the announcer will call for time. Exhibitors are not required to use all of the allotted time but must ride until the judge whistles the end of the run or time expires, whichever occurs first. There are four parts to the work: boxing the cow; setting up the cow and driving it down the fence to the opposite end of the arena; boxing it at the opposite end of the arena and then driving the cow past the middle marker again. There is no expectation that the Exhibitor will make a "fence turn," rather the drive down the fence demonstrates correct position and control around the corner.

Boxing the Cow – The rider shall ride into the arena, face the cattle entry gate, and signal for their cow to be turned into the arena. The cow shall be controlled on the entry end of the arena for a sufficient amount of time to demonstrate the horse's ability to "hold" the cow. If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate his horse's ability to drive and block the cow on the entry fence.

Set Up Cow and Drive Down Fence to Opposite End of Arena – After the cow has been controlled on the entry end of the arena, the rider shall set the cow up for driving down the side of the arena.

When coming out of corner, the horse shall be close enough to cow to demonstrate control with cow against the fence. This distance and control should be maintained for approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of arena. Rider will then stop and release the cow and move horse toward center of arena to set the cow up for boxing.

Boxing the Cow at Opposite End of Arena – The Exhibitor will again control and box the cow to demonstrate the horse's ability to "hold" the cow

Drive the Cow back down the same fence as the first drive, past the middle marker and continue until the judge blows the whistle to show completion.

CREDITS and PENALTIES for Limited Non-Pro Box Drive Box Drive

The runs begin upon entering the pen; any infractions (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.) are subject to penalty at that time.

During "Boxing," credit will be given for the horse's expression and its "cow sense" (i.e., making moves with little rider assistance); holding, controlling, and turning the cow; the amount of work actually done; and the degree of difficulty of the work. Credit will be given during "Set Up Cow and Drive Down Fence" for rating the cow; blocking the cow with pressure towards the end of the arena; driving the cow with control down the side of the arena; and controlling a difficult cow. Penalties will be assessed as follows:

1 Point Penalties: Loss of working advantage; Working out of position; Slipping rein, failure to drive cow past the middle marker on second drive before time expired; driving the cow down the opposite fence on second drive (changing sides); Over-bridled.

3 Point Penalties: Knocking down the cow without having a working advantage; Losing a cow while boxing.

5 Point Penalties: Spurring in front of cinch; Blatant disobedience; Use of either hand to instill fear/praise.

Off-Pattern (OP): Turning tail; Failure to complete any part of the Class; Repeated blatant disobedience; Schooling after entering the arena prior to calling for cow; Schooling horse between cows, if new cow is awarded; Use of two hands (except in snaffle bit or hackamore) per maneuver; More than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except two rein) per maneuver. Cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly.

Disqualification (DQ): Lameness; Abuse: Illegal equipment; Disrespect or misconduct; Leaving working area before pattern is complete; Fall of horse/rider (run ends; scores will be given for work done, but the horse/rider team will be disqualified and will not be placed), Improper western attire. Disqualified entries

are counted as an entry in the class, but cannot receive points or credits for that class toward the all around.

(Box Only) INTERMEDIATE, NOVICE, YOUTH DIVISIONS

Exhibitors in the Intermediate, Novice and Youth Divisions are allotted fifty (50) seconds to complete the work. The rider shall ride into the arena, face the cattle entry gate, and signal for their cow to be turned into the arena. The cow shall be controlled on the entry end of the arena for 50 seconds to demonstrate the horse's ability to "hold" the cow. If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate his horse's ability to drive and block the cow on the entry fence.

CREDITS and PENALTIES for Intermediate, Novice and Youth

All runs begin upon entering the pen; any infractions (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.) are subject to penalty at that time.

During "Boxing", credit will be given for the horse's expression and its "cow sense" (i.e., making moves with little rider assistance); holding, controlling, and turning the cow; the amount of work actually done; and the degree of difficulty of the work. Penalties will be assessed as follows:

1 Point Penalties: Loss of working advantage; Working out of position; Slipping rein, Over-bridled.

3 Point Penalties: Knocking down the cow without having a working advantage; Losing a cow while boxing.

5 Point Penalties: Spurring in front of cinch; Blatant disobedience; Use of either hand to instill fear/praise.

Off-Pattern (OP): Turning tail; Failure to complete any part of the class; Repeated blatant disobedience; Schooling after entering the arena prior to calling for cow; Schooling horse between cows, if new cow is awarded; Use of two hands (except in snaffle bit or hackamore) per maneuver; More than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins

(except two rein) per maneuver. Cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly.

Disqualification (DQ): Lameness; Abuse: Illegal equipment; Disrespect or misconduct; Leaving working area before pattern is complete; Fall of horse/rider (run ends; scores will be given for work done but the horse/rider team will be disqualified and will not be placed), Improper western attire. Disqualified entries are counted as an entry in the class, but cannot receive points or credits for that class toward the all around.

ETXSH RANCH CUTTING – In 2022 we will be using the USCHA Rules for all divisional cutting classes.

This class is judged on the ability of the horse to work a cow by separating it from the herd and holding it to demonstrate the horse's ability to work the cow. A single cow is cut from the herd and the horse must demonstrate its ability to work the cow. The ideal ranch cutting horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver.

Objective will be to cut two or three cows from the herd and work the cow(s) with the assistance of two turn-back riders and two herd holders. Show management may supply two herd holders and two turn back riders, or exhibitors may supply their own helpers. If an exhibitor is a herd holder or turn back rider, he or she may use the horse that they are competing on or use a different horse.

In all divisions, there will be a **two and half 2 1/2-minute time limit**. The announcer/timekeeper will give a warning of 1 minute remaining and call time or buzzer when working time has expired. Each exhibitor must work at least two cows and maybe a third.

Time will begin when a rider crosses a timeline just prior to entering the herd. Time should not start until contestant crosses a pre-determined and marked timeline. The rider will then quietly separate his/her cow from the herd.

Unnecessary roughness or disturbing the herd excessively could result in disqualification.

Ultimate credit will be given to horses demonstrating excellence in the herd work by committing to, driving,

setting up and working a cow in the center of the arena with minimal disturbance to the herd.

Exhibitors will not be penalized for reining during the cutting portion, but should display natural ability.

Scoring will be judged by the horse's performance and natural ability.

ETXSH divisions do not have any rules against a horse's earnings or ownership. But check USCHA rules for rider/horse earnings if entering the USCHA side pot.

Penalties – See USCHA Rule book on our website or on the USCHA

USCHA Ranch Cutting – 2022 ETXSH will follow these scoring rules

USCHA Jackpot is a side pot offered for an additional fee. You can qualify for the USCHA finals and year end awards by entering this side pot class.

Open Ranch Cutting – Side Pot Class – minimum of \$150 Added

This is a limit rider class that will be open to all riders that have lifetime earnings less than \$50,000 in any performance horse discipline riding on cattle. The horse must have lifetime earnings less than \$3,000. All money earned reported to Equi-stat data bank will be used to determine eligibility. USCHA National Champions, USCHA Reserve National Champions, and Top Five only will be determined from shows that comply with all Standing Rules. Riders are not required to own the horses they show in this class.

Ranch Cutting Herd Work Class: Riders may ride 2 horses in this class per approved show. All USCHA ranch cutting classes are judged using a modified version of the USCHA's official rules. The modifications will pertain only to scoring as it relates to reining a horse. Contestants are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the rules. A participant shall not be penalized for guiding or reining a horse. A participant excessively reining a horse using direct force by jerking or pulling a horse around may be penalized. This rule may be subject to each individual judge's interpretation.

\$1500 Limit Rider Ranch Cutting – Side Pot Class minimum \$150 Added

This class is open to any rider who has won less than \$1,500 in any performance horse discipline riding on cattle and to horses that have won less than \$15,000.

All money earned reported to Equi-stat data bank will be used to determine eligibility. Riders may ride 1 horse in this class per approved show.

All USCHA ranch cutting classes are judged using a modified version of the USCHA's official rules. The modifications will pertain only to scoring as it relates to reining a horse. Contestants are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the rules.

Additional USCHA Ranch Cutting Rules:

Horses in Ranch Cutting classes may be shown one handed or two handed. If a rider starts a run one handed, they are to remain one handed throughout the run. A rider that starts their run two handed must remain two handed throughout their run. Either split or romel reins are allowed. Hackamores and snaffle bits allowed. Earnings for this title will accumulate only from shows that comply with all Standing Rules. Horses shown in any ranch classes are not eligible to be shown in orthodox cutting classes during the same show year. Horses who have shown in an orthodox cutting class may not show in a ranch cutting class during the same show year.

Must have 3 horses to make a USCHA class to be approved USCHA class.

Time allotted each horse to work is two and one-half (2 ½) minutes; the time will start when a contestant crosses a timeline designated by Show Management. If the clock has not been started or if it malfunctions, the Show Secretary or timer shall notify the judges.

Rule for Judging Cutting Horse Contests

A horse will be given credit for his ability to enter a herd of cattle quietly with very little disturbance to the herd or to the cow being brought from the herd. One (1) deep cut must be made into the herd, failure to make a

deep cut will result in a three (3) point penalty being assessed.

When a cow is cut from the herd, it is more desirable that the cow be taken toward the center of the arena, and credit will be given for same. Additional credit will be given the horse which drives a cow a sufficient distance from the herd to insure that the herd will not be disturbed by the horse's performance.

Credit will be given for the ability of the horse to hold a cow in the center portion of the cutting arena, although no penalty should be imposed if a cow goes to a fence on either side of the arena.

Additional credit will be given for riding with a loose rein throughout a performance.

If a rider or the rider's horse creates a disturbance at any time throughout the working time, penalties will be assessed as follows:

One (1) Point Penalties

A) Miss-Loss of working advantage one (1) point.

C) Noise Directed toward cattle one (1) point.

Any noise created or directed by the contestant toward the cattle will be penalized **one (1) point**.

D) A rider makes contact using a toe, foot, or stirrup on the horse's shoulder it is considered a visible cue and a **one (1) point penalty** will be assessed for each occurrence.

F) Working out of position

Three (3) Point Penalties

A) Hot Quit A contestant may quit a cow when it is obviously completely stopped, obviously turned away, or is behind the turn back horses and the turn back horses must be behind the timeline. If the cow is quit under any other circumstances, a penalty of **three (3) points** shall be assessed.

B) Cattle picked up or scattered.

Any time a disturbance causes cattle from the herd to enter the working area through the fault of the horse or contestant, the contestant will be **penalized three (3) points**. If, at no fault

of the horse or contestant, additional cattle leave the herd, no penalty will be assessed.

C) Second hand on the reins. If you start with 2 hands must ride with 2 hands if start with 1 hand must ride entire time with 1 hand. You cannot go back and forth.

D) Spur in the shoulder

If a rider spurs a horse in the shoulder, a **three (3) point penalty** shall be assessed for each occurrence. Spurring behind the shoulder is not to be considered a visible cue and should not be penalized.

E) Unnecessary roughness or aggression, such as a horse pawing, biting, or kicking a cow, will result in a **three (3) point penalty** being assessed.

Five (5) Point Penalties

A) Horse Quitting a Cow If a horse turns tail toward a cow being worked, an automatic score of sixty (60) points will be given.

B) If a horse is to "lose" a cow or lets a cow that he is working get back in the herd, he will be penalized **five (5) points**.

C) If a rider changes cattle after visibly committing to a specific cow, a **five (5) point penalty** will be assessed. A Cutter shall be committed whenever he makes two moves to a specific animal. One move may also result in commitment to a specific animal when that single move clearly and obviously indicates a specific animal has been selected.

D) If a horse clears the herd with two (2) or more cows and fails to separate a single cow before quitting, a **five (5) point penalty** will be assessed. There will be no penalty if time clock expires before a single cow is separated

If a horse turns tail toward a cow being worked, an automatic score of sixty (60) points will be given.

Score is 0 – if horse falls to ground

Disqualification (score 0) – illegal equipment, or leaving working area before time expires, or inhumane treatment to the horse.

Any rider who allows his horse to quit working or who leaves the working area before his allotted time is up will be disqualified for that class or go-round with no score. **A zero or no score** will receive no monies.

When a contestant is thrown, falls or steps off a horse, or if a horse falls to the ground, an automatic **score of zero (0) will be given**. A horse is considered to have fallen to the ground when the horse is on its side and all four feet are extended in the same direction.

Each contestant is limited to a maximum of four (4) helpers.

A judge marks each performance from sixty (60) to eighty (80) points. One-half (1/2) points may be used.

When a judge is in doubt about a penalty, the benefit of doubt always should go to the contestant.

The judge shall stop any work because of excessive training or abuse of the horse by the contestant or disturbance of the cattle. Any contestant failing to stop immediately when requested or upon a whistle blown by the judge will be subject to disciplinary action by the USCHA that will automatically result in a fine of \$300.

For more information go to United States Cutting website.

You can qualify for their finals by simply showing in 6 approved USCHA events. ETXSH is in Region 4 and results and money earnings are posted on their website.