

Revised Edition, May 2010

# NORTHERN ARIZONA CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION

## RULE BOOK

### SECTION I - GENERAL RULES.

1. As an affiliate of the National Cutting Horse Association, all N.A.C.H.A. approved contests shall be judged by the same rules of competition as recorded in the N.C.H.A. Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations. Any exceptions are noted in this set of rules.
2. N.A.C.H.A. approved events are restricted to N.A.C.H.A. members in good standing. Failure to pay membership, entry fees or related show charges within (15) days after request for payment has been made, will result in suspension and cancellation of all accumulated points for that show point year. Points will be acknowledged at the time of paid membership. (Memberships must be paid on or before the first N.A.C.H.A. show of the year in order for points to count, if you join the club after the first show of the year, points will count from that date forward). Individual membership is \$35.00 and Family memberships are \$45.00. Affiliate (Arena help) memberships are \$10.00 and are not eligible for any points. Riders must have at least an affiliate membership in order to be inside the arena at any time during an N.A.C.H.A. show due to insurance requirements. ALL owners and riders MUST be NACHA members in good standing in order for points to count.
3. Contestants showing in the Non-Pro division must meet the same requirements of eligibility as in the N.C.H.A. rules.
4. Contestants are not required to join the N.C.H.A., although it is strongly encouraged.
5. All registered horses MUST be shown under the name assigned to them by their breed association. Failure to show under the horse's correct name shall result in disqualification from the class and from point standings in that class.
6. Any person HORSEBACK in the arena after the start of an N.A.C.H.A. show must wear western attire including hats. The hat requirement MAY BE WAIVED, both in and outside the working area of the arena, at outdoor shows in extreme weather conditions with the consent of both show management and the judge. Men must wear long-sleeved shirts with collars and buttons or snaps completely down the shirt front. Women must wear long-sleeved shirts with a collar. Sweaters may be worn over an appropriate shirt. Long sleeves must be worn rolled down.
7. Horses must be ridden with a bridle having a bit in the mouth or with a hackamore. A bridle shall have no nose band or bosal and hackamores shall be of rope or braided rawhide with no metal parts. A judge must be able to pass two fingers between the hackamore and muzzle completely around the horse's nose. Choke ropes, tie downs, wire around the horse's neck, nose, or brow band, tight nose band, quirt, bat or mechanical device giving the rider undue control over the horse will not be permitted in the arena. Wire of any kind and on any part of the curb device is not permissible. Brest collars may be used, no portion of which may pass over the horse's neck. Chaps and spurs may be worn. A competing horse's tail cannot be tied in any manner which would restrict movement of the tail. Anytime a contestant is guilty of an infraction of this rule, he/she shall be disqualified. A judge has the right to have a contestant report to him if he is suspicious of any infraction of this rule.

## SECTION II – CLASS ELIGIBILITY.

### A. Class definitions:

There are up to (8) classifications of N.A.C.H.A. approved contests. Classes may be changed from year to year subject to a vote by the N.A.C.H.A. Board of Directors. Points will be given to every entry in the class for **ANY** score. (Includes 0 score & 60 score). 1 or more entries will be needed to make a “class”. \$10.00 per horse in a jackpot class goes towards jackpot payout and will be paid per NCHA rules.

Points: **(10) or more riders:** 11,10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2. **(9) riders:** 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2. **(8) riders:** 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2. **(7) riders:** 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2. **(6) riders:** 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2. **(5) riders:** 6, 5, 4, 3, 2. **(4) riders:** 5, 4, 3, 2. **(3) riders:** 4, 3, 2. **(2) riders:** 3, 2. **(1) rider:** 2 points. (Ties will share the same number of points, NO skipping the next # of points. Riders may ride numerous horses in the Open, \$10,000 Novice Horse & \$3,000 Novice Horse. This does **NOT** apply to any of the rider classes.

1. **OPEN:** Open to any horse, regardless of breed, age, sex, or previous performance. Open to any rider, whether professional or non-pro.
2. **NON-PRO:** Open to all N.C.H.A. non professionals as defined by N.C.H.A. rules and any horse. Horse must be owned by the rider showing the horse or by current NCHA Non Pro Rule.
3. **\$10,000 NOVICE HORSE:** Open to all horses having lifetime earnings of \$10,000.00 or less as determined by the combined records of all cutting horse associations on the first day of the current N.C.H.A. point year. Limited age contest money won shall NOT be included in determining a horse’s lifetime earnings. The contestant may ride any horse regardless of ownership.
4. **\$3,000 NOVICE HORSE:** Open to all horses having lifetime earnings of \$3,000.00 or less as determined by the combined records of all cutting horse associations on the first day of the current N.C.H.A. point year. Limited age contest money won shall NOT be included in determining a horse’s lifetime earnings. The contestant may ride any horse regardless of ownership.
5. **\$15,000 AMATEUR:** Open to all amateur riders having lifetime earnings of \$15,000.00 or less. Horse must be owned by the rider, the rider’s spouse, child, parent or grandparent.
6. **YOUTH:** Open to riders who are (18) years of age or younger on the first day of the current N.C.H.A. point year. The contestant may ride any horse regardless of ownership.
7. **\$2,000 RIDER:** Open to all riders having lifetime earnings of \$2,000.00 or less as determined by the combined records of all cutting horse associations on the first day of the current N.C.H.A. point year. The contestant may ride any horse regardless of ownership.
8. **\$1,000 NOVICE RIDER:** Open to all riders having lifetime earnings of \$1,000.00 or less as determined by the combined records of all cutting horse associations on the first day of the current N.C.H.A. point year. No Trainers or paid assistants. Contestant may ride any horse regardless or ownership. Once the rider has won the N.A.C.H.A. year end award for this class the rider is ineligible to compete in this class again regardless of points or money won.

\*PRACTICE WORK: Open to all horses and riders. Not to be judged. 2 ½ minutes with herd help.

**B. Eligibility for year end awards:**

THE OWNER OR HIS HORSE MUST COMPETE IN ONE MORE THAN HALF OF THE SHOWS IN A CLASS in order to be eligible for year end awards in that class. (The owner does not necessarily have to ride but both owner and rider must be members in good standing of N.A.C.H.A.). In the horse classes, OPEN, \$10,000 NOVICE HORSE and \$3,000 NOVICE HORSE, the horse must compete in one more than half of the shows in a class to be eligible for awards IN THAT CLASS, and is eligible even if it changes ownership during the show year. In the rider classes, NON-PRO, YOUTH, \$2,000 RIDER, and \$1,000 RIDER, the rider is eligible for awards if he/she has shown in one more than half of the shows IN A CLASS regardless of what horse he/she rides. Each class must be held for one more than half of the shows in order for a year end award to be given in that class.

**C. High Point Horse:**

The N.A.C.H.A. High Point Horse Award shall be awarded to the horse accumulating the most points in all classes EXCEPT the Youth class. More than one person can ride the same horse in different classes, BUT NOT THE SAME CLASS, and the points will count towards the high point horse award.

**D. Rookie of the Year:**

To be awarded to the rider in their first or second year of showing cutting horses, who has no more than \$100.00 in total earnings at the beginning of the point year, who accumulates the most points in all combined classes during the year, including both horse and rider classes. (added May, 2011)