

RESOLUTION 13 – 22

SUBJECT: Working Western Rewrite (USEF/EC)

Amendment 1 (Blue)

(EXTRAORDINARY)

Refer to Chapter 9, RULE 101 & 102 for submission requirements

Committee Action:

Committees required to review: *(This section to be completed by the Agenda & Resolutions Committee)* Approve Disapprove

Amateur Committee	O		
Canadian National Show Commission	O		
Competition Advisory Committee	O		
Education/Evaluation Committee	O		
Professional Horsemen Committee	O		
USEF Arabian Division	O		
U.S. National Show Commission	O		
Working Western Committee	O		
Youth Committee			
Youth National Show Commission	O		

CONVENTION ACTION:

Approved
 Approved with Modification
 Disapproved

Withdrawn
 Referred to Committee _____

PROPOSED CHANGE: (*Check one*)
 Add new rule
 Delete existing rule
 Change existing text

Indicate affected Article/Rule number (AHA/USEF/EC) USEF AR208 through AR230

RESOLUTION: Use ***bold/italic*** for new wording, ~~strike through~~ to indicate deletion

- Whereas, The Working Western disciplines have seen evolution and growth, and
- Whereas, The previous Working Western rules have needed updating due to industry changes, and
- Whereas, Many of the references within USEF SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION to other areas are cumbersome to locate in a timely manner, and
- Whereas, There is a desire to incorporate those references within that subchapter for ease of time and relevance as they may be modified, and
- Whereas, There is a need to become more nimble and adjust more timely with rules that change within the disciplines in the equine industry; Therefore, Be It
- Resolved, That the USEF AR208 through AR230 be amended by striking out the current language; and, Be It Further
- Resolved, That the USEF AR Division be amended by substituting a new SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION inserting the following language and to be numbered appropriately by USEF to fit their format:

AR-WW.1 General

1. The Arabian Working Western Horse possesses athletic ability, maneuverability and reliability while performing one or more Western task-oriented disciplines. The performance of a Working Western horse is pleasing to the eye with a willing and engaged attitude while precise in the execution of its task. It is the intent of the Arabian Horse Association to mirror whenever appropriate and or possible the organization that is deemed the leader of the specific Working Western Discipline: i.e. Reining – The National Reining Horse Association, Working Cow/Reined Cow – The National Reined Cow Horse Association, Cutting – The National Cutting Horse Association, Ranch and Versatility Ranch Horse – The American Quarter Horse Association.

- 46 2. The Arabian Working Western Horse should exhibit Breed Type while performing its task-oriented disciplines. Breed
 47 Type includes natural tail carriage. No Horse may compete in a class in the Arabian Division with a tail that has been
 48 altered in any manner or by any means.
- 49 a. Judges are required to penalize horses exhibiting unnatural Arabian appearance (unnatural tail carriage). Conversely,
 50 horses with natural Arabian appearance (tail carriage) showing expression that is not angry or offensive shall not be
 51 penalized.
- 52 b. A horse’s tail carriage shall be considered altered when it is obviously and consistently carried in an unnatural manner
 53 in every maneuver.
- 54 c. In all scored Working Western classes, a horse exhibiting unnatural Arabian appearance shall be assessed a 10-point
 55 penalty.
- 56 d. In non-scored Working Western classes, a horse exhibiting unnatural Arabian appearance shall be penalized and
 57 placed at the bottom of the class.
- 58 3. The Rules contained here within the Arabian Working Western Rules (AR-WW) section of the rulebook may be amended
 59 as necessary by the Arabian Working Western Committee with the approval of the Arabian Horse Association’s Education
 60 and Evaluation Committee.
- 61 4. The verbiage “Amateur” and “Non-Pro” are to be considered interchangeable throughout the Working Western rules where
 62 applicable.

63
 64 **AR-WW.2 Western Equipment and Attire**

65 1. WESTERN EQUIPMENT:

- 66 a. BRIDLE. Any western type of headstall without noseband in conjunction with any standard western bit shall be
 67 allowed. A standard western bit is defined as having a shank with a maximum length overall of 8 1/2”. The mouthpiece
 68 will consist of a round or oval bar 5/16” to 3/4” in diameter as measured one inch in from the shank. The bars may be
 69 metal, rubber, or synthetic material and may be inlaid but must be smooth or only latex wrapped. The bars may be
 70 encased in smooth 5/16” to 3/4” in diameter tubular barrels that rotate around the bars. Nothing may protrude below
 71 the mouthpiece (bar) such as extensions, prongs, or rivets designed to intimidate the horse. Rollers attached to the
 72 center of the bit are acceptable and may extend below the bar. Jointed mouthpieces are acceptable and may consist of
 73 two or three pieces and may have one or two joints. A three-piece mouthpiece may include a connecting ring of 1 1/4”
 74 or less in diameter or a connecting flat bar of 3/8” to 3/4” (measured top to bottom with a maximum length of two 2”),
 75 which lies flat in the mouth, or a roller or port as described herein. The port must be no higher than 3 1/2” with roller(s)
 76 and covers acceptable. Jointed mouthpieces, half-breeds, and spade bits are standard. Slip or gag bits, rigid donut
 77 mouthpieces and flat polo mouthpieces are prohibited. Roping bits with both reins connected to a single ring at center
 78 of crossbar shall not be used. Reins must be attached to each shank. When a curb bit is used, either a curb chain or flat
 79 leather chin strap is required and must be at least 1/2” in width and lie flat against the jaws of the horse. No wire,
 80 rawhide, metal, or other substance can be used in conjunction with or as part of the flat leather chin strap, or curb
 81 chain. Round, rolled, braided or rawhide curb straps are prohibited, except when used on a ring snaffle when applied
 82 below the reins. A light lip strap is permissible. Any rein design or other device which increases the effective length
 83 and thereby the leverage of the shank of a standard Western bit is prohibited
- 84 b. A snaffle bit or hackamore is required in those classes restricted to junior horses. Hackamore/ Bosal or standard snaffle
 85 are permitted in any class on horses five years old and under, unless prohibited in the prize list. A standard snaffle bit
 86 is defined as a center jointed single, rounded, unwrapped, smooth mouthpiece of 5/16” to 3/4” diameter metal as
 87 measured from ring to 1” in from the ring with a gradual decrease to the center of the snaffle. The rings may be from
 88 2” to 4” outside diameter of either the loose type, eggbutt, dee, or center mounted without cheeks. If a curb strap is
 89 used it must be attached below the reins. A hackamore includes a bosal rounded in shape and constructed of braided
 90 rawhide or leather and must have a flexible non-metallic core, attached to a suitable headstall. No other material of
 91 any kind is to be used in conjunction with the bosal, i.e., steel, metal, or chains (Exception: smooth, plastic electrical
 92 tape is acceptable if applied in a smooth, untwisted manner). Attached reins may be of hair, rope, or leather. Both
 93 hands must be visible to the judge. Two hands may be used on hackamore (Bosal) and Western snaffle reins.
- 94 c. Split reins or romal (closed) reins are equally acceptable. Only one hand may be used on reins and hands must not be
 95 changed except to negotiate an obstacle in a Trail Horse Class. While working a cow in herd work and Limited Reined
 96 Cow Horse, it is legal to hold the reins and the romal in one hand (rein hand), while doing so, the other hand may be
 97 used to hold the saddle horn. Hand to be around reins. When ends of split reins fall on side of reining hand, one finger
 98 between reins is permitted. When using romal or when ends of split reins are held in hand not used for reining, no
 99 finger between reins is allowed. Rider may hold romal or end of split reins to keep them from swinging and to adjust
 100 the position of the reins provided it is held with at least 16 inches of rein between the hands.
- 101 d. Rope, riata and/or hobbles are optional.
- 102 e. Hackamore bits, cavesson type nosebands, martingales, draw reins and tie-downs are prohibited.
- 103 g. Junior Horses competing in any non-Junior Horse Working Western class wearing a bridle may compete in any Junior
 104 Horse Working Western class wearing a hackamore or snaffle: i.e. a junior horse may compete in an open, amateur or

- 105 youth Working Western class in a bridle and return to compete in a Junior Horse Working Western class in a snaffle
 106 or hackamore.
- 107 h. Boots and/or bandages are permitted in Reining, Reined Cow Horse, Working Cow, Cutting, Ranch Horse Riding and
 108 Versatility Ranch Horse classes (exception VRH Ranch Conformation and VRH Ranch Trail).
- 109 i. The use of ‘two rein equipment’ is allowed in Two Rein Reined Cow Horse and all VRH classes. The purpose of the
 110 two-rein option is the transition between the hackamore and bridle and can be used on any aged horse in the above
 111 stated classes for one year only. The bit and bosal (also referred to as a bosalito) combination must be approved in
 112 accordance with NRCHA and or AHA rules, below.
- 113 1. In the two-rein class, bosals may be of any size, constructed of braided rawhide or leather and have a non-metal
 114 flexible core. No iron or foreign substance may be used. The rider must use one hand on the reins. Fingers between
 115 the reins will be permitted. Both mecate and bridle reins are to be held in the rein hand.
- 116 2. In two-rein classes the use of an approved bit with an approved bosal underneath the bridle in accordance with
 117 Rule ARWW.2.1 is required. Only one hand may be used on the reins and hands must not be changed. Any
 118 number of fingers between reins will be permitted.
- 119 j. When riding with a romal in RANCH and VRH CLASSES, a get down rope may be used. A get down rope is defined
 120 as a small rope tied around the neck of the horse with a bowline or other non-slip knot and run back to the rider or tied
 121 to the saddle. The get down will be used to lead, ground tie, or tie the horse. When ground-tying with split reins, one
 122 or both reins may be dropped, romal reins may be loosely draped over the horse when used with or without a get-
 123 down rope. Hobbles are allowed.
- 124 k. Saddle: Any standard stock saddle with a horn is required, but silver equipment will not count over a good working
 125 outfit. Tapaderos may not be used.
- 126 l. When exhibitor equipment failure causes a delay or a run to be discontinued, the judge will excuse the horse and the
 127 entry shall receive a zero score. Exception: In Ranch Rail Pleasure and Ranch Conformation a competitor is entitled
 128 to request one time out for a period not to exceed not to exceed five minutes in aggregate in order to make obvious
 129 adjustments, repair broken equipment, rectify a similar condition, or to replace a shoe. (refer to AR 108 for other time
 130 out rules).
- 131 **m. The use of illegal equipment shall result in a no score or eliminated from placing.**
- 132 2. WESTERN ATTIRE:
- 133 a. Riders shall wear Western hat, long-sleeved shirt with any type of collar, trousers or pants (one-piece long-sleeved
 134 equitation suit is acceptable provided it includes a collar); chaps, shotgun chaps, or chinks, and boots. A vest, jacket,
 135 coat, and/or sweater may also be worn. Competitors with incomplete/**illegal** attire shall receive a zero score.
 136 **Exception: in ranch rail and ranch conformation incomplete attire shall** or be eliminated from placing.
- 137 b. Spurs are optional at the discretion of the exhibitor; whips are not allowed except with side saddle. (See GR1310
 138 Dispensations.)
- 139 c. Horse/Exhibitor number - may place number on the left side, both sides of the saddle pad or on the rider’s back.
 140 Exception: Ranch Rail Pleasure, the number must be on the riders back or both sides of the pad. Horses shown without
 141 a number, or with a wrong number may be required to pay a \$25 fee at the discretion of show management.

143 **AR-WW.3 English Equipment and Attire (English Trail)**

- 144 1. TACK:
- 145 a. Bridle shall be light, show type; either snaffle (including full or half cheek), pelham, full bridle or kimberwick bit
 146 acceptable. Browband/cavessons are required. Drop nosebands are permissible in dressage attire.
- 147 b. Junior Horse classes require a snaffle bit. (Snaffle bit is defined as snaffle bit of at least 3/8” diameter as measured 1/2”
 148 from the ring. The snaffle bit may be jointed, double jointed or unjointed. For all junior horse performance classes, all
 149 snaffle bits must have a round, egg butt or “D” shaped ring with no attachments to the headstall or reins through a
 150 hook (except for keepers for a full cheek snaffle when section rules allow a full cheek). Full cheek (with or without
 151 keepers), Half cheek, French and Dr. Bristol snaffle bits are permitted).
- 152 c. Breastplate or breast collar is optional.
- 153 d. No martingales or tie-downs.
- 154 e. Type of English saddle is optional.
- 155 f. Whips, crops and spurs are optional.
- 156 When exhibitor equipment failure causes a delay or a run to be discontinued, the judge will excuse the horse and the
 157 entry shall receive a zero score.
- 158 2. ATTIRE:
- 159 a. Informal or formal Saddle Seat, Hunt, Show Hack, or Dressage attire is permissible. ~~Competitors with incomplete~~
 160 ~~attire shall be penalized at the judge’s discretion.~~ **Incomplete/illegal attire shall receive a zero score.**
- 161 b. ASTM Helmets are required for all English Trail classes. Per AR111 exhibitors may not enter the arena without
 162 protective headgear.

- 163 c. Horse/Exhibitor number – may place number on the left side, both sides of the saddle pad or on the rider’s back.
 164 Horses shown without a number, or with a wrong number may be required to pay a \$25 fee at the discretion of show
 165 management.

166 **AR-WW.4 In-Hand Trail**

167 1. HALTER:

- 169 a. Suitable halter (leather preferred with or without sliver trim), leather lead (preferred with or without a chain) to be
 170 used. If a chain is used with the lead, it must not be run through the horse’s mouth or over the horse’s nose.

171 2. ATTIRE:

- 172 a. ~~Western - refer to AR WW 2.2.a style – Western hat, long sleeve shirt or tunic, long pants, western boots.~~
 173 b. English – refer to AR WW 3.2.a
 174 c. ~~Optional – Western jacket, vest, belt, tie and gloves.~~
 175 d. ~~Hunter – hunt coat, breeches, hunt boots, hunt style shirt with collar. Optional: Hunt cap or helmet with harness, gloves~~
 176 e. ~~Saddle Seat – long sleeve shirt, long pants, vest, tie, paddock, or jodhpur boots. Optional: Derby or soft hat, saddle~~
 177 ~~suit, gloves~~
 178 f. ~~Dressage or Show Hack – Dressage coat or shadbelly dark conservative color, shirt with collar or stock tie, light or~~
 179 ~~white breeches, boots. Optional: helmet or top hat, gloves~~
 180 g. ~~Sport Horse/Halter – long sleeve shirt, long pants, shoes or boots. Optional: hat, gloves, vest sweater or jacket, tie~~
 181 c. Crop, whip, chaps, chinks, or spurs are not permitted. allowed.
 182 d. Competitors with incomplete/Illegal attire shall receive a zero score.
 183

184 **AR-WW.5 Gaits**

185 1. DEFINITIONS

- 186 a. The walk is a natural, flat-footed, four-beat gait. The horse must move straight and true at the walk. The walk must be
 187 alert, with a stride of reasonable length in keeping with the size of the horse.
 188 b. The jog is a smooth, ground-covering two-beat diagonal gait. The horse works from one pair of diagonals to the other
 189 pair. The jog should be square, balanced and with straight, forward movement of the feet. Horses walking with their
 190 back feet and trotting in the front are not considered performing the required gait. When asked to extend the jog, it
 191 moves out with the same smooth way of going.
 192 c. The lope is an easy, rhythmical three-beat gait. Horses moving to the left should lope on the left lead. Horses moving
 193 to the right should lope on the right lead. Horses traveling at a four-beat gait are not considered to be performing at a
 194 proper lope. The horse should lope with a natural stride and appear relaxed and smooth. It should be ridden at a speed
 195 that is a natural way of going. The head should be carried at an angle which is natural and suitable to the horse’s
 196 conformation at all gaits.

197 2. GAITS - RANCH CLASSES

198 In all gaits, movement of the ranch horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly, like
 199 that of a working ranch horse. The following terminology shall apply:

- 200 a. Walk - the walk is a natural, flat footed, four-beat gait. The gait is rhythmic and ground-covering. As in all gaits, the
 201 horse should display a level, or slightly above level topline with a bright, attentive expression.
 202 b. Extended Walk – the extended walk is an obvious lengthening of stride that will naturally increase the pace. The horse
 203 should move in a natural manner (not a running walk) as if it were moving across an open pasture.
 204 c. Trot- the trot is a natural two-beat gait demonstrating more forward motion than the western jog.
 205 d. Extended Trot- the extended trot is an obvious lengthening of the stride with a definite increase in pace. The horse
 206 should be moving in a manner as if it were covering a large area on a ranch with an above level topline.
 207 e. Lope- the lope is a three-beat gait. The lope should be relaxed and smooth with a natural, forward moving stride.
 208 f. Extended Lope- the extended lope is not a run or a race but should be an obvious lengthening of the stride,
 209 demonstrating a forward, working speed. The horse should display an above level topline with a bright, attentive
 210 expression.

211 3. JUDGING OF GAITS

212 There will be an order of priority for evaluating western gaits. This hierarchy of consideration must be adhered to by judges
 213 and will be a great aid to exhibitors for how their horses should be presented. Following are the requirements in order of
 214 importance.

- 215 a. Correctness-Concerning correctness, which is the most important element of the hierarchy, judges must assess if the
 216 exhibitor has performed each gait correctly as defined during all or the majority of all of the class in order to have a
 217 correct or positive evaluation. For western gaits, this includes a four-beat walk, two-beat jog and three-beat lope. The
 218 distinctness of the designated cadence for the gait being performed is essential.
 219 b. Quality-Concerning quality, which is the second most important element in the hierarchy and can only be considered
 220 positively if the gait performance has complied with the first element of correctness. When evaluating the pleasing

221 characteristics of a gait, among many considerations, judges must consider overall gracefulness, relaxed expression,
222 topline, softness of movement, consistency, and length of stride of the designated gait.

- 223 c. Degree of Difficulty-Concerning degree of difficulty, this is the least important and last element of the hierarchy. This
224 element must only be considered if the requirement for correctness has been met and combination of correctness and
225 quality allow the performance to be considered for placement. Difficulty is greatly influenced by exhibiting a pleasure
226 horse at a pace and speed that allows for correctness and best quality of a gait for that individual. A performance of a
227 walk that is ground covering and free flowing has a high degree of difficulty. A jog or lope that is performed with a
228 slow rhythm without sacrificing correct-ness or quality has a high degree of difficulty. Slowness that sacrifices
229 correctness or negatively impacts quality shall be considered incorrect and a poor performance at best.

230 AR-WW.6 - Conduct

- 231 1. The order of go will be drawn in a random manner (computer/electronically, shuffling cards, drawing numbers, etc.). When
232 the draw is determined manually:
- 233 a. The competition management shall announce to the exhibitors a specified time and place the drawing will occur. The
234 management will have numbers (one through the total number entered) equal to the number of horses entered in the
235 class.
- 236 b. At the announced specified time that the draw will take place, all exhibitors wishing to make their own draw will
237 assemble with the management. The management will call, in program order, the exhibitors with multiple horses to
238 draw first.
- 239 c. Exhibitors with multiple horses will not be back-to-back, where total number of horses entered will permit. If an
240 exhibitor with multiple horses draws back-to-back there will be a re-draw. The management will then call the
241 remaining exhibitors, in program order, to draw. When the number of horses in a class permits, riders with multiple
242 horses must be drawn with a minimum of two horses spread between runs.
- 243 d. No horse shall perform as the first horse in more than one class (go-around/section) per competition *in a specific*
244 *discipline* unless there are more classes than horses. If a horse is drawn up first for the second time, there will be a re-
245 draw.
- 246 e. The number drawn will be that exhibitor's order of go. NO CHANGES with the exception of a valid circumstance as
247 determined by the judge(s), and/or steward(s), and /or show management.
- 248 f. Management will draw for those exhibitors who do not appear for the announced drawing.
- 249 2. When the draw is determined by computer/electronically:
- 250 a. Exhibitors with multiple horses will not be back-to-back where the total number of horses entered will permit. When
251 the number of horses in a class permits, riders with multiple horses must be drawn with a minimum of two horses
252 spread between runs.
- 253 b. No horse shall perform as the first horse in more than one class (go-around/section) per competition unless there are
254 more classes than horses. The number drawn will be that exhibitors order of go. No changes with the exception of a
255 valid circumstance as determined by the judge(s), and/or steward(s), and/or show management.
- 256 3. The order of go will be posted at least one hour before the start of the class.
- 257 4. When specified patterns are required, patterns for each class must be posted at least one hour prior to the start of the class.
258 The posted pattern is to be followed unless a change becomes necessary due to safety considerations. If a pattern or course
259 is posted and publicly announced and there is a discrepancy between the posted and the announced pattern, the posted
260 pattern is to be followed.
- 261 5. Use of videotape. Videotape may be used by the judge(s) to review any entry's performance only in a class in which entries
262 perform individually. Videotaping of such classes is required at National Shows.
- 263 a. The videotape must be provided by an "official competition videographer," and the judge must have reason to believe
264 all horses have been videotaped.
- 265 b. Whether or not to review the videotape is the sole discretion of the judge(s), and the decision of the judge(s) in this
266 regard is non-protestable.
- 267 c. The judge's decision to review the videotaped performance must be made prior to announcing the official results of
268 the class.
- 269 d. If a judge decides to review any videotaped performance in a class, the official results of the class must be delayed
270 until after the review and a decision has been made.
- 271 e. Judges may not confer as to any penalty or maneuver score prior to submitting a score. If a major penalty (a penalty
272 which results in a no score, a 0, or a 5-point penalty or greater) is unclear, a judge will submit his/her score and ask
273 that the score be held, pending a conference and/or review of the official video at the earliest appropriate time. Should
274 the judges determine via conference or official video replay that a penalty was incurred, it should be applied. If,
275 however, no penalty occurred, the score will be announced as originally submitted. No judge shall be required to
276 change his/her score following a conference or official video replay. Each judge's decision is an individual call and
277 based on individual decision from a conference or official video replay. The use of official video equipment by the
278 judges is only permissible if the judge has reason to believe that all entries have been videotaped.

- 279 f. For reined cow horse and working cow horse classes, refer also to NRCHA. For all events at which multiple judges
 280 are utilized, major penalties must be reviewed in accordance with current NRHA rules for reining classes and current
 281 NRCHA rules for reined cow horse and cow horse classes. Similarly, major penalties must be reviewed for trail and
 282 ranch riding classes when there is a major penalty marked by at least one judge and at least one of the other judges
 283 did not. A major penalty shall be deemed a 0 score and all penalties 5 points or greater.
 284
 285

286 **AR-WW.7 - General Scoring**

- 287 1. It is mandatory that judges use the prescribed AHA score sheet for Reining, Working Cow, Reined Cow Horse, Cutting
 288 and all Ranch and VRH classes (exception Ranch Rail Pleasure and VRH Conformation), and Trail classes and it is
 289 mandatory that the score sheet (or a copy) be posted immediately after each class. Score sheets may be obtained by writing:
 290 AHA, 10805 E. Bethany Drive, Aurora, CO 80014 or score sheets may be downloaded at www.arabianhorses.org
 291 2. When a judge is adjudicating in a multiple judge system, the scores should be transferred to the ring steward or clerk in a
 292 manner that the other judges do not hear their score.
 293 3. In Working Western classes each individual judges scores and cumulative score are required to be announced. If a score
 294 is being held for review, this is announced instead of the score.
 295 a. When one judge is used, his score will place the class.
 296 b. When more than one judge is used, scores will be totaled to determine the placing of the class.
 297 c. When five judges are used, one high and one low score will be eliminated, and the remaining three scores will be
 298 totaled to determine the placing of the class.
 299 4. Ties for, Champion, and Reserve Champion, and any other placing requiring a work-off, will be broken by using the same
 300 pattern, order of go and scoring technique as was used in the event; however, there will not be more than one work off.
 301 a. Tied exhibitors can choose to forego a work-off and be named co-champions but must determine the winner of the
 302 awards by consensus or by a flip of a coin. If they do not agree, the exhibitor(s) who does not want to work-off will
 303 forfeit first place to the other. Prize money (if any) for the tied placing(s) involved will be added together and equally
 304 split between the respective exhibitors.
 305 b. Exhibitors disqualified in a work-off cannot be placed any lower than the lowest consecutive placing which results
 306 from breaking the tie.
 307 c. In all Working Western classes (except Reined Cow, Limited Reined Cow Horse Classes, and Reining Seat
 308 Equitation), ties for fifth in a Top 5 and tenth in a Top 10 or any tie, other than Champion or Reserve Champion, that
 309 may require being broken will be determined by the horse with the lowest “Total Penalty Points”. Should the tie
 310 persist, the tie shall then be broken by the highest maneuver/obstacle score of a predetermined maneuver or obstacle.
 311 If the tie continues to persist, then it shall require a work-off in accordance with AR-WW.7.4
 312 d. In Reined Cow and Limited Reined Cow Horse classes, ties shall be broken first by the highest score of the “Fence”
 313 or “Cow Work.” In Reining Seat Equitation, ties shall be broken first by the highest “Equitation” score. a. If a tie
 314 persists in Reined Cow, Limited Reined Cow, or Reining Seat Equitation, it shall then be broken by the horse with the
 315 lowest total penalty points. Should the tie persist, the tie shall then be broken by the highest maneuver/obstacle score
 316 of a predetermined maneuver or obstacle. If a tie continues to persist it shall require a work-off in accordance with
 317 AR-WW.7.4
 318 e. Ties for any placing in a non-championship class will be determined by the horse with the lowest “Total Penalty
 319 Points”. Should the tie persist, the tie shall then be broken by the highest maneuver/obstacle score of a predetermined
 320 maneuver or obstacle. If the tie continues to persist all horses tied will stand tied, prize money (if any) for the placings
 321 involved will be added together and equally split between the respective exhibitors.
 322 f. In classes with multi go-rounds, ties will be broken in accordance with AR-WW.7.4.a, b, and c utilizing the Total
 323 Penalty Points and/or maneuver/obstacle score of the “Final” go-round.
 324 g. In classes with five judges, ties will be broken in accordance with AR-WW.7.4.a,b,c, and e utilizing the Total Penalty
 325 Points and/or maneuver/obstacle scores of only the judges’ scores utilized in the final go-round.
 326 h. If a mathematical error on a score sheet is discovered, it must be brought to the attention of the competition
 327 management.
 328 i. A class will be complete, and the posted scores will be considered “official” thirty minutes following the last class of
 329 the day.
 330 j. In Working Western classes where there is more than one go-round, all horses will compete in both go-rounds. The
 331 top horses will then return for the Final go-round. The order of go shall be drawn for all sections. Scores will be
 332 accumulative through the Final class. Champion and Reserve Champion, Top Five and Top Ten will be determined
 333 by total accumulated score of all works. Ties will be broken in accordance with AR-WW.7.4 AR210.4. BOD 6/28/21
 334 *Effective 12/1/21*
 335

336 **AR-WW.8 - Reining**

- 337 1. General

RESOLUTION 13 – 22

- 338 The Arabian Reining Horse section shall be conducted in accordance with the current NRHA Handbook for class conduct,
339 judging, specific scoring and patterns as modified by the following Arabian rules. Where the Arabian rules are silent,
340 NRHA rules prevail.
- 341 a. There is no restriction on the number of horses a rider may show in a class.
 - 342 b. Exception to NRHA rules see AR-WW.1.2
 - 343 1. 10-point penalty: Unnatural Arabian appearance (Horse's tail is obviously and consistently carried in an unnatural
344 manner in every maneuver)
 - 345 c. Arabian breed restricted competitions that offer reining classes, but are not licensed as a Reining competition, are not
346 required to have video instant replay available to the judges. (Exception: Video Instant Replay is required at National
347 level competitions).
 - 348 d. Equipment checks are to be conducted either by the (call) judge prior to leaving the arena or by the Steward
349 immediately outside of the performance arena after the run.
 - 350 e. Patterns must be posted.
- 351 2. Reining Horse Patterns - Judges must choose from patterns in the current NRHA Handbook.
- 352 3. Reining Horse Class Specifications
- 353 a. OPEN, AMATEUR, LADIES, GENTLEMEN, JUNIOR HORSE, HACKAMORE (BOSAL). Exhibitors to perform
354 a pattern from NRHA Handbook, as instructed by the judge.
 - 355 b. To be held following NRHA definitions. Placings in the Non-Pro Divisions do not affect eligibility in the Open
356 Section.
 - 357 1. Open- Follows NRHA Open Criteria excluding NRHA Membership or eligible as an AHA Member to compete
358 in Open Reining classes.
 - 359 2. Intermediate Open- Follows NRHA Open Rider criteria excluding NRHA Membership or rider who has not
360 received more than the specified number of AHA National Achievement points in the Reining Section.
 - 361 3. Limited Open-Follows NRHA Limited Open Rider criteria excluding NRHA Membership or rider who has not
362 received more than the specified number of AHA National Achievement points in the Reining Section.
 - 363 4. Non-Pro- Follows NRHA Non-Pro criteria (excluding NRHA Membership) or any amateur rider with a valid
364 AHA Competition Card.
 - 365 5. Intermediate Non-Pro- Follows NRHA Intermediate Rider criteria excluding NRHA Membership) or rider who
366 has not received more than the specified number of AHA National Achievement points in the Reining Section.
 - 367 6. Limited Non-Pro- Follows NRHA Limited Rider criteria (excluding NRHA Membership) or rider who has not
368 received more than the specified number of AHA National Achievement points in the Reining Section.
 - 369 7. Rookie Non-Pro rider - Follows NRHA Rookie Level 1 Rider criteria (excluding NRHA Membership) or amateur
370 rider who has not received more than the specified number of AHA National Achievement points in the Reining
371 Section.
 - 372 8. Primetime Non-Pro Rider- amateur rider must be at least 50 years of age as of December 1st. The Primetime rider
373 must also be entered in one or more of the above classes.
 - 374 c. Short Stirrup Reining 10 & under.
 - 375 1. Open to Exhibitors 10 years old and under as of December 1st of the current competition year.
 - 376 2. Riders are allowed to choose the size and speed of the circles. Excessive speed will result in maneuver deduction.
 - 377 3. There will be no penalty for holding the saddle with either hand.
 - 378 4. The rider may ride with standard reins, or with any type of closed reins and may ride with one or two hands on
379 the reins any time during the class.
 - 380 5. This class is to be run with any current NRHA Short Stirrup pattern.

AR-WW.9 - Western / English / In-Hand Trail

- 383 1. A Trail horse is one that can maneuver through a course of obstacles with physical skill, expression and a good mental
384 attitude. It should travel through and between obstacles with an inquisitive desire to go forward without compromising its
385 calm, relaxed attitude, and way of going. It should approach each obstacle squarely with authority and correct form, with
386 its own style, yet maintaining its willingness to be dictated to completely by the rider/handler with no apparent resistance.
387 Maximum credit should be given to the trail horse that negotiates its way through an entire course efficiently, in a timely
388 manner, without excessive hesitation, with curiosity, expression, smoothness and style; in a manner that raises the degree
389 of difficulty without sacrificing carefulness, control, and/ or attitude. Ultimately, the trail horse is skillful, eye appealing,
390 confident, and leaves one with the impression of being sure, safe and a pleasure to ride over a course of obstacles.
- 391 2. All entered exhibitors will be allowed to walk and inspect the course with the judge and with the course designer, if present,
392 prior to the start of the class. In amateur and junior exhibitor classes, exhibitors may be accompanied by their trainer.
 - 393 3. No time outs will be allowed.
 - 394 4. The order of go to be drawn.

- 395 5. If at any time the trail obstacle is found to be unsafe, it must be repaired or removed from the course. If it cannot be repaired
396 and horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle shall be deducted. No horse shall be asked to repeat the
397 course, except in the case of a tie.
- 398 6. The course must be posted at least twelve (12) hours before the scheduled starting time for the class. Exception: one (1)
399 hour at AHA Value Shows and twenty-four (24) hours at Regional and National Championship Shows. At Show
400 management's discretion, patterns may be posted on-line up to 30 days prior to a show.
- 401 7. There shall be a minimum of six (6) obstacles and a maximum of ten (10) obstacles on any course. (Exception: National
402 Championship classes have no maximum number of obstacles).
- 403 8. The judge may alter the course prior to the course walk.
- 404 9. Trail Horse - Under Saddle
- 405 a. Trail classes may be offered for Western or English, but the two styles are not to be combined into one class at any
406 time as there are distinct differences.
- 407 b. There is no rail work. The course must be designed to require each horse to show all three (3) gaits, (walk, jog/trot at
408 least thirty (30) feet, lope/canter right and left lead) somewhere between and/or over obstacles as part of its work, and
409 quality of movement and cadence should be considered as part of the obstacle score. Unnecessary delays while
410 approaching or negotiating an obstacle shall be penalized.
- 411 c. ASTM Helmets are required for all English Trail classes.
- 412 10. Trail Horse - In-hand
- 413 a. In-hand trail classes may be offered for Western and English styles which may be combined.
- 414 b. Judges should consider the overall appearance of the horse, conditioning, grooming and the equipment in the overall
415 score. Also, to be considered is the correctness of the horse while being led. For safety reasons, those handlers
416 continuously holding the chain on the lead, tightly coiling the lead shank around the hand, or dragging the lead shank
417 must be penalized.
- 418 c. There is no rail work. To include a walk and jog/trot of suitable duration to determine the way of going.
- 419 d. Management is encouraged to design courses that can be negotiated in ninety (90) seconds.
- 420 11. Trail Course Designers
- 421 a. It is recommended that a Course Designer be contracted for all competitions and his/her name appears in the prize list.
422 It is recommended that the Course Designer be always present and available to the trail arena during the trail classes.
- 423 b. It is required that a Course Designer, separate from one of the judges, be contracted at every National Championship
424 Competition and his/her name appears in the prize list. At National Competitions, the Course Designer must be always
425 present and available to the trail arena during the trail classes.
- 426 c. The Course Designer may judge (except at AHA National Championship competitions) or be an official.
- 427 d. At the Regional and National level, Neither the Course Designer nor a member of his/her family may be a trainer,
428 coach, exhibitor, or rider in classes which he/she designs.
- 429 e. The Course Designer must supply the judges and office with copies of the trail courses each day, to comply with
430 course posting requirements.
- 431 f. The Course Designer must be a Federation/EC Senior Member in good standing.
- 432 12. Trail Definitions
- 433 a. Knockdown: When any component, element, or portion of an obstacle is displaced from its original position-by horse
434 or rider/handler.
- 435 b. Refusal: Any action taken by the horse to avoid performing an obstacle, part of a combination of obstacles or portion
436 of a trail course. These actions may include, but are not limited to the following:
- 437 1. Balking: (Any action that results in a horse blatantly and continuously refusing a rider's/handler's command).
- 438 2. Evading or running past an obstacle to be negotiated.
- 439 3. Each complete loss of the gate determined by the entry letting go of gate or dropping a rope gate.
- 440 4. Any blatant action by the horse that demonstrates an unwillingness to approach, negotiate and/or complete an
441 obstacle
- 442 5. At the judge's discretion or when a judge has deemed three (3) refusals have occurred at an obstacle the exhibitor
443 will proceed to the next obstacle. (In multiple judging situations the call judge will determine when to instruct the
444 exhibitor to proceed to the next obstacle.) Any time a judge instructs an exhibitor to proceed to the next obstacle,
445 a five (5) point penalty will apply for being asked to move to another obstacle and as such is not in accordance
446 with course direction. This penalty is in addition to the two (2) five (5) point penalties received for refusals or
447 blatant disobedience for a total of three (3) five (5) point penalties.
- 448 c. Off Course:
- 449 1. Taking an obstacle in the wrong direction.
- 450 2. Deliberately failing to enter, exit, or work obstacle from correct side or direction.
- 451 3. Negotiating an obstacle in the wrong sequence including skipping an obstacle unless directed by the judge.
- 452 4. Not following the correct line of travel (i.e. the drawn pattern and Judge's instruction/direction).

- 453 5. Pulling gate when designated to push in course directions (or vice versa) or when using a rope gate, walking
 454 through gate when designated to back through (or vice versa).
 455 6. Sidepassing the wrong end of a horse in slot.
 456 7. Riding or leading outside designated boundary marker of the course.
 457 13. Trail Obstacle Mandatory Dimensions - All elevated poles must be in a pole holder e.g., trail blocks, trail risers, standard
 458 jump cups or similar type supports. The judge has the right to alter the course.
 459 1. WALK-OVERS
 460 a. Single Poles: Maximum height 16". In-Hand: Maximum height 12"
 461 b. Multiples: Maximum height 10". In-Hand: Maximum height 8"
 462 c. Minimum width between poles 20" to 24" or multiples thereof, between poles is generally considered good
 463 spacing for walkovers, depending upon difficulty desired. No rolling poles
 464 2. LOPE OVERS WESTERN (not allowed In-Hand)
 465 For lope overs, a distance of 6' - 6'6" is preferred.
 466 3. CANTER OVERS ENGLISH (not allowed In-Hand)
 467 Canter overs: 6'6" to 7'6" apart- 6'6" – 7' is preferable for most English horses.
 468 4. JUMPS
 469 (Note: ASTM helmets are not required for Western trail classes with jump obstacles. ASTM Helmets are required for
 470 all under saddle English Trail classes.)
 471 a. Mounted: Maximum height 24"
 472 b. Amateur and Junior to ride classes mounted, must be cross rails and may not exceed 18"). The height of a cross
 473 rail shall be measured at the top of the center of the intersection of the poles. The height of the jump cups should
 474 be set so the angle of the poles does not exceed approximately 30 degrees. c. Lead Over: Maximum height 12"
 475 c. Minimum width between standards of a jump: 4 feet
 476 d. Combinations: 12 feet for a one stride; 6 feet for a no stride
 477 e. Box Jumps and L Jumps: Poles must be at least 12 feet long.
 478 5. JOG OVERS WESTERN
 479 Jog overs: 3 feet to 3'6" apart or multiples thereof (space is measured between poles)
 480 6. TROT OVERS ENGLISH
 481 Trot overs: 3'6" to 4' apart (space is measured between poles). 3'6' feet is preferred for most English horses.
 482 7. TROT/JOG OVERS IN-HAND
 483 Single or Multiples: In-Hand Maximum height 6"
 484 8. BACK THROUGHHS
 485 a. On ground: 36" between Min.
 486 b. Elevated: 40" between Min.
 487 c. Barrels: 42" between Min.
 488 9. SIDE PASSES
 489 a. Single pole: Up to 24" high. In-Hand Trail up to 6"
 490 b. Slots: Never closer than 36" wide (space is measured between poles).
 491 10. SERPENTINES (jog arounds)
 492 a. Cones 8 feet apart (base to base) minimum. Guardrails, if used, should be 6 feet(minimum) to either side of the
 493 cones.
 494 (Note: If tall standards are used, dimensions should be looser)
 495 11. GATE
 496 Approximately 60" high with latch available at that height. (Exception: In-Hand Trail gate must be operable by all
 497 handlers). May be a fixed/hinged gate or rope gate.
 498 12. BRIDGE -Suggested (not mandatory) dimensions:
 499 a. Bridges must be built of sturdy design non-slip surface and a bridge should be approximately 3' wide and
 500 approximately 6' long. Any bridge deemed to be unsafe by the judge must be altered or removed.
 501 b. minimum of 36" wide
 502 c. minimum of 6' long
 503 d. no higher than 12"
 504 13. ANY OTHER MANEUVERS: Figure horse's wheelbase at five feet front hooves to back hooves.
 505 14. UNACCEPTABLE OBSTACLES
 506 a. Live Animals
 507 b. Hides
 508 c. PVC poles
 509 d. Dismounting
 510 e. Rocking or moving bridges
 511 f. Water box with floating or moving parts

- 512 g. Flames, dry ice, fire extinguisher, etc.
- 513 h. Logs or poles elevated in a manner that permits such to roll
- 514 i. Tarps are prohibited to be used within an obstacle, defined as where the entry will be expected to walk, jog, lope
- 515 or back. They can be used for decorative purposes but must be secured.
- 516 j. Hay bales
- 517 k. Rolling Poles

518 14. Trail Scoring General

- 519 a. All horses enter the arena with a score of 70. With each obstacle, the judge will instruct a scribe to assign a score as
- 520 well as any appropriate penalties if one or more occurs. At the end of the work, obstacle scores will be totaled. Any
- 521 penalties will then be subtracted to arrive at a final score. All horses are judged from the time they enter the arena until
- 522 the completion of the last obstacle.
- 523 b. Judge(s) may review official video (if available) on no score, zero, 10 point, or 5 point penalties only. Refer to
- 524 AR208.4 (Video review is solely the judge(s) decision.)
- 525 c. Each obstacle will be scored as follows: Half point increments can be used from +3 to -3.
- 526 **+3 EXCELLENT:** The horse approaches and negotiates obstacle in correct form with definite style. The horse
- 527 performs in an efficient manner with curiosity and athleticism, while maintaining the qualities of an ideal trail horse.
- 528 The horse's performance over the obstacle is **VISUALLY IMPRESSIVE.**
- 529 **+2 VERY GOOD:** The horse approaches and negotiates obstacle in correct form with noticeable style. This horse
- 530 displays many qualities of the ideal trail horse. The horse's performance over the obstacle is **VISUALLY**
- 531 **ATTRACTIVE.**
- 532 **+1 GOOD:** The horse approaches and negotiates obstacle in correct form with some degree of style. This horse may
- 533 display some qualities of the ideal trail horse but lacks those qualities to the degree they are exhibited by the Very
- 534 Good or Excellent performer. The horse's performance over the obstacle is **VISUALLY PLEASING.**
- 535 **0 AVERAGE:** For the most part, horse approaches and negotiates obstacle in correct form. Minimal style is exhibited.
- 536 If the horse's performance displays any qualities of the ideal trail horse, they are negated by slight errors in form. The
- 537 horse's performance over the obstacle leaves a visually **NEUTRAL IMPRESSION.**
- 538 **-1 POOR:** The horse fails in some way to approach and/or negotiate obstacle in correct form. There is a noticeable
- 539 void in some of the qualities of the ideal trail horse. Willingness to guide or control may have been compromised but
- 540 not safety.
- 541 **-2 VERY POOR:** The horse approaches and negotiates obstacle, but noticeably fails to do so in correct form. There
- 542 is a definite deficiency in the qualities of the ideal trail horse. Safety may have been compromised. The horse exhibits
- 543 noticeable resistance.
- 544 **-3 EXTREMELY POOR:** The horse approaches and/or negotiates obstacle in unacceptable form but avoids
- 545 elimination. This horse's performance is probably reckless, careless, and/or dangerous. The horse exhibits significant
- 546 resistance towards the rider's commands.

547 15. Scoring Procedures

- 548 a. The class conduct and scoring system procedures stated herein shall be used in adjudication of all Trail classes in the
- 549 Arabian division. Competition Management shall provide scribe(s) at judge(s) request.
- 550 b. When a judge is adjudicating in a multiple judge system, the scores should be transferred to the ring steward or clerk
- 551 in a manner that the other judges do not hear their score.
- 552 c. All individual judges of Trail classes are required to announce the score of each horse immediately following the
- 553 horse's work and prior to the work of the subsequent horse. If a score is being held for review, this is announced
- 554 instead of the score.
- 555 1. When one judge is used, their score will place the class.
- 556 2. When more than one judge is used, scores will be totaled to determine the placing of the class.
- 557 3. When five judges are used, one high and one low score will be eliminated, and the remaining three scores will be
- 558 totaled to determine the placing of the class.
- 559 d. The prescribed AHA score sheet must be used. Obstacle scores and any penalties will be totaled to arrive at a final
- 560 score.
- 561 e. Score sheets must be posted.
- 562 f. For method of breaking ties in Trail classes see AR-WW.6.4. In the event of a further tie, refer to the order of the
- 563 judges' cards (i.e., #1, #2, #3).
- 564 g. Judge(s) may review official video (if available) on no score, zero, 10 point, or 5 point penalties only. Refer to AR204
- 565 (Video review is solely the judge(s) decision.)

566 16. Scoring Penalties

- 567 1. **NO SCORE**
- 568 a. Illegal equipment. (AR144). This includes any attachment which alters the movement of or circulation to the tail.
- 569 b. Abuse to the animal inside or outside the competition arena and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred.
- 570 This includes lameness and/or fresh blood in the mouth, chin, shoulder, barrel, flank, or hip areas.

- 571 c. Disrespect or misconduct by exhibitor.
 572 d. No whips allowed in In-Hand Trail.
 573 2. **Disqualified 0 - Score**
 574 a. Use of two hands (except snaffle bit or hackamore classes designated for two hands) or changing hands on reins;
 575 except for junior horses shown with hackamore or snaffle bit, only one hand may be used on the reins, except that
 576 it is permissible to change hands to work an obstacle as outlined in Art. 144, or to straighten reins when stopped
 577 (Exception: Does not apply for English Trail or In-Hand Trail.)
 578 b. Failure to maintain 16" of rein between hands. (Exception: Does not apply to English Trail or In-Hand Trail.)
 579 c. No attempt to perform an obstacle.
 580 d. Equipment failure that delays completion of pattern excessively or repeatedly touching the horse on the neck to
 581 lower the head.
 582 e. Entering or exiting an obstacle from the incorrect side or direction.
 583 f. Working obstacle, the incorrect direction; including overturns of more than 1/4 turn.
 584 g. Riding outside designated boundary marker of the arena or course area.
 585 h. Failure to ever demonstrate correct gait as designated.
 586 i. Failure to follow the correct line of travel between obstacles excessive schooling, pulling, turning, stepping or
 587 backing anywhere on course.
 588 j. Baiting is not allowed in In-Hand Trail.
 589 3. **10 POINT PENALTIES**
 590 a. Unnatural Arabian appearance (Horse's tail is obviously and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every
 591 maneuver)
 592 4. **5 POINT PENALTIES**
 593 a. Dropping slicker or object required to be carried on course, each refusal (three refusals move to the next obstacle),
 594 balk, or evading an obstacle by shying or backing.
 595 b. Letting go of gate or dropping rope gate.
 596 c. Use of either hand to instill fear or praise.
 597 d. Falling or jumping off or out of a bridge or water box with more than one foot once the horse has got onto or into
 598 the obstacle.
 599 e. Stepping outside of the confines of an obstacle with designated boundaries (i.e. back through, 360 degree box,
 600 side pass) with more than one foot once the horse has entered the obstacle.
 601 f. Missing or evading a pole that is a part of a series of an obstacle with more than one foot.
 602 g. Blatant disobedience (including kicking out, bucking, rearing, striking).
 603 h. Holding saddle with either hand (EXCEPTION: Jumps, Elevated Lope Overs, or Elevated Jog Overs).
 604 i. Handler touching the horse with either hand in In-Hand unless instructed by the judge, course designer or
 605 performing a side pass.
 606 j. Performing entire obstacle on the wrong lead.
 607 5. **3 POINT PENALTIES**
 608 a. Incorrect or break of gait at walk or jog for more than two strides.
 609 b. Approaching an obstacle at the wrong gait or lead.
 610 c. Out of lead or break of gait at lope (except when correcting an incorrect lead.)
 611 d. Knocking down an elevated pole, cone, barrel, plant, obstacle, or severely disturbing an obstacle.
 612 e. Falling or jumping off or out of a bridge or water box with one foot once the horse has got onto or into that
 613 obstacle stepping outside of the confines of an obstacle with designated boundaries (i.e., back through, 360-degree
 614 box, side pass) with one foot once the horse has entered the obstacle. Missing or evading a pole that is part of a
 615 series of an obstacle with one foot.
 616 6. **1 POINT PENALTIES**
 617 a. Each hard hit, bite, or stepping on a log, cone, plant, or a component of the obstacle.
 618 b. Incorrect or break of gait at walk or jog for two strides or less: both front or hind feet in a single-strided slot or
 619 space at a walk or jog.
 620 c. Skipping over or failing to step into required space; split pole in lope-over.
 621 d. Incorrect number of strides, if specified.
 622 17. Class Specifications
 623 1. Under Saddle
 624 a. OPEN, AMATEUR, LADIES, GENTLEMEN.
 625 b. JUNIOR HORSE (See AR132.1. a, AR136.1. a, AR144.2. b and DR121).
 626 c. GREEN: A Green Trail Horse is a horse of any age in its first or second competition year showing in any under
 627 saddle trail class at AHA/Federation/EC competition.
 628 2. In-Hand
 629 a. OPEN, AMATEUR, JUNIOR EXHIBITOR.

- 630 b. Weanlings, Yearlings, Two-year-old's, Two & under, Three & over.
- 631 c. Colts, Stallions, Fillies, Mares, and Geldings.
- 632 18. Walk-Trot/Jog Trail Class Requirements
- 633 a. Riders may not be more than ten years of age as of December 1 of the current competition year. Horse and rider must
- 634 follow the appointments as set forth in AR-WW.2 for Western Walk/Jog Trail and AR-WW.3 for English Walk/Trot
- 635 Trail. The rider must never have been judged in a class at a Licensed Competition that required a canter or lope.
- 636 Exception: Short Stirrup Reining Riders and Cross Rails 10 & Under.
- 637 b. Acceptable Obstacles:
- 638 1. WALK-OVERS – Where consecutive poles exist, no more than 2 may be elevated with a maximum height of 8".
- 639 Minimum width between poles 20" to 24" or multiples thereof, between poles is generally considered good
- 640 spacing for walkovers, depending upon difficulty desired. No rolling poles
- 641 2. JOG-OVERS WESTERN - No elevated poles. Jog overs: 3 feet to 3'6" apart or multiples thereof (space is
- 642 measured between poles)
- 643 3. TROT-OVERS ENGLISH – No elevated poles. Trot overs: 3'6" to 4' apart (space is measured between poles).
- 644 3'6" feet is preferred for most English horses.
- 645 4. Serpentine – Walk Around – No more than 5 consecutive cones.
- 646 a. Western Trail Walk/Jog-minimum 6 feet apart (base to base). Guardrails, if used, should be 4 to 5 feet to
- 647 either side of the cones.
- 648 b. English Trail Walk/Trot-minimum 8' feet apart (base to base). Guardrails, if used, should be 5 to 6 feet to
- 649 either side of the pylons.
- 650 5. Serpentine – Jog or Trot Around – No more than 5 consecutive cones
- 651 a. Western Trail Walk/Jog-minimum of 10 feet apart (base to base). Guardrails, if used, should be 8 to 10 feet
- 652 on either side of cones.
- 653 b. English Trail Walk/Trot-minimum of 12 feet apart (base to base). Guardrails, if used, should be 10 to 12 feet
- 654 on either side of cones.
- 655 6. Open Gates – The actual opening and closing of a gate may not be negotiated, however, simulation of doing so
- 656 by touching gate standards is encouraged. A single non-elevated walk over pole may be placed in the "open" gate.
- 657 7. Bridge – A safe unobstructed bridge (no poles or obstacles on the bridge) Bridges should be of sturdy design with
- 658 a non-slip surface.
- 659 a. Minimum 40" wide
- 660 b. Minimum 6 feet long
- 661 c. Maximum 8" in height
- 662 8. Straight Back Through – of reasonable width 42" or greater.
- 663 9. Turns of 90 or 180 degrees within a box or confined area no smaller than 8' x 8'; 270 or 360 degrees within a box
- 664 or confined area of no less than 10' x 10'.
- 665 10. Prohibited Obstacles:
- 666 a. Water
- 667 b. Water boxes (empty)
- 668 c. Drags
- 669 d. Pick-up object
- 670 e. Closed gates
- 671 f. Side pass

AR-WW.10 - Working Cow Horse

- 674 1. General
- 675 These classes will be held in accordance with the National Reined Cow Horse Association (NRCHA) rules for class
- 676 conduct, judging, specific scoring and patterns as modified by the following Arabian Rules. Where Arabian Rules are
- 677 silent, NRCHA rules prevail. Refer to Chapter 6 Broken Equipment, Chapter 15 Self Adjusted Monitor System, Chapter
- 678 17 Scoring, Chapter 19 Judging for herd work, reined work, and cow work, and Chapter 22 Judges Score Sheet regarding
- 679 working cow and reined cow horse classes held at licensed competitions. For further information regarding the conduct of
- 680 Working Cow competitions, contact the NRCHA, 13181 US Highway 177, Byars, OK 74831; (580) 759-4949 phone;
- 681 www.nrcha.com.
- 682 2. Exceptions and Notes: The working cow horse class consists of only the cow work.
- 683 a. See AR-WW.2 for Appointments.
- 684 b. See AR105.6 for inhumane treatment and undue stress.
- 685 c. See AR-WW.7 for scoring Working Cow classes with more than one go-round and for breaking ties.
- 686 d. See AR-WW.1.2 10-Point Penalty: Unnatural Arabian appearance (Horse's tail is obviously and consistently carried
- 687 in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)
- 688 3. Working Cow Horse classes consist of only the cow work (fence work).

- 689 a. No reining patterns: only the fence work (boxing, turns on the fence and circling).
 690 4. Working Cow Horse Class Specifications
 691 a. BITTED, HACKAMORE (BOSAL), For competitions offering only one Working Cow Horse class, bitted and
 692 hackamore horses shall compete together. Dry work will not be required.
 693 b. OPEN, AMATEUR, LADIES, GENTLEMEN, JUNIOR HORSE classes may be offered.
 694 **AR-WW.11 - Reined Cow Horse and Herd Work**
 695 1. General
 696 These classes will be held in accordance with the National Reined Cow Horse Association (NRCHA) rules for class
 697 conduct, judging, specific scoring and patterns as modified by the following Arabian Rules. Where Arabian Rules are
 698 silent, NRCHA rules prevail. Refer to Chapter 6 Broken Equipment, Chapter 17 Scoring, Chapter 19 Judging for herd
 699 work, reined work, and cow work, Chapter 20 Patterns, Chapter 21 Pattern Description (Maneuvers) and Chapter 22 Judges
 700 Score Sheet regarding working cow classes held at licensed competitions. For further information regarding the conduct
 701 of Reined Cow classes contact the NRCHA, 13181 US Highway 177, Byars, OK 74831; (580) 759-4949 phone;
 702 www.nrcha.com. Exceptions:
 703 a. See AR-WW.2 for Appointments.
 704 b. See AR105.6 for inhumane treatment and undue stress.
 705 c. See AR-WW.1.2 10-Point Penalty: Unnatural Arabian appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried
 706 in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)
 707 d. See AR-WW5.5. f for scoring Reined Cow Horse and Herd Work classes with more than one go-round and for
 708 breaking ties.
 709 e. The Reined Cow Horse classes consist of the reined work (dry pattern) and fence work (cow work).
 710 1. Reined work (dry work) patterns (NRCHA patterns) must be posted.
 711 2. Boxing/Limited Reined Cow Horse consists of the reined work (dry pattern) and the boxing phase only of the
 712 cow work.
 713 3. Box – Drive Classes consist of the reined work (dry pattern) and the required cow work which is Box, drive, box,
 714 drive in that order.
 715 4. Herd Work may be run as a stand-alone class or may be incorporated as a 3rd phase of a Reined Cow Horse
 716 Futurity or Bridle Spectacular, Hackamore Spectacular or Two Rein Spectacular.
 717 2. Classes
 718 1. Reined Cow Horse class
 719 a. The Reined Cow Horse class consists of two mandatory phases, the reined work and the cow work (boxing, fence
 720 turns and circling in that order). Each phase will have equal bearing and the final placings will be determined by
 721 the total of both scores (Exception: Boxing/Limited Rein Cow Horse).
 722 b. In cases of ties for first place the entry with the highest cow work score will prevail. If the cow work scores are
 723 identical, the tied entries for first place will work off with an additional cow work. All ties for other than first
 724 place will remain tied for points and prize money purposes and riders will flip for ribbons. Horses receiving a
 725 zero score in one phase and a score in the other are eligible for placing. Horses receiving a zero in both phases or
 726 a no score in either or both phases are ineligible for placing.
 727 2. Boxing class
 728 a. Boxing consists of a NRCHA Reined Cow Horse reining pattern and showing the ability to hold a single cow
 729 (boxing) on the end of the arena. This class introduces the rider to the boxing phase of the cow work. Judging
 730 begins when the contestant enters the arena. Schooling is not permitted between the completion of the rein work
 731 and the cow work, or between cows if a new cow is awarded. The penalty is a score of zero. Each contestant upon
 732 receiving a cow in the arena, shall hold that cow on the prescribed end of the arena for 50 seconds, demonstrating
 733 the ability of the horse and rider to control the cow. It is legal to hold the reins and romal in one hand (rein hand)
 734 while boxing the cow. Time must begin when the gate closes behind the cow after being let into the arena. The
 735 announcer or judge shall signal the completion of the 50 seconds with a whistle or horn. The horse must be scored
 736 using the “limited cow work scoring guidelines”.
 737 3. Box Drive class
 738 a. The goal of this class is to introduce the rider to the “fence work” phase of the cow work.
 739 b. The Box Drive class consists of a NRCHA Reined Cow Horse reining pattern and four parts to the cow work.
 740 c. The horse will be scored using the Box Drive scoring guidelines.
 741 d. Judging begins when the contestant enters the arena.
 742 e. There shall be no schooling between entering the arena and the completion of the cow work, or between cows if
 743 a new cow is awarded. The penalty for this is 0.
 744 f. The required pattern for the cow work is: box, drive, box, drive, in that order.
 745 **A. Part One - Box:** At the start of the work, each contestant, upon receiving a cow in the arena, shall hold that
 746 cow on the prescribed end of the arena for a sufficient time to demonstrate the ability of the horse to contain the

747 cow at that end. If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the rider shall aggressively move in on the
748 cow to demonstrate his horse’s ability to drive and block the cow on the entry fence.

749 **B. Part Two - Drive:** After a reasonable amount of time, the contestant shall set up and drive/rate the cow down
750 the fence, opposite fence of the judges, to the opposite end of the arena. When coming out of corner, the horse
751 shall be close enough to the cow to demonstrate control with the cow against the fence. This distance and control
752 should be maintained for approximately 1/2 to 3/4 the length of arena. Upon reaching the opposite end of the
753 arena, the rider will then stop the horse square or parallel to the fence, without making a fence turn, and release
754 the cow.

755 **C. Part Three - Box:** Move horse toward center of arena to set the cow up for boxing. Again, box the cow for
756 a sufficient time to demonstrate the ability of the horse to contain the cow at that end. If the cow does not
757 immediately challenge the horse, the rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate his horse’s ability
758 to drive and block the cow on the entry fence.

759 **D. Part Four - Drive:** After a reasonable amount of time, the contestant shall set up and drive/rate the cow
760 down the fence, opposite fence of the judges, to the opposite end of the arena. When coming out of corner, the
761 horse shall be close enough to the cow to demonstrate control with the cow against the fence. This distance and
762 control should be maintained past the center marker and continue until the judge signifies the competition of the
763 run or time expires. The rider will then stop the horse square or parallel to the fence, without making a fence turn,
764 and release the cow.

765 g. Time Limit / Terminating the Work -Each contestant is allotted one minute and forty-five seconds to complete the
766 four-part cow pattern work.

- 767 1. The judge may blow his/her whistle once at any time during the work to terminate it.
- 768 2. If at any time a judge feels that the contestant is out of control endangering themselves and/or the horse, the
769 judge may terminate the work, and a zero score will be given.
- 770 3. Exhibitors are not required to use the allotted time to complete the pattern.
- 771 4. Time shall begin when the gate closes behind the cow after being let into the arena. When there are 30
772 seconds left, the announcer will announce “30 seconds” remaining and at one minute and forty-Five seconds,
773 the announcer will call for “time.”
- 774 5. Judging ends when the exhibitor drives the cow past the middle marker the second time, judge ends the run
775 with a whistle/horn or the allotted time ends, whichever occurs first.

776 4. Herd Work - Judging will begin at the timeline. The contes- tant shall approach the herd with no hesitation, weaving
777 or reluctance on the part of the horse to enter the herd sufficiently deep enough to show his ability to make a cut. The
778 horse shall work quietly, but alertly, causing very little disturbance to the herd or the animal brought out. Credit will
779 be given for driving cattle, clearing the herd by a sufficient distance, and setting up a cow while holding it in a working
780 position as near the center of the arena as possible. The degree of difficulty, eye appeal and the amount of courage in
781 staying on a tough cow will be taken into consideration. The amount of time spent working cattle in the 2 1/2 minute
782 period will have a positive effect on the total score. The horse should show a great deal of expression but no ill will
783 toward the animal. Judging will end at the whistle.

784 a. If an exhibitor is taking an excessive amount of time to get to the herd after their number is called the following
785 will occur: the designated judge will contact the announcer and the announcer will give the exhibitor a “second
786 call”. If the exhibitor still is not starting to the herd, a 15 second call will be given and then the time clock will be
787 started. Special consideration will be given to exhibitors who helped the previous exhibitor in the herd.

788 5. Two Rein – Separate Two Rein classes may be held and are open to horses of any age in their first year showing in
789 the bridle (using two rein equipment) that have not shown in the bridle down the fence or in boxing in any judged
790 classes or events prior to December 1 of the current competition year with the exception of horse sales and National
791 High School Rodeo Events. Horses may cross over to the Open class but must utilize the equipment required for that
792 Open class.

793 3. Specifications

- 794 1. BITTED, HACKAMORE (BOSAL). For competitions offering only one Reined Cow Horse class, bitted and
795 hackamore horses shall compete together.
- 796 2. OPEN, AMATEUR, LADIES, GENTLEMEN, JUNIOR HORSE. Classes may be offered
- 797 3. BOXING/LIMITED REINED COW HORSE, and BOX DRIVE classes are for non-pro/amateur exhibitors.
798 Boxing/Limited Reined Cow Horse and Box Drive classes are for amateur and junior riders who cannot have shown
799 down the fence 3 actual runs in any judged classes or events with the exception of horse sales. Or, riders who have
800 not shown in any cow horse class down the fence for 5 years. Being entered in a class that includes the fence work
801 will be counted as going down the fence regardless if the rider boxed the cow and pulled up before the run was
802 completed. This class is also open to approved Non-Pro Limited riders who comply with all eligibility rules (See
803 NRCHA Non-Pro eligibility rules/Federation Amateur rules). After Non- Pro competitors reach the age of fifty (50),
804 they may fall back into the Non-Pro Boxing/Limited class (Boxing/Limited Reined Cow Horse). The Non-Pro
805 Boxing/Limited Competitors;

- 806 a. May not go down the fence again in any judged class(es) or event(s), with the exception of horse sales.
- 807 b. May fall back into the Non-Pro Limited Reined Cow Horse division/class only once.
- 808 c. Versatility Ranch Cow Work Classes affect the eligibility of a rider to compete in the Boxing/Limited Reined
- 809 Cow Horse classes and vice versa as follows: Exhibitors in the Boxing/Limited Reined Cow, VRH Limited
- 810 amateur and VRH Limited youth Ranch Cow Work may not have shown more than three times down the fence
- 811 in any Cow Horse class, Reined Cow Horse class or VRH Cow Work class.
- 812 d. A Non-Pro exhibitor may show in both the Reined Cow Horse and Box-Drive classes or both the Boxing/Limited
- 813 Reined Cow and Box-Drive classes, but not both the Reined Cow and Boxing Classes.

AR-WW.12 - Cutting

814 Cutting classes held in the Arabian Division shall be conducted in accordance with the rules adopted by the Working Western
815 Committee of the Arabian Horse Association. Refer to the AHA Handbook, Chapter 11, COMP. 807.

AR-WW.13 - Western Riding

- 820 1. General - The horse is judged on quality of gaits, lead changes at the lope, response to the rider, manners and disposition.
- 821 The horse should perform with reasonable speed, and be sensible, well-mannered, free and easy moving. Credit shall be
- 822 given for, and emphasis placed on smoothness, even cadence of gaits (i.e., starting and finishing pattern with the same
- 823 cadence), and the horse's ability to change leads precisely, easily and simultaneously both hind and front at the center
- 824 point between markers. In order to have balance, with quality lead changes, the horse's head and neck should be in a
- 825 relaxed, natural position, with his poll level with or slightly above the level of the withers. He should not carry his head
- 826 behind the vertical, giving the appearance of intimidation, or be excessively nosed out, giving a resistant appearance. The
- 827 horse should have a relaxed head carriage showing response to the rider's hands, with a moderate flexion at the poll. Horses
- 828 may be ridden with light contact or on a reasonably loose rein. The horse should cross the log both at the jog and the lope
- 829 without breaking gait or radically changing stride.
- 830 2. The judge will select one of the 15 patterns to be performed. The judge is responsible for the pattern being correctly set.
- 831 See AQHA Rulebook for patterns.
- 832 a. The small circles represent pylon markers which are recommended. These should be separated by a uniform measured
- 833 distance of not less than 30 feet (9 meters) nor more than 50 feet (15 meters) on the sides with 5 markers (see diagram).
- 834 In pattern 1, the three markers on the opposite side should be set adjacent to the appropriate markers. It is recommended
- 835 that markers be set a minimum of 15 feet (4 1/2 meters) from the fence and with 50 to 80 feet (15 to 24 meters) width
- 836 in the pattern, as the arena permits.
- 837 b. A solid log or pole should be used and be a minimum of 8 feet (2.5 meters) in length.
- 838 c. The long serpentine line indicates the direction of travel and gaits at which the horse is to move. The shaded area
- 839 represents the lead changing area between the markers. The dotted line (...) indicates walk, the dash line (- - -) jog,
- 840 and the solid line (-) lope.
- 841 d. A cone shall be placed along the wall or rail of the arena to designate where the exhibitor should initiate the walk. On
- 842 western riding patterns 1, 3, 5 and Level 1 pattern 1, the start cone should be placed a minimum of 15 feet before the
- 843 first pat- tern maker. On western riding patterns 2, 4 and Level 1 patterns 2 and 4, the start cone should be placed even
- 844 with the first pat- tern marker. The on-deck exhibitor should not go to the start- cone until the contestant on pattern
- 845 has cleared the working area by the start-cone for the final time.
- 846 3. SCORING AND PENALTIES. See current AQHA Rulebook.
- 847 a. Exceptions: See AR-WW.1.2 10-Point Penalty: Unnatural Arabian appearance (Horse's tail is obviously and
- 848 consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)

AR-WW.14 - Ranch Riding

851 Ranch Riding classes will be held in accordance with the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) rules for class conduct,
852 judging, specific scoring and patterns as modified by the following Arabian Rules. Where the Arabian Rules are silent, AQHA
853 rules prevail.

- 854 1. General Information
- 855 a. 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
- 856 a means of conveyance from performing one ranch task to another.
- 857 b. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines
- 858 of an arena. The horse should be well-trained, relaxed, quiet, soft and cadenced at all gaits. The ideal ranch horse will
- 859 travel with forward movement and demonstrate an obvious lengthening of stride at extended gaits.
- 860 c. The horse can be ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein without requiring undue restraint, but not shown
- 861 on a full drape of reins.
- 862 d. The overall manners and responsiveness of the ranch riding horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and correct
- 863 manner, as well as the quality of the movement are of primary considerations.
- 864 e. The ideal ranch riding horse should have a natural head carriage at each gait.

- 865 2. For rules regarding correct Western appointments, refer to AR-WW.2. Patterns must be chosen from the current AQHA
 866 Patterns which may be found in the AQHA Rulebook (SHW 417) and may be downloaded at www.arabianhorses.org
 867 3. The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be free-flowing and ground covering for all gaits, with an
 868 emphasis on forward movement.
 869 4. Transitions should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness.
 870 5. No time limit.
 871 6. Posting at the extended jog is acceptable.
 872 7. Touching or holding the saddle horn is acceptable.
 873 8. Hoof polish is discouraged.
 874 9. It is customary to not remove the hair from the insides of the ears, but horses with clean clipped ears will not be penalized.
 875 10. Trimming of the bridle path, fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair is allowed.
 876 11. Appointments with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Silver on bridles and saddles and the use of weighted
 877 reins is discouraged.
 878 12. Ranch Horse Penalties – Ranch Horse Penalties shall follow the current AQHA penalties with the following exceptions:
 879 1. Ten (10) point penalties
 880 A. Eliminates or adds maneuver
 881 B. Incomplete maneuver
 882 C. Off pattern
 883 D. Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an
 884 unnatural manner in every maneuver)
 885 2. Zero (0) score
 886 A. Major disobedience or schooling
 887 B. Illegal use of fingers or hands on reins
 888 Although penalties as described in the current AQHA Rules shall take precedent, as of the 2022 AQHA Rule Book
 889 (SHW 419) the following penalties shall be appropriately assessed:
 890 13. A contestant shall be penalized each time the following occur:
 891 1. One (1) point penalty
 892 a. Too slow/per gait
 893 b. Over-bridled
 894 c. Out of frame
 895 d. Break of gait at walk or jog for 2 strides or less
 896 2. Three (3) point penalties
 897 a. Break of gait at walk or jog for more than 2 strides
 898 b. Break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead Wrong lead or out of lead
 899 c. Out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides when changing leads
 900 d. Draped reins
 901 e. Trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change
 902 f. Severe disturbance of any obstacle
 903 3. Five (5) point penalties
 904 a. Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.)
 905 4. ~~Ten (10) point penalties~~
 906 a. ~~Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an~~
 907 ~~unnatural manner in every maneuver)~~
 908 5. No Score/Disqualification (DQ): Lameness; abuse; illegal equipment; disrespect or misconduct; leaving working
 909 area before pattern is complete; fall of horse/rider.
 910 14. No specific penalties will be incurred for nicks/hits on logs/poles, but deduction may be made in maneuver score.
 911 15. No specific penalties will be incurred for over/under-spins, but deduction may be made in maneuver score.
 912

913 **AR-WW.15 - Ranch Rail Pleasure**

- 914 1. General Information
 915 a. The ranch horse rail pleasure class measures the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a
 916 means of conveyance from one ranch task to another and should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a
 917 working horse. The horse should be well-broke, relaxed, quiet, soft, and cadenced at all gaits. The horse should be
 918 ridden on a relatively loose rein with light contact and without requiring undue restraint. The horse should be
 919 responsive to the rider and make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner. The horse should be soft in the
 920 bridle and yield to contact. The ideal ranch rail pleasure horse should have a natural head carriage at each gait. In all
 921 gaits, movement of the ranch rail pleasure horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and
 922 quietly, like that of a working ranch horse. This class should show the horse’s ability to work at a forward, working

- 923 speed while under control by the rider. Light contact should be rewarded, and horse shall not be shown on a full drape
 924 of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse while performing the maneuver requirements and the
 925 horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations.
- 926 b. This class is intended as a rail class but individuals working off the rail will not be penalized, and riders are encouraged
 927 to use adequate space given the extension of gaits required.
- 928 c. Offered for horses three years of age or older.
- 929 2. Required gaits are the walk, trot, extended trot, lope and extended lope, both directions of the arena. The extended walk
 930 and back are optional gaits that may be called at the judge's discretion. For gaits descriptions refer AR-WW.5.2.
- 931 3. Class Specifications: Horses to enter at walk or trot in either direction at discretion of the judge. Entries will be worked
 932 both directions of the ring at all qualifying gaits. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse while performing
 933 the requirements and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations.
- 934 4. Part of the evaluation of this class is on smoothness of transitions. A horse may be collected from the extended trot as the
 935 horse moves into the lope. The transition from the extended lope down to the trot is a transition to the seated trot, not the
 936 extended trot. Therefore, an extra cue to achieve this gait is expected. Horses that complete this total transition within three
 937 strides calmly and obediently should be rewarded. Horses that attempt to stop or do stop prior to trotting will be penalized.
 938 Judges expect to see horses that have been trained to respond to cues and when cues are applied correctly, it could be a
 939 credit earning situation.
- 940 5. A ranch horse should be willingly guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance. Any movement on his own
 941 must be considered a lack of control.
- 942 6. Penalties. An exhibitor shall be penalized for:
- 943 a. Too slow a gait
 944 b. Over-bridled
 945 c. Out of frame
 946 d. Break of gait
 947 e. Wrong lead, out of lead, or cross-cantering
 948 f. Draped reins
 949 g. Trotting more than two strides when taking lead
 950 h. Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.)
 951 i. Schooling
 952 j. Spurring in front of cinch
 953 k. Use of either hand to instill fear/ praise
- 954 7. A horse shall be disqualified for lameness. *BOD 11/22/21. Effective 12/1/21*
- 955 8. Apparel and Equipment: For rules regarding correct Western appointments, refer to AR-WW.2
- 956 9. Posting at the extended trot is acceptable.
- 957 10. Touching or holding the saddle horn is acceptable.
- 958 11. Hoof polish is discouraged.
- 959 12. It is customary to not remove the hair from inside of the ears, but horses with clean clipped ears will not be penalized.
- 960 13. Trimming of the bridle path, fetlocks, or excessive (long) facial hair is allowed.
- 961 14. Appointments with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Silver on bridles and saddles and the use of weighted
 962 reins are discouraged.
- 963 15. It is suggested that competitors use a breast collar and rear cinch.
- 964 16. Horses 5 years and under, may be shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore.
- 965 17. Prohibited equipment includes tie downs, cavessons, gag bits, slip bits, mechanical hackamores and running martingales.
- 966 18. A horse exhibiting unnatural Arabian appearance shall be penalized and placed at the bottom of the class (AR-WW.1.2.
 967 d).
- 968 19. Horses may cross-enter with any other pleasure class at the same show. *BOD 6/28/21 Effective*

AR-WW.16 - Versatility Ranch Horse Division (VRH)

- 970 **AR-WW.16 - Versatility Ranch Horse Division (VRH)**
- 971 1. General Information
- 972 a. The Versatility Ranch classes will be held in accordance with the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) rules
 973 for class conduct, judging, specific scoring, and patterns as modified by the following Arabian Rules. Where the
 974 Arabian Rules are silent, AQHA rules prevail.
- 975 b. The Versatility Ranch Horse division demonstrates the performance, versatility, and conformation of the Arabian and
 976 Half Arabian Horse as a working ranch horse. The intent is to reward an exhibitor and/or horse based on their level of
 977 expertise. Classes within the Versatility Ranch Horse Division may be held individually at approved Arabian Horse
 978 Association competitions or held collectively as a Versatility Ranch Horse Competition.
- 979 2. VRH Ranch Riding and VRH Ranch Trail may be combined and held at the same time or held independently. If combined,
 980 each class will be scored individually and placed individually.

- 981 3. VRH Ranch Reining and VRH Ranch Cow Work may be combined and held at the same time, or each class held separately.
 982 If combined, each class will be scored individually and placed individually.
- 983 4. Multiple arenas may be used and encouraged to expedite the show to finish in a timely manner. Clinics or educational
 984 opportunities may be offered and are encouraged to be held prior to the competition.
- 985 5. POINTS. Points will be awarded in each individual class according to the placing received and based on the total number
 986 of horses competing in that class. Points earned in each individual class only count toward any award or qualification for
 987 the Versatility Ranch Horse division and do not count toward any other award or qualification for any other approved
 988 AHA class or AHA show award and shall not affect leveling any other class.
- 989 6. ALL-AROUND VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE. The title of All-Around Versatility Ranch Horse may be awarded for
 990 each show in the open, amateur and youth divisions, if earned. Each division is to be calculated independently based on
 991 the number of horses competing in that division. Divisions may not be held concurrently (i.e., open classes may not run
 992 currently with amateur classes). All-around versatility ranch horse points are based on a one horse/one rider combination.
 993 (See exception in ranch conformation for exhibitor with multiple horses.) A horse/rider team is all-around eligible if it
 994 competes in at least one cattle class, at least one non-cattle riding class, and ranch conformation in the same division. At
 995 VRH shows, all exhibitors in every class must be placed. In scored classes, all exhibitors in class will be ranked according
 996 to score, placed from the highest to the lowest score. In ranch conformation, the entire class in each division must be
 997 placed. In all classes, the highest placing all-around eligible exhibitor will receive 50 credits, regardless of the number of
 998 other horses entered or eligible. Second highest all-around eligible exhibitor will receive 49 credits and so on. For example,
 999 an exhibitor competing for the all-around may place 16th in the class but is also the highest placing all-around eligible
 1000 entry they will receive 50 credits. An exhibitor placing 22 in the same class, that is the second highest all-around eligible
 1001 entry, will receive 49 credits and so on. Another example: In a class of six entries, if the highest placing all-around exhibitor
 1002 places second, it will receive 50 credits. The second highest all-around eligible horse/rider team places fourth in the class,
 1003 they would receive 49 credits and so forth. After totaling credits for all-around-eligible entries in each class, the exhibitor
 1004 receiving the highest number of credits in that division will be named the All-Around versatility ranch horse in that division
 1005 and will receive additional points based on the number of horses competing for the all-around title.
- 1006 7. If there are ties in the final placing for the all-around Versatility Ranch Horse, they will be broken by the highest placing
 1007 horse in the VRH Ranch Cow Work, VRH Limited Ranch Cow Work, whichever is applicable to the division. If this does
 1008 not break the tie, other classes will be used in the following order: VRH Ranch Cutting, VRH Ranch Reining, VRH Ranch
 1009 Trail, VRH Ranch Riding, and VRH Ranch Conformation.
- 1010 8. CLASS PARTICIPATION - No horses less than 3 years of age may be exhibited.
- 1011 9. No hoof polish.
- 1012 10. No braided or banded manes/tails or tail extensions, except in any VRH class where roping is involved, the horse's mane
 1013 may be braided for a distance of 12"- 16" in front of the saddle pad. No ribbons or other kind of ornamentation will be
 1014 allowed.
- 1015 11. Trimming inside ears is discouraged.
- 1016 12. Trimming bridle path is allowed, also trimming of fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair.
- 1017 13. Equipment with excessive silver should not count over a good working outfit. Excessive silver on bridles and saddles is
 1018 discouraged.
- 1019 14. Holding the saddle horn with either hand will not be penalized in any class.
- 1020 15. Posting at the extended trot is acceptable.
- 1021 16. Romal reins are allowed in all VRH classes, including VRH and Ranch Cutting. When riding with a romal, a get down
 1022 rope may be used. A get down rope is defined as a small rope tied around the neck of the horse with a bowline or other
 1023 non-slip knot and run back to the rider or tied to the saddle. The get down will be used to lead, ground tie, or tie the horse.
 1024 When ground-tying with split reins, one or both reins may be dropped, romal reins may be loosely draped over the horse
 1025 when used with or without a get-down rope. The get-down rope may also be run through a bosalito, as long as the bosalito
 1026 is not tight enough to function as a cavesson. If a bosalito is used, it must allow approximately 2 fingers (1 inch) to pass
 1027 freely between the nose and the bosalito. The bosalito must be constructed of a flexible braided rawhide, leather or rope,
 1028 the core of which must be flexible. Absolutely no rigid material will be permitted under the jaws, regardless of how padded
 1029 or covered. Hobbles are allowed.
- 1030 17. The use of two-rein equipment is allowed in all VRH classes for one year only.
- 1031 18. When exhibiting in a snaffle bit or hackamore, an exhibitor may switch between two hands and one hand on the reins at
 1032 any time.
- 1033 19. SCORING SYSTEM. The scoring system is designed to be positive, straightforward, and always encourage growth and
 1034 improvement in both horse and rider. The scoring system is designed to give credit for the work done.
- 1035 20. Except for the conformation class, each horse/rider team is scored between 0-100 points and automatically begins the run
 1036 with a score of 70 points. The horse/rider team is scored on the quality of each maneuver (e.g., -1 1/2 extremely poor, -1
 1037 very poor, -1/2 poor, 0 correct, +1/2 good, +1 very good, +1 1/2 excellent). Plusses and minuses reflect the smoothness,
 1038 finesse, attitude, quickness and authority of the horse/ rider team when performing the various maneuvers. Penalties may
 1039 be accrued for incorrect maneuver execution.

- 1040 21. In each class, the entire class will be scored and placed. All exhibitors in each class will be ranked according to scores,
1041 placed from the highest to the lowest scores.
- 1042 22. No horse/rider team shall be disqualified except for lameness, abuse, illegal equipment, disrespect, or misconduct, leaving
1043 working area before pattern is complete, improper western attire and or fall of horse/rider. Disqualified horses will count
1044 as entries in the class but will not receive points.
- 1045 23. In the case of a fall by a horse or rider, the run shall end when the rider or horse fall to the ground. A horse is considered
1046 to have fallen when all four feet are extended in the same direction. A rider is considered to have fallen when the rider is
1047 no longer astride.
- 1048 24. In the case of equipment failure that delays competition or becomes unsafe, the run is stopped, and the horse/ rider team
1049 will be given credit for what they have accomplished prior to that point and will be considered off-pattern (OP), and receive
1050 the appropriate penalty.
- 1051 25. In each class, a specific maneuver will be designated by the judge to be the tiebreaker. The tie-breaker maneuvers will be
1052 made prior to the start of the class and so noted on score sheets. Ties will be broken according to AR-WW.7
- 1053 26. JUDGING PROCEDURES. Judges shall use approved score sheets to score all classes. Specific maneuvers will be selected
1054 by the judge prior to the class as tie-breaking maneuvers.
- 1055 27. During the class, a scribe shall assist each judge by recording the score after each of the maneuvers on the appropriate class
1056 score sheet. Judges shall sign their score sheets.
- 1057 28. Class score sheets shall be posted as soon as possible after each class to allow riders to evaluate their performance.
- 1058 29. Exhibitors competing for the All-Around Versatility Ranch Horse, shall have their class placing credits entered into the
1059 all-around tabulation. Credits from each class shall be added together for the overall placing for the event. Ties for the all-
1060 around versatile ranch horse are broken first using the highest placing in the ranch cow work class, or the limited ranch
1061 cow work class, whichever is applicable to the division. If this does not break the tie, other classes will be used in the
1062 following order: ranch cutting, ranch reining, ranch trail, ranch riding, and ranch conformation.
- 1063 30. At the option of show management, when using two judges to determine one set of winners, the classes will first be placed
1064 under each judge and class placing points awarded and posted. One judge shall be designated as the “tie-breaker judge”
1065 before judging begins. The composite results (combined results used to determine an overall winner) shall be determined
1066 as follows: All class placing points will be added for each judge to determine an all-around winner. If there is a tie, the tie-
1067 breaker judge’s class placing will determine the winner. Ties for the all- around winner are broken first using the highest
1068 placing in the ranch cow work class, or the limited ranch cow work class, whichever is applicable to the division.

1069
1070 **AR-WW.17 - VRH Ranch Riding**

- 1071 1. General - The purpose of the VRH Ranch Riding class is to measure the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while
1072 being used as a means of conveyance from performing one ranch task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility,
1073 attitude, and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines of an arena. The horse should be well-trained,
1074 relaxed, quiet, soft, and cadenced at all gaits. The ideal ranch horse will travel with forward movement and demonstrate
1075 an obvious lengthening of stride at extended gaits. The horse can be ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein
1076 without requiring undue restraint, but not shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the
1077 ranch riding horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner, as well as the quality of the movement are
1078 of primary considerations. The ideal VRH ranch riding horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to
1079 tail in each maneuver.
- 1080 2. Horse may cross enter Western Pleasure and Ranch Riding or Western Pleasure and VRH Ranch Riding at the same show
1081 regardless of the division (youth, amateur, or open).
- 1082 3. Horses shall be shown individually, and the class may be conducted inside or outside of an arena. The pattern may be
1083 started either to the right or left direction. Show management has the option to set markers to designate gait changes. If the
1084 class is held inside an arena, the course shall be set up to make approximately one pass of the arena in each direction. The
1085 optional ranch riding patterns (found in the AQHA Rulebook or downloaded at www.arabianhorses.org) may be used, or
1086 another pattern may be used if all elements of the class are fulfilled as follows:
- 1087 - Horses will be shown individually at three gaits; walk, trot and lope in each direction of the arena.
 - 1088 - Horses will also be asked to reverse, stop and back.
 - 1089 - The judge must ask for an extended trot and extended lope at least one direction of the ring.
- 1090 4. CREDITS AND PENALTIES. Part of the evaluation of this class is on smoothness of transitions. A horse may be collected
1091 from the extended trot as the horse moves into the lope. The transition from the extended lope down to the trot is a transition
1092 to the seated trot not the extended trot. Therefore, an extra cue to achieve this gait is expected. Horses that complete this
1093 total transition within three strides calmly and obediently should be rewarded. Horses that attempt to stop or do stop prior
1094 to trotting will be penalized. Judges expect to see horses that have been trained to respond to cues. To see these cues
1095 applied discretely and the horse responding correctly could be a credit- earning situation. Maneuver evaluations and penalty
1096 applications are to be determined independently. The following penalties will be applied to each occurrence and be
1097 deducted from the final score:

- 1098 a. VRH Ranch Riding Penalties – VRH Ranch Riding Penalties shall follow the current AQHA penalties with the
 1099 following exceptions -
 1100 1. Ten (10) point penalties
 1101 A. Eliminates or adds maneuver
 1102 B. Incomplete maneuver
 1103 C. Off pattern
 1104 D. Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an
 1105 unnatural manner in every maneuver)
 1106 2. Zero (0) score
 1107 A. Major disobedience or schooling
 1108 B. Illegal use of fingers or hands on reins
 1109 b. Although penalties as described in the current AQHA Rules shall take precedent, as of the 2022 AQHA Rule Book
 1110 (SHW 560.3) the following penalties shall be appropriately assessed:
 1111 - **1 Point:** Over-bridled (per maneuver); out of frame (per maneuver); too slow; break of gait at walk or trot for two
 1112 (2) strides or less.
 1113 - **3 Point:** Wrong lead or out of lead; draped reins; break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead;
 1114 break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides; out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides
 1115 when changing leads; trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change.
 1116 - **5 Point:** Spurring in front of cinch; blatant disobedience; use of either hand to instill fear/praise.
 1117 - ~~**10 Point:** Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an~~
 1118 ~~unnatural manner in every maneuver)~~
 1119 - **No Score/Disqualification (DQ):** Lameness; abuse; illegal equipment; disrespect or misconduct; leaving working
 1120 area before pattern is complete; improper western attire; fall of horse/rider.
 1121

1122 **AR-WW.18 VRH Ranch Trail**

- 1123 1. General - The VRH Ranch Trail class should test the horse’s ability to cope with situations encountered while being ridden
 1124 through a pattern of obstacles generally found during everyday ranch work. The horse/rider team is judged on the
 1125 correctness, efficiency, and pattern accuracy with which the obstacles are negotiated, and the attitude and mannerisms
 1126 exhibited by the horse. Judging emphasis is on identifying the well broke, responsive, and well-mannered horse which can
 1127 correctly navigate and negotiate the course. The ideal VRH ranch trail horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance
 1128 from head to tail in each maneuver.
 1129 2. Horses may cross enter Trail and VRH Ranch Trail regardless of division (youth, amateur, or open).
 1130 3. The VRH Ranch Trail course will include no less than six and no more than nine obstacles. It is mandatory that the horse
 1131 be asked to walk, trot and lope during the course. Walk can be part of obstacle score or be scored with the approaching
 1132 obstacle. Trot must be at least 35 feet and score with approaching obstacle. Lope must be lead-specific, at least 50 feet and
 1133 score with approaching obstacle. Care must be exercised to avoid setting up any obstacles that may be hazardous to the
 1134 horse or rider.
 1135 4. When setting courses, management will be mindful that the idea is not to trap a horse/rider team or eliminate it by making
 1136 an obstacle too difficult. All courses and obstacles are to be constructed with safety in mind to reduce the risk for accidents.
 1137 Show committee shall have the option of setting up the trail course to best fit the arena conditions. An outdoor course is
 1138 recommended if appropriate terrain is available. Each single-performance event can be time consuming, especially with
 1139 large classes, so it is imperative that time restrictions are placed on this class. The show committee, either through a pilot
 1140 run or estimation, shall select a course that has a continuous and positive flow that can be negotiated in four minutes or
 1141 less.
 1142 5. 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
 1143 class. Judges may remove or change any obstacles they deem unsafe, non-negotiable, or unnecessarily difficult. Any time
 1144 a trail obstacle becomes unsafe during a class, it shall be repaired or removed from the course. If the course cannot be
 1145 repaired and some horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle shall be deducted from all previous draws
 1146 in that class.
 1147 6. The course must be designed using the mandatory obstacles and maneuvers plus optional obstacles. Combining two or
 1148 more of the obstacles is acceptable.
 1149 7. PROHIBITED OBSTACLES: Tarps, water obstacles with slick bottoms, PVC pipe used as a jump or walk over, tires,
 1150 rocking or moving bridges, painted logs or poles, logs elevated in a manner that permits such to roll in a dangerous manner.
 1151 8. MANDATORY OBSTACLES AND/OR MANUEVERS.
 1152 a. Ride over obstacles on the ground (natural logs are required). Walk, trot or lope may be used but only one gait is
 1153 required.
 1154 - **Walkovers:** Walk over no more than five logs no more than 10 inches high and spacing between 26–30 inches. The
 1155 formation may be straight, curved, zig- zagged or raised.

- 1156 - **Trot-overs:** Trot over no more than five logs no more than 10 inches high. The space between logs or poles should
 1157 be 36-42 inches. The formation can also be straight, curved, zig-zagged or raised.
- 1158 - **Lope-overs:** Lope over no more than five logs no more than 10 inches high. The space between logs should be 6 to
 1159 7 feet. The formation can also be straight, curved, zig-zagged or raised.
- 1160 b. Opening, passing through and closing a hinged swinging gate (not a rope gate): Use gate that will not endanger horse
 1161 or rider and requires minimum side-passing.
- 1162 c. Ride over wooden bridge: Bridge should be sturdy, safe, and negotiated at a walk only. Heavy plywood lying flat on
 1163 the ground is an acceptable simulation of a bridge. Suggested minimum width shall be 36 inches wide and at least 6
 1164 feet long.
- 1165 d. Backing obstacles: Backing obstacles are to be spaced at a minimum of 28 inches. If elevated, 30 inch spacing is
 1166 required. Back through and around at least three makers. Back through L, V, U or straight or similarly shaped course
 1167 which may be elevated no more than 24 inches.
- 1168 e. Side-pass obstacle: Any object which is safe and of any length may be used to demonstrate responsiveness of the horse
 1169 to leg signals. Raised side pass obstacles should not exceed 12 inches.
- 1170 f. Drag an object: For open, and amateur classes ONLY. The drag is not to be used in youth and rookie classes. Drag
 1171 may be a complete figure eight (or other shape) and may begin in either direction. The exhibitor must have the rope
 1172 dallied on the saddle horn (half or full dally) for the duration of the drag.
- 1173 9. OPTIONAL OBSTACLES. Optional obstacles may be used provided the obstacles can be found in everyday ranch work.
 1174 Optional obstacles from which selections can be made include, but are not limited to:
- 1175 - A jump obstacle whose center height is not less than 14 inches high or more that 25 inches high. Holding the saddle
 1176 horn is permissible for this obstacle.
- 1177 - Only live or stuffed animals which would normally be encountered in an outdoor setting may be used but not to be
 1178 used to spook a horse.
- 1179 - Carry object from one part of the arena to another.
- 1180 - Remove and replace materials from a mailbox.
- 1181 - Trot through cones spaced a minimum of 6 feet apart.
- 1182 - Cross natural ditches or ride up embankments.
- 1183 - Swing rope or throw rope at a dummy steer head.
- 1184 - Step in and out of obstacle.
- 1185 - Put on slicker or coat.
- 1186 - Stand to mount with mounting block.
- 1187 - Walk through water obstacle.
- 1188 - Open gate on foot.
- 1189 - Pick up feet.
- 1190 - Walk through brush.
- 1191 - Ground tie. (Hobbles are allowed)
- 1192 - Lead at the trot.
- 1193 10. At show management option the competition trail course may be made available to exhibitors or posted prior to the day of
 1194 competition. It must be posted at least one hour prior to competition. Printed handouts for exhibitors are helpful and
 1195 encouraged.
- 1196 11. CREDITS AND PENALTIES. All runs begin upon entering the pen and any infractions are subject to penalty at that time
 1197 (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.). The rider has the option of eliminating any
 1198 obstacle, however this will result in being “off pattern” (OP) and the horse/rider team will receive a 10-point penalty for
 1199 each obstacle eliminated. A judge may ask a horse to pass on an obstacle after three refusals or at any time for safety
 1200 concerns and will then likewise receive a 10-point penalty.
- 1201 12. Credit is given to horse/rider teams who negotiate the obstacles correctly and efficiently. Horses should receive credit for
 1202 showing attentiveness to obstacles and ability to negotiate through the course when the obstacles warrant it while willingly
 1203 responding to rider’s cues on more difficult obstacles. Quality of movement and cadence should be considered part of the
 1204 maneuver score for the obstacle. Maneuver evaluations and penalty applications are to be determined independently. The
 1205 following penalties will be applied to each occurrence and be deducted from the final score:
- 1206 a. VRH Ranch Trail Penalties – VRH Ranch Trail Penalties shall follow the current AQHA penalties with the following
 1207 exceptions -
- 1208 1. Ten (10) point penalties
- 1209 A. Eliminates or adds maneuver
- 1210 B. Incomplete maneuver
- 1211 C. Off pattern
- 1212 D. *Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an*
 1213 *unnatural manner in every maneuver)*
- 1214 2. Zero (0) score

- 1215 A. Major disobedience or schooling
 1216 B. Illegal use of fingers or hands on reins
 1217 b. Although penalties as described in the current AQHA Rules shall take precedent, as of the 2022 AQHA Rule Book
 1218 (SHW 561.11) the following penalties shall be appropriately assessed:
 1219 - **1 point:** Over-bridled (per maneuver); out of frame (per maneuver); each hit, bite or stepping on a log, cone plant or
 1220 any component of the obstacle; incorrect or break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less; both front or
 1221 hind feet in a single-stride slot or space at a walk or trot; skipping over or failing to step into required space; split
 1222 pole in lope-over; incorrect number of strides, if specified; one to two steps on mount/dismount or ground tie
 1223 except shifting to balance.
 1224 - **3 point:** Wrong lead or out of lead, draped reins; break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead;
 1225 break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides; three to four steps on mount/dismount on ground tie.
 1226 - **5 point:** Spurring in front of cinch; blatant disobedience; use of either hand to instill fear/praise; knocking over,
 1227 stepping out of or falling off an obstacle; dropping an object required to be carried; 1st or 2nd cumulative refusal;
 1228 letting go of gate; five or more steps on mount/ dismount or ground tie.
 1229 ~~-**10 point:** Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an~~
 1230 ~~unnatural manner in every maneuver)~~
 1231 - **Off-Pattern (OP):** Incomplete maneuver; eliminating or adding a maneuver; 3rd refusal; repeated blatant
 1232 disobedience, and failure to dally and remain dallied during the drag; use of two hands (except junior horses
 1233 shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore), more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins
 1234 (except in the two-rein); failure to open and shut gate, or failure to complete gate.
 1235 - **No Score/Disqualification (DQ):** Lameness, abuse, leaving working area before pattern is complete, illegal
 1236 equipment, disrespect or misconduct, improper western attire; fall of horse/rider.
 1237

1238 **AR–WW.19 VRH Ranch Reining**

- 1239 1. General - The VRH Ranch Reining class measures the ability of the ranch horse to perform basic handling maneuvers with
 1240 a natural head carriage in a forward-looking manner. The ideal VRH Ranch Reining horse should have a natural ranch
 1241 horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver. Patterns may be chosen from any of the ranch reining patterns or
 1242 approved by the show management and judge.
 1243 2. Horse may cross enter Reining and VRH Ranch Reining regardless of division
 1244 3. CREDITS AND PENALTIES. All runs begin upon entering the pen and any infractions are subject to penalty at that time
 1245 such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.
 1246 4. To rein a horse is not only to guide him but also to control his movement. The best reined horse should be willingly guided
 1247 or controlled with little or no apparent resistance. All deviations from the exact written pattern must be considered a lack
 1248 of or temporary loss of control and therefore a fault that must be marked down according to severity of deviation. The
 1249 horse/rider team’s overall performance should be credited for smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness, and authority of
 1250 performing various maneuvers while using controlled speed which raises the degree of difficulty and makes the horse/rider
 1251 team more exciting and pleasing to watch.
 1252 5. PENALTIES:
 1253 a. VRH Ranch Reining Penalties – VRH Ranch Reining Penalties shall follow the current AQHA penalties with the
 1254 following exceptions:
 1255 1. Ten (10) point penalties
 1256 A. Eliminates or adds maneuver
 1257 B. Incomplete maneuver
 1258 C. Off pattern
 1259 **D. Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an**
 1260 **unnatural manner in every maneuver)**
 1261 2. Zero (0) score
 1262 A. Major disobedience or schooling
 1263 B. Illegal use of fingers or hands on reins
 1264 b. Although penalties as described in the current AQHA Rules shall take precedent, as of the 2022 AQHA Rule Book
 1265 (SHW 562.4) the following penalties shall be appropriately assessed:
 1266 - **One-half (1/2) point:** Starting a circle or exiting a roll-back at a trot for up to two (2) strides; delayed change of lead
 1267 by one stride where the lead change is required by the pattern description; failure to remain a minimum of twenty
 1268 feet from the wall or fence when approaching a stop and/or roll-back; over-spin or under-spin up to 1/8 turn.
 1269 - **1 point:** Over-bridled (per maneuver), out of frame (per maneuver), out of lead in the circles, figure eights or around
 1270 the end of the arena (this penalty is cumulative and will be deducted for each quarter of a circle the horse is out
 1271 of lead); Over or under spinning 1/8 to 1/4 turn. Slipping rein.
 1272 - **2 point:** Break of gait; freeze up in spins or rollbacks; failure to stop or walk before executing a lope departure on
 1273 trot-in patterns; failure to be in a lope prior to the first marker on run-in patterns; failure to completely pass the

- 1274 specified marker before initiating a stop position, trotting beyond two strides, but less than 1/2 circle or 1/2 length
 1275 of the arena.
 1276 - **5 point:** Spurring in front of cinch; blatant disobedience; use of either hand to instill fear/praise
 1277 -~~**10 Point:** Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse's tail is obviously and consistently carried in an~~
 1278 ~~unnatural manner in every maneuver)~~
 1279 - **Off-Pattern (OP):** breaking pattern; inclusion of maneuver (e.g., over or under-spinning, backing more than two (2)
 1280 strides, etc.); trotting in excess of 1/2 circle or 1/2 length of the arena; repeated blatant disobedience; use of two
 1281 hands (except junior and Level 1 horses shown in a snaffle bit/ hackamore), more than one finger between split
 1282 reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two-rein).
 1283 -~~**No Score/Disqualification (DQ):** Lameness; abuse; illegal equipment; disrespect or misconduct; leaving arena~~
 1284 ~~before pattern is complete; improper western attire; fall of horse/rider.~~
 1285

1286 **AR-WW.20 VRH Ranch Cow Work**

- 1287 1. General - The ideal Ranch horse must also be a cow horse and this class demonstrates and measures the horse's ability to
 1288 do cow work. In addition, the ideal ranch cow horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each
 1289 maneuver. Holding the saddle horn is permitted. There is a time limit per horse/rider team to perform the work depending
 1290 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
 1291 satisfied that all requirements of the class have been met, the judge should blow the whistle for the exhibitor to cease work.
 1292 The judge may blow a whistle at any time for the exhibitor to cease work for safety reasons. Judges will give credit for
 1293 what they have seen. Only the judge may award a new cow to a contestant to replace a cow that will not honor a horse. If
 1294 the judge awards a new cow, the exhibitor has the option to refuse the new cow by continuing to work. If the exhibitor
 1295 accepts the new cow, the time for working the cow will start over. If the exhibitor intends to accept the new cow, the
 1296 exhibitor must pull up immediately. When multiple judges are scoring, any one of the judges may terminate the work or
 1297 signal for a new cow.
 1298 2. **CONTENT.** Exhibitors in the open, amateur and youth divisions are allotted three minutes to complete the work. When
 1299 there is one minute left, the announcer will announce, one minute remaining. At three minutes, the announcer will call for
 1300 time. There are three parts to the class: boxing, fence work and roping or circling.
 1301 - **Part One – Boxing the Cow:** The rider shall ride into the arena, face the cattle entry gate and signal for their cow
 1302 to be turned into the arena. The cow shall be controlled on the entry end of the arena for a sufficient amount of
 1303 time to demonstrate the horse's ability to hold the cow. If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the
 1304 rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate his horse's ability to drive and block the cow on the
 1305 entry fence.
 1306 - **Part Two – Fence Work:** After the cow has been controlled on the entry end of the arena, the rider shall set the cow
 1307 up and drive it down either side of the arena. The cow should be turned on the fence at least once in each direction.
 1308 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
 1309 before reaching the end fence.
 1310 - **Part Three – Roping or Circling:** The amateur and youth exhibitor has the option of circling the cow in the middle
 1311 of the arena in both directions in lieu of roping. An amateur or youth exhibitor may circle or rope the cow but
 1312 cannot combine the two to get credit for this portion of the run. Open exhibitors must rope the cow or receive a
 1313 penalty. Open exhibitors choosing to circle, will receive a 10-point penalty.
 1314 a. To rope the cow, the exhibitor must be carrying a rope when the run starts. The exhibitor may pull up after
 1315 the fence work, take down the rope and proceed to rope and stop the cow. The exhibitor must then rope the
 1316 cow and bring it to a stop. In the roping portion of the class, two throws are permitted, and the horse will be
 1317 judged on two maneuvers: tracking/rating and stopping the cow. It is not necessary that the exhibitor catch
 1318 to receive a score in the roping portion. The catch is legal if the cow looks through the loop and the rope pulls
 1319 tight on any part of the animal's body except the tail. The rope may be tied on or dallied. If the exhibitor does
 1320 not catch, the horse will be given credit for tracking and rating and will be assessed the appropriate penalty
 1321 per AHA/AQHA judging rules.
 1322 b. To circle the cow, the exhibitor will maneuver the cow smoothly at least 360 degrees in each direction without
 1323 interference from the fence. The circle's size, symmetry, speed, and relative balance from right and left show
 1324 control. Tightening the circles down with fast head-to-head speed will be a credit situation. The circles should
 1325 be completed before the cow is exhausted. Once an exhibitor has committed to circling a cow, if the cow
 1326 falls no new cow will be awarded. The exhibitor will complete the run by riding around the fallen cow to
 1327 fulfill circling requirements. In the circling portion of the judging, one whistle will terminate the work and
 1328 two whistles will award a new cow.
 1329 3. **CREDITS AND PENALTIES.** All runs begin upon entering the pen; any infractions (such as two hands on the reins, using
 1330 either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.) are subject to penalty at that time. During Boxing, credit will be given for the
 1331 horse's expression and its cow sense (i.e., making moves with little rider assistance); holding, controlling, and turning the
 1332 cow; the amount of work done; and the degree of difficulty of the work. Credit will be given during Fence Work for making
 1332

1333 the first run past the center of the arena; making turns right on the cow; and controlling a difficult cow. If Roping, credit
 1334 will be given for rating and following cow to allow rider the optimal roping position; stopping hard; and staying in the
 1335 ground during the hold. Credits for each element of Roping range from -1 1/2 to +1 1/2 points. If Circling, credit will be
 1336 given when the horse works willingly; acknowledges the cow; and gets close enough to the cow to control the circles.
 1337 Credits for Circling range from -1 1/2 to +1 1/2 points for each direction. Maneuver evaluations and penalty applications
 1338 are to be determined independently. The following penalties will be applied to each occurrence and be deducted from the
 1339 final score:

- 1340 a. VRH Ranch Cow Work Penalties – VRH Ranch Cow Work Penalties shall follow the current AQHA penalties with
 1341 the following exceptions:
- 1342 1. Ten (10) point penalties
 - 1343 A. Eliminates or adds maneuver
 - 1344 B. Incomplete maneuver
 - 1345 C. Off pattern
 - 1346 D. Circling in lieu of Roping in an Open class
 - 1347 E. Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an
 1348 unnatural manner in every maneuver)
 - 1349 2. Zero (0) score
 - 1350 A. Major disobedience or schooling
 - 1351 B. Illegal use of fingers or hands on reins
- 1352 b. Although penalties as described in the current AQHA Rules shall take precedent, as of the 2022 AQHA Rule Book
 1353 (SHW 563.2) the following penalties shall be appropriately assessed:
- 1354 - **1 point:** Over-bridled (per maneuver), out of frame (per maneuver), loss of working advantage; Using the corner or
 1355 the end of the arena to turn the cow when going down the fence; changing sides of arena to turn cow; for each
 1356 length horse runs past cow; working out of position; slipping rein; failure to drive cow past middle marker on first
 1357 turn; two-loop catch in amateur and youth classes.
 - 1358 - **2 point:** Going around the corner of the arena before turning cow; when working an animal in the open field (at least
 1359 20’ from the side of arena) and the animal gets within 3 feet from the end fence before being turned; an illegal
 1360 catch (loop fails to pass over head or pulls tight on tail only), or failure to catch if roping in amateur and youth
 1361 classes.
 - 1362 - **3 point:** Exhausting or overworking the cow before circling or roping; hanging up on the fence (refusing to turn);
 1363 knocking down the cow without having a working advantage; two-loop catch when roping in an open class.
 - 1364 - **5 point:** Failure to turn the cow both directions on the fence; spurring in front of cinch; Blatant disobedience; use of
 1365 either hand to instill fear/praise; an illegal catch (loop fails to pass over head or pulls tight on tail only), or failure
 1366 to catch when roping in an open class.
 - 1367 ~~- **10 point:** Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an~~
 1368 ~~unnatural manner in every maneuver)~~
 - 1369 - **Zero Score/Off-Pattern (OP):** Turning tail; failure to attempt any part of the class (includes no attempt at roping
 1370 or circling in the open divisions); repeated blatant disobedience; schooling after entering the arena prior to calling
 1371 for cow; schooling horse between cows if new cow is awarded, or complete loss of rope in an open class; complete
 1372 loss of rope in amateur or youth classes, once committed to roping; use of two hands (except junior horses shown
 1373 in a snaffle bit/hackamore), more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except
 1374 in the two-rein).
 - 1375 - **No Score/Disqualification (DQ):** bringing the cow straight over backwards landing on its back or head with all four
 1376 feet in the air, lameness, abuse, illegal equipment, disrespect or misconduct, leaving arena before run is complete;
 1377 improper western attire; fall of horse/rider.
- 1378 **Note:** If the open rider runs out of time to rope, there will be no credit for the stop/hold maneuver and a 5-point penalty
 1379 for failure to catch. Riders may still earn credit for tracking/ rating, control/position and speed/ degree of difficulty.

1380
 1381 **AR-WW.21 VRH Limited Ranch Cow Work Amateur/Youth (Box - Drive - Box -Drive)**
 1382 **Note: “Open VRH Limited Ranch Cow Work”** classes may be held at the Local and Regional level (not a National
 1383 Level class)

- 1384 1. Content. Exhibitors in the VRH Limited amateur and VRH Limited youth Ranch Cow Work may not have shown more
 1385 than three times down the fence in any Cow Horse class, Reined Cow Horse class or VRH Cow Work class. Limited
 1386 Ranch Cow Work exhibitors are allotted one minute and forty-five seconds to complete the work. When there is 50 seconds
 1387 left, the announcer will announce, “50 seconds remaining”. At one minute and forty-five seconds, the announcer will call
 1388 for time. Exhibitors are not required to use all the allotted time but must ride until the judge whistles the end of the run or
 1389 time expires, whichever occurs first. There are four parts to the work: boxing the cow; setting up the cow and driving it
 1390 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

1391 the middle marker again. There is no expectation that the exhibitor will make a fence turn, instead the drive down the fence
 1392 demonstrates correct position and control around the corner.

- 1393 • **Part One – Boxing the Cow** – The rider shall ride into the arena, face the cattle entry gate, and signal for their cow
 1394 to be turned into the arena. The cow shall be controlled on the entry end of the arena for a sufficient amount of
 1395 time to demonstrate the horse’s ability to hold the cow. If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the
 1396 rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate his horse’s ability to drive and block the cow.
- 1397 • **Part Two - Set Up Cow and Drive Down Fence to Opposite End of Arena** – After the cow has been controlled
 1398 on the entry end of the arena, the rider shall set the cow up for driving down the side of the arena. When coming
 1399 out of corner, the horse shall be close enough to cow to demonstrate control with cow against the fence. This
 1400 distance and control should be maintained for approximately 1/2 to 3/4 the length of arena. Rider will then stop
 1401 and release the cow and move horse toward center of arena to set the cow up for boxing.
- 1402 • **Part Three – Boxing the Cow at Opposite End of Arena** – The exhibitor will regain control or hold the cow at
 1403 end of the arena to demonstrate the horse’s ability to “hold” the cow.
- 1404 • **Part Four – Drive the Cow back down the fence** - (original side) past the middle marker and continue until the
 1405 judge blows the whistle to show completion. While boxing the cow at the opposite end, if the rider loses control
 1406 and allows the cow to cross the center line, the judge will whistle the end of the run. The rider will receive an off-
 1407 pattern penalty (OP) of ten points for the run.

1408 2. Credits and Penalties. All runs begin upon entering the pen; any infractions (such as two hands on the reins, using either
 1409 hand to instill fear or praise, etc.) are subject to penalty at that time. During Boxing, credit will be given for the horse’s
 1410 expression and its ‘cow sense’ (i.e., making moves with little rider assistance); holding, controlling, and turning the cow;
 1411 the amount of work done; and the degree of difficulty of the work. Credit will be given during Set Up Cow and Drive
 1412 Down Fence for rating the cow; blocking the cow with pressure towards the end of the arena; driving the cow with control
 1413 down the side of the arena; and controlling a difficult cow. Maneuver evaluations and penalty applications are to be
 1414 determined independently. The following penalties will be applied to each occurrence and be deducted from the final score:

- 1415 a. VRH Ranch Limited Cow Work Penalties – VRH Ranch Limited Cow Work Penalties shall follow the current AQHA
 1416 penalties with the following exceptions:
 - 1417 1. Ten (10) point penalties
 - 1418 A. Eliminates or adds maneuver
 - 1419 B. Incomplete maneuver
 - 1420 C. Off pattern
 - 1421 **D. Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an**
 1422 **unnatural manner in every maneuver)**
 - 1423 2. Zero (0) score
 - 1424 A. Major disobedience or schooling
 - 1425 B. Illegal use of fingers or hands on reins
- 1426 b. Although penalties as described in the current AQHA Rules shall take precedent, as of the 2022 AQHA Rule Book
 1427 (SHW 564.2) the following penalties shall be appropriately assessed:
 - 1428 - **1 point:** Over-bridled (per maneuver); out of frame (per maneuver); loss of working advantage; driving cow down
 1429 the opposite fence (changing sides); working out of position; slipping rein; in limited cow work, failure to drive
 1430 cow past the middle marker on second drive before time expired.
 - 1431 - **3 point:** Knocking down the cow without having a working advantage; losing a cow while boxing.
 - 1432 - **5 point:** Spurring in front of cinch; blatant disobedience; use of either hand to instill fear/praise.
 - 1433 - ~~**10 point:** Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an~~
 1434 ~~**unnatural manner in every maneuver)**~~
 - 1435 - **Zero Score/Off-Pattern (OP):** Turning tail; failure to attempt any part of the class; repeated blatant disobedience;
 1436 schooling after entering the arena prior to calling for cow; schooling horse between cows (if new cow is awarded);
 1437 use of two hands (except junior and level 1 horses shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore), more than one finger
 1438 between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two- rein).
 - 1439 - **No Score/Disqualification (DQ):** lameness, abuse, illegal equipment, disrespect, or misconduct, leaving arena
 1440 before run is complete; improper western attire, fall of horse/rider.

1442 **AR-WW.22 VRH Ranch Cutting**

- 1443 1. General - This class is judged on the ability of the horse to work a cow by separating it from the herd and holding it to
 1444 demonstrate the horse’s ability to work the cow. A single cow is cut from the herd and the horse must demonstrate its
 1445 ability to work the cow. The ideal VRH Ranch Cutting horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to
 1446 tail in each maneuver.
- 1447 2. Objective will be to cut two cows from the herd and work the cow(s) with the assistance of two turn-back riders and two
 1448 herd holders. Show management may supply two herd holders and two turn back riders, or exhibitors may supply their
 1449 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

- 1450 use a different horse. Herd holders’ and turn back riders’ horses are encouraged to be Arabian and or Half Arabian Horses
 1451 at the local and Regional shows but must be Arabian and or Half Arabian horses at the National shows.
- 1452 3. In all divisions, there will be a two-minute time limit. The announcer/timekeeper will give a warning when one minute of
 1453 the two-minute working time has expired. Each exhibitor must work two head and has the option of ending their run before
 1454 the two-minute limit or working the full two minutes.
- 1455 4. Time will begin when a rider crosses a timeline just prior to entering the herd. Time should not start until contestant crosses
 1456 a pre-determined and marked timeline. The rider will then quietly separate his/her cow from the herd.
- 1457 5. Unnecessary roughness or disturbing the herd excessively could result in disqualification.
- 1458 6. Ultimate credit will be given to horses demonstrating excellence in the herd work by committing to, driving, setting up
 1459 and working a cow in the center of the arena with minimal disturbance to the herd.
- 1460 7. Exhibitors will not be penalized for reining during the cutting portion but should display natural ability.
- 1461 8. Scoring. 100 percent will be judged by the horse’s performance and natural ability.
- 1462 9. Penalties should be assessed as follows:
- 1463 a. VRH Ranch Cutting Penalties – VRH Ranch Cutting Penalties shall follow the current AQHA penalties with the
 1464 following exceptions:
- 1465 1. Ten (10) point penalties
- 1466 A. Eliminates or adds maneuver
- 1467 B. Incomplete maneuver
- 1468 C. Off pattern
- 1469 **D. Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an**
 1470 **unnatural manner in every maneuver)**
- 1471 2. Zero (0) score
- 1472 A. Major disobedience or schooling
- 1473 B. Illegal use of fingers or hands on reins
- 1474 b. Although penalties as described in the current AQHA Rules shall take precedent, as of the 2022 AQHA Rule Book
 1475 (SHW 566.8) the following penalties shall be appropriately assessed:
- 1476 - **1 point:** over-bridled (per maneuver), out of frame (per maneuver), losing working advantage; toe, foot, or stirrup
 1477 on the shoulder; working out of position
- 1478 - **3 points:** cattle picked up or scattered; spurring on shoulder; pawing or biting cattle; back fence; hot quit
- 1479 - **5 points:** horse quitting cow; losing cow; changing cattle after a specific commitment; failure to separate a single
 1480 animal after leaving the herd; blatant disobedience
- 1481 ~~- **10 point:** Unnatural (Arabian) Ranch Horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an~~
 1482 ~~unnatural manner in every maneuver)~~
- 1483 - **Zero Score/Off Pattern (OP):** turn tail; failure to cut two cows; repeated blatant disobedience; use of two hands
 1484 (except junior horses shown in a snaffle bit/ hackamore), more than one finger between split reins or any fingers
 1485 between romal reins (except in the two-rein)
- 1486 - **No Score/Disqualification (DQ):** lameness; abuse; disrespect or misconduct; illegal equipment; excessive
 1487 disturbance of herd to the point that exhibitor is asked to leave the arena; leaving arena before run is complete,
 1488 fall of horse/rider; improper western attire

1489 **AR-WW.23 VRH Ranch Conformation**

- 1490
- 1491 1. General - The purpose of ranch conformation is to preserve the Arabian and Half Arabian Horse type selecting well-
 1492 mannered individuals in the order of their resemblance to the breed ideal and that are the most positive combination of
 1493 balance, structural correctness, and movement with appropriate breed and sex characteristics and adequate muscling. The
 1494 ideal VRH Ranch Conformation horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail. A horse exhibiting
 1495 unnatural Arabian appearance shall be penalized and placed at the bottom of the class (AR-WW.1.2. d)
- 1496 2. To be eligible to compete in the ranch conformation class the horse must be shown in at least one riding class in that
 1497 division at the same show.
- 1498 3. Horses must be at least 3 years of age. Horses in each division may be shown together as one class or divided into Purebred,
 1499 Half-Arabian, Stallions, Mares, Geldings, Open, Amateur, Youth, or in any combination deemed appropriate by show
 1500 management.
- 1501 4. All stallions shall be examined to confirm that they have two visible testicles. All stallions and mares shall be examined
 1502 for over-shot and under-shot mouth. If examination reveals that a horse is a cryptorchid or has an over-/under-shot mouth,
 1503 the judge shall not use such horse in the final placings of the class.
- 1504 5. Horses are to be shown in a good working halter: rope, braided, nylon or plain leather. Any horse shown in the ranch horse
 1505 conformation class may not be shown with an allowed lip cord or safety lead; however, a lead shank with an attached chain
 1506 may be used under the chin ~~or over the nose.~~
- 1507 6. As the horse approaches, the judge will step to the right to enable the horse to trot straight to a cone placed 50 feet away.
 1508 At the cone, the horse will continue trotting, turn to the left and trot toward the left wall or fence of the arena. After trotting,

RESOLUTION 13 – 22

1509 horses will be lined up head to tail for individual inspection by the judge. The judge shall inspect each horse from both
1510 sides, front and rear and place the horses in order of preference.

1511 7. Exhibitors may qualify and show more than one horse in ranch conformation classes. Not allowing these horses to be
1512 shown by other exhibitors will make them ineligible for the all-around which will also affect the overall all-around results
1513 for other exhibitors. Any exhibitor at the same show can show the second or third horse for competitors who qualified
1514 more than one horse for the VRH Ranch Conformation.

1515
1516 Effective: December 31, 2022, or when approved by USEF/EC

1517
1518 (If a Standard resolution, the effective date will be December 31 of the year after the Convention)
1519

1520 RESOLUTION TYPE (**REQUIRED**): Standard _____ Extraordinary X “If indicated as
1521 “Extraordinary”, the proponent must list reasons which establish Chapter 9 of the AHA Handbook, RULE 101.3.a.i (2) & (3)
1522 has been met

1523
1524 This resolution is deemed “Extraordinary” to bring the Working Western rules into compliance with the way the other
1525 organizations and disciplines currently operate and amend their rules (the Working Western Industry as a whole).
1526

1527 PROPONENTS FINANCIAL IMPACT (**REQUIRED**): Refer to Chapter 9, RULE 102.6. & 102.7 for financial
1528 requirements

1529
1530 None

1532 AHA IMPACT STATEMENT:

1533
1534 Contact Person:
1535

1536 SUBMITTED BY: Working Western Committee Region Number:

1537 Member Organization Committee Commission Board Region (*check one*)

1538 Who voted: Members Board Delegates (*check voting body*)

1539 Total Number Eligible to Vote: 78 Number of Yes votes: 57 Number of No votes: 0

1540 How vote was taken: mail email/other electronic means phone meeting (*check one*) (*Must have Quorum with*
1541 *majority of yes votes*)

1542 Where documentation of this vote is recorded: At the AHA office (*Must have printed documentation on file*)

1543 Date vote taken: July 29 – August 3, 2022

1544 Contact Person: Jim Hitt (*Has authority to amend, combine or withdraw*)

1545 Phone: (303) 917-4119 Email: jimhittreg8@msn.com