



2026 RULE CHANGES

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APPROVED

35-1-26 MEMBERSHIPS ONLINE AT SHOWS

PAGE 35. SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS.

A. MEMBERSHIP

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

38-1-26 NON PRO INELIGIBLE TIME PERIOD

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

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

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

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

38-2-26 NON PRO RELINQUISHMENTS

PAGE 38 B. NON PRO MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS

(1) Eligibility

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

39-1-26 IMMEDIATE FAMILY CLARIFICATION

PAGE 39. B. NON PRO MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS.

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

43-1-26 COMPETITION LICENSING

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

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

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

44-1-26 FORFEITED EARNINGS

PAGE 44 D. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION AND CLASS ELIGIBILITY

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

44-2-26 CLASS ELIGIBILITY TIMEFRAME

PAGE 44 D. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION AND CLASS ELIGIBILITY

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

PAGE 69 P. SHOW RESULTS

(I) Show management is required to send official show documents (results, NRHA official handwritten judges score sheets, membership applications, competition licenses, transfers, non pro declarations, fees, and other NRHA forms) and complete show results to be received in the NRHA office within ten (10) business days following the completion of the NRHA event

or the event will be subject to late fines. **After December 1st, the NRHA Office may set a shortened deadline on show results submissions to allow for effective show results processing at year end.**

45-1-26 CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION CLARIFICATION

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

Category 1

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

Category 2 & 6

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

Category 5

Legends Non Pro	For Persons 70 and older as of January 1 of the current year. Can run concurrently with the Category 2 Level 4, Level 3, Level 2, or Level 1 Non Pro class. Ancillary Legends Non Pro classes will not count as a top ten class.
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46-2-26 MATURITY DEFINITION

AMENDED

PAGE 46. CATEGORY 2

Maturity	The Maturity is an aged event for older horses, with specific age requirements to be determined by show management.
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	However, no horse may be entered in both a Derby and a Maturity at the same show.
--	--

47-1-26 PARA REINING

PAGE 47 CATEGORY 4

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

Following the chart:

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

PAGE 53 F. GENERAL SHOW CONDITIONS

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

PAGE 67 M. PARA-REINING SHOW CONDITIONS

(I) Category 11 Para-Reining shows cannot be restricted by any means other than the requirements set forth.

(II) May use NRHA Patterns or other relaxed patterns meeting the following guidelines. Required maneuvers include at least: one (1) sliding stop; one (1) circle in each direction; a minimum of two (2) spins to the left and a minimum of two (2) spins to the right. Gaits may include a walk, jog and/or lope. Show management is responsible for informing the judge of the relaxed pattern prior to horses being shown. **Exhibitors within a class must run the same (modified) pattern.**

52-1-26 CATEGORY 12 TOP 20

PAGE 52 – CATEGORY 12

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

54-2-26 EQUIPMENT AND ATTIRE

AMENDED

PAGE 54. GENERAL SHOW CONDITIONS

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

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

The following will result in no score:

...

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

55-1-26 EUROPEAN EVENT DEADLINES

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

For European Events

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

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

55-2-26 ANCILLARY EVENT APPROVAL

PAGE 55. G. EVENT APPROVAL

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

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

56-1-26 EVENT APPROVAL STEWARDS GUIDELINES

ALSO APPROVED TO ALSO BE ADDED TO POLICY #18-08-42.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Add to Policy #18-08-42:

(10) Stewards cannot be immediate family of the exhibitors, show management, or show secretary at the same competition and may not judge or be a member of show management at the show they are stewarding. **Exception: at shows with multiple stewards, an exhibitor may be a family member pending approval by the NRHA.**

56-2-26 EVENT CLASSIFICATIONS; C EVENT

PAGE 56

(10) Event Classifications:

(b) C Events:

- (A) ~~\$61~~-\$999 added money to the entire event

57-1-26 EVENT CANCELLATIONS

PAGE 57 (11) EVENT CANCELLATION POLICIES

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

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

PAGE 62 I. AGED SHOW AND CLOSED AGES SHOW CONDITIONS

(3) Added Money:

- (a) An Aged show must have a minimum of \$2,000 in added money.
(b) ~~Level 2 Non Pro may not exceed the added money in the Level 4 Non Pro or Level 3 Non Pro in Category 2 or Category 6 classes~~
(b) The added money for any level cannot exceed the added money in any higher levels within the Open and Non Pro Category 2 or Category 6 classes.

Insert (4-6) and renumber subsequent

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

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

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

66-1-26 ENTRY LEVEL RIDE & SLIDE FEE

PAGE 66 K. ENTRY LEVEL RIDE & SLIDE SHOW CONDITIONS

- (2) A \$30 application fee must be submitted with the show approval form for all Entry Level Ride & Slide shows. **Show management does not remit the 5% NRHA retainage fee.**
(5) Horses do not have to have an NRHA competition license prior to showing in an Entry Level Ride & Slide **or Green Level** show.

70-1-26 PAYOUTS

PAGE 70 P. SHOW RESULTS

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

89-1-26 SHOW STEWARD REPORTS

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

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

91-1-26 JUDGING PRIVILEGES

PAGE 91 A. JUDGING PRIVILEGES

(2) Approval and Testing:

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

94-1-26 HACKAMORE MEASUREMENT CLARIFICATION

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

~~References to a hackamore mean the use of a flexible, braided, rawhide or leather, or rope bosal, the core of which may be either rawhide or flexible cable with.~~ **Hackamores shall be round in shape and constructed of uniform braided rawhide or leather and have a non-metal flexible core. The noseband of the hackamore must measure at least 5 1/2" of smooth rawhide or leather before any braided buttons, a maximum diameter of 3/4" diameter at the cheek, and be at least 1/2" in diameter. The bosal must be a minimum one finger space (approximately 3/4") between the bosal and nose. Bosals shall be soft and flexible.** Absolutely no rigid material will be permitted under the jaws or on the noseband in connection with the bosal, regardless of how padded or covered. Horsehair bosals are prohibited. This rule does not refer to the so-called mechanical hackamore which is illegal.

94-2-26 BIT GUARDS

B. SCORING (3) EQUIPMENT PAGE 94-95

(c) 6. Bit Guards

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

96-1-26 ALTER REIN LENGTH

AMENDED

PAGE 96 B. SCORING (5)

(5) Excess rein may be straightened anytime during the pattern, provided the rider's free hand remains behind the rein hand. Any attempt to alter tension or length of the reins from bridle to the rein hand is to be considered use of two hands **and** a penalty score of zero will be applied ~~with the exception of any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during a pattern.~~ In addition, should the judge determine the free hand is being used to instill fear or praise, a penalty five will be applied, and a reduction in the maneuver score. When using a romal, the romal reins can only pass through the hand once, the rider's hand shall be around the reins with the wrist kept straight and relaxed, the thumb on top and the hand closed around the reins; no fingers between the reins are allowed. The free hand may be used to hold the romal provided it is held in a relaxed position and there is at least 16" of romal from the free hand to the reining hand. Use of the free hand while holding the romal to alter the tension or length of the reins from the bridle to the reining hand is considered to be the use of two hands, and a score of zero (0) will be applied with the exception of any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during a pattern. **It should be noted that this is also true when using split reins. Tension can be altered with the free hand only by adjusting the tails of the reins when a horse is standing still and only behind the rein hand.** A rider must be allowed to untangle or straighten the horse's mane at any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during a pattern.

97-1-26 SIMPLE LEAD CHANGES

PAGE 97 B. SCORING (9)

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

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

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

NRHA Ride & Slide classes may use altered patterns and if simple lead changes are specified, no break of gait penalty should be applied during the lead changes.

Page 153 SIMPLE LEAD CHANGE PENALTIES

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

97-2-26 WALKING PENALTY

AMENDED

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

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

~~Add walking to the penalty score 0, pg. 97(j), pg. 150(4):~~

~~jogging in excess of one-half (1/2) circle or one-half (1/2) the length of the arena.~~

AMENDMENT

PAGE 97(J), AND PAGE 150(4). Penalty Score Zero.

not being in a lope for ~~jogging in excess of~~ one-half (1/2) circle or one-half (1/2) the length of the arena will result in a penalty score zero.

98-1-26 WALKING WHEN EXITING THE ROLLBACK

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

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

150-1-26 5 POINT PENALTIES

Section 1. There are five situations that require a judge to apply a five (5) point penalty. These situations are: spurring in front of the cinch, use of either hand to instill fear or praise, holding the saddle with either hand (except in the Freestyle Reining, Entry Level Green Reiner, Entry

Level Ride & Slide, **Entry Level Ride & Slide**, or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup class or for riders 65 and older (Non Pro classes only).

POSTPONED

48-1-26 RANCH REINING

PILOT TO CONTINUE

INTENT

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

Key Benefits for Show Management

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

What is Ranch Reining?

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

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

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

PROPOSAL PART A - CLASSES OFFERED

PAGE 48 – CATEGORY 5

After Senior Horse, add to the chart:

Ranch Reining (Not a Top Ten class)

Ranch Reining Open	
Ranch Reining Non Pro	<i>Must use horses with ownership as defined in the Non Pro Conditions.</i>

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

PROPOSAL PART B - CLASS STRUCTURE

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

N. RANCH REINING

- (1) A Ranch Reining show may be held in conjunction with an NRHA Ancillary show, or it may be held as a stand-alone event.**
- (2) Classes may be jackpotted or have money added (no maximum).**
- (3) Entry and judges fees are to be determined by show management. It is recommended that entry fees do not exceed 10% of the added money and judges fees do not exceed entry fees.**
- (4) Show management remits the standard NRHA 5% fee.**
- (5) Show management can retain any percentage of entry fees. Show management can determine the payback schedule to be used (e.g. Sched. A, Sched. B or custom).**
- (6) See Handbook's Rules For Judging section for allowable use of two hands and simple lead changes.**

(7) Must use NRHA patterns 19-23.

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

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

<Update lettering after N.>

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

PAGE 95 (3) EQUIPMENT

...

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

PAGE 96 – B. SCORING.

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

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

...

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

PAGE 97 – B. SCORING.

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

...

(c) holding saddle with either hand;

Exceptions:

1. Freestyle Reining
2. Entry Level
3. Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup
4. Age 65 and older (Non Pro classes only. Age as of

January 1.)

5. Ranch Reining

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

PAGE 101 – PATTERNS

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

PAGE 148 – PENALTY SCORE ZERO

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

PAGE 150 - 5 POINT PENALTIES

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

PAGE 151 – 2 POINT PENALTIES

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

PROPOSAL PART D – EQUIPMENT

PAGE 100 – ADD NEW (25)

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

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

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

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

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

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

PROPOSAL PART E – JUDGING STANDARDS

Staff will involve the Judges Advisory Committee for recommendations on teaching standards for maneuver evaluation. This is an important piece to review and refine during the

pilot phase, so the class has the best foundation for success. Staff will collaborate with the committee, teaching panel and alliance organizations to build this in more detail.

PROPOSAL PART F – PATTERNS

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

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

51-1-26 SLIDE CONTESTS

PILOT TO CONTINUE

INTENT

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

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

Key Benefits

The class aims to bring several positive outcomes:

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

What is the Slide Contest?

The Slide Contest is a face-paced class focused on reining's signature sliding stop. Riders execute a run down through the middle of the arena, execute a stop and indication completion of the stop by hesitating. Judges use a 3-point system with a

base start score of 70. Maneuvers for evaluation will include the approach, stop and hesitation.

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

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

PROPOSAL PART A - CLASSES OFFERED

PAGE 51 – CATEGORY 11

After the category definition, add:

Slide Contest (Not a Top Ten class)

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

PROPOSAL PART B - CLASS STRUCTURE

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

N. SLIDE CONTEST

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

PROPOSAL PART C – SCORING

PAGE 100 – ADD NEW (25)

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

1. No penalty shall apply for markers.
2. Required maneuvers will be defined as follows:
 - (a) Approach
 - (b) Stop
 - (c) Hesitate
3. The scoring will be on a basis of zero (0) to infinity with seventy (70) denoting an average performance. The individual maneuvers are scored in ½ point increments from a low of -3 (extremely poor quality) to a high of +3 (excellent quality).

NO ACTION

48-2-26 NOVICE HORSE GREEN
46-1-26 AMATEUR FUTURITY
42-1-26 COMPETITION LICENSES IN SHORT STIRRUP CLASSES
54-1-26 YOUTH SHORT STIRRUP HELMET
54-3-26 TRADITIONAL ATTIRE
55-3-26 SHOW MANAGER AND REPRESENTATIVE REQUIREMENT
71-1-26 YEAR-END AWARDS
151-3-26 PENALTIES IN DOWNWARD TRANSITION
153-1-26 SIMPLE LEAD CHANGE PENALTIES