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Note: This revised chapter reflects what is remaining from the original chapter and is currently required now that qualifications have been waived

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QUAL 101. GENERAL RULES AND ELIGIBILITY (BOD 9/21 point 1 through 13.c)

- It is highly encouraged that an equitation rider ride in either the Medal class or at a Regional Championship to guarantee that the rider has ridden a pattern prior to the National competition.
 - It is highly encouraged that a Dressage/WD exhibitor ride in the level they wish to compete at prior to the Regional/National competition.
10. A National Show Commission has the right to place restrictions on cross entry into classes.
 11. The USEF/EC family definition and two distinct non-family owner definition must be adhered to.
 15. Arabian, Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Championship classes, a horse must:
 - a. Be issued a Certificate of Registration from the Arabian Horse Association, the Canadian Arabian Horse Registry, or the Canadian Partbred Arabian Register.
 22. In accordance with historical precedence, the East Coast Championships, Pacific Slope Championships, Eastern and Western Canadian Breeders Championships Shows are entitled to:
 - a. Retain their specific qualification requirements.
 - b. Retain their respective schedule of classes being fewer than the requirements for Regional Championship Shows.

QUAL 102. CLASSES THAT DO NOT COUNT

1. Classes will not count unless they use an AHA Approved Scoring System or successfully apply for and receive dispensation (Refer to COMP 510 – DISPENSATION) (Res. 20-13).
2. Classes which do not have a corresponding AHA class code will not count. (CAC 5/13)
3. Mixed sex in Breeding and In-Hand classes will not count for Regional and National classes, **Exceptions:**
 - a. Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian colts (One Year & Under) which can be shown in yearling or weanling gelding classes and in Junior Gelding Horse Championships. (Note: Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Colts One

Year & Under are not eligible to advance to further Championships. For more information refer to USEF Rules).

- b. For horses competing in Ranch Conformation, horses in each division may be shown together as one class or divided into Purebred, Half-Arabian, Stallions, Mares, Geldings, Open, Amateur, Youth, or in any combination deemed appropriate by show management. (Res. 15-20)
4. Local Futurities.
5. Any class added to an AHA Recognized Show or Section that is not in compliance with AHA rules.

QUAL 103. NATIONAL RULES

1. To compete in National Championship classes:
 - a. Horses must be one year of age or older for Breeding/In-Hand classes at U.S., CNAC, and Sport Horse Nationals. For Performance Halter and Ranch Horse Conformation, horses must be three years of age or older.
 - b. Be three years of age or older for Breeding/In-Hand, Performance Halter, and Ranch Horse Conformation classes at Youth/Mid-Summer.
 - c. Be three years of age or older for performance classes (includes Showmanship and In-Hand Trail) at U.S., CNAC, Sport Horse, and Youth/Mid-Summer Nationals. (BOD 2/11)
 - d. Yearlings and 2 Year Old's may only compete in the age specific National class; cross entry into Open, ATH or AOTH is not permitted.
2. Horses must be properly entered in the National Championship class prior to the final deadline of entries on the appropriate entry form found in the Omnibus or the AHA web site (exception: see Canada's National Arabian Championship website arabiannationals.com for entry information). For online entries see AHA Omnibus.
3. For Nationals, the closing date of entries will be determined by that National Show Commission. (Res. 50-12)

QUAL 105. ELIGIBILITY PROTEST PROCEDURES – NATIONAL CLASSES

1. Any deficiency in a horse's eligibility for any National Championship class must be protested, if at all, pursuant to the USEF/EC rules for protests within 48 hours after the conclusion of the National Show involved. If the person protesting was aware of, or should have been aware of, the horse's ineligibility prior to the expiration of that 48-hour period. In appropriate and clear cases brought before it no later than 48 hours after the conclusion of the show, the National Show Commission for the National Show involved may, upon 12 hours' notice of an opportunity to be heard, bar from competition, or remove and redistribute any titles and associated prizes won at that show, by any horse determined to be ineligible for the class or classes involved.
2. Any deficiency in a horse's eligibility for any National Championship class that is discovered by the protester later than 48 hours after the conclusion of the National Show, and could not have been discovered sooner, may be the subject of a protest to the Executive Committee. Any such protest must be made in writing no later than 12 months after the conclusion of the National Show for which the horse's ineligibility are alleged to have been deficient. In appropriate cases, the Executive Committee may, upon 7 days' notice of an opportunity to be heard, remove, and redistribute any titles and associated prizes won at a National Show by any horse determined to have been ineligible for the class or classes involved.
3. No protest of any deficiency in a horse's ineligibility for any National Championship class brought later than 12 months after the conclusion of the National Show involved will be considered, except as part of a complaint which has been forwarded to the Ethical Practice Review Board alleging an ethical violation.

QUAL 106. ARABIAN BREEDERS SWEEPSTAKES – REGIONAL AND NATIONAL CLASSES

GENERAL

1. Refer to the Chapter 18, Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes for complete program rules and enrollment fees.

REGIONAL

2. Regional Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian yearlings that have won a 1st place in a Sweepstakes Class in one Regional Show cannot compete in the same class in any other Regional Show.

NATIONAL

3. For U.S. Nationals **and** for Sport Horse Nationals, yearlings must be Breeding Entries.
4. No qualifications are required for the ABS Dressage Prospect Incentive, ABS \$15,000 Green Working Hunter Derby Championship, ABS Performance Halter and ABS Amateur Owner Jackpot classes. All participants must be entered into the Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Program as Breeding/Original Entries. Refer to SWP 116.

QUAL 107. AMATEUR AND AMATEUR OWNER REQUIREMENTS FOR CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

It is the responsibility of the Amateur / Amateur Owner to abide by this rule.

AMATEUR

1. All horses entering any Regional or National Amateur/Amateur Owner (AT/AO, AAT/AAO, JT/JO and Select/Choice/Elite Amateur/Amateur Owner) must **ridden or handled** by an Amateur/Amateur Owner. Amateurs can be of any age.

AMATEUR OWNERS

2. To compete in an Amateur Owner Championship class, the rider/driver/handler must be an Amateur Owner or fulfill the family definition for owner or co-owner rule under USEF.

QUAL 109. EQUITATION REQUIREMENTS

1. The horse used must be a registered Arabian, Half-Arabian, or an Anglo-Arabian, and riders must use the same horse throughout all phases of the competition unless the show veterinarian certifies that the horse used at the beginning is unsound and the required forms are filed at the horse Show Office.
2. The age of the rider determines the corresponding National Championship age group class entry.
3. Equitation sections are Saddle Seat, Reining/Western Seat, Hunter Seat Over Obstacles, Hunter Seat Not to Jump, Western Horsemanship, Dressage Seat. (BOD 5/06)

QUAL 110. NATIONAL FUTURITIES

1. For information regarding qualifications for the National Breeding and In-Hand Futurity, refer to Chapter 19 on the National Halter Futurity for program rules and enrollment fees.
2. For information regarding qualifications for the National Performance Futurity and Maturity, refer to Chapter 20 on the National Performance Futurity and Maturity for program rules and enrollment fees.

QUAL 111. LEAD LINE REQUIREMENTS FOR REGIONAL AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

The Lead Line Class exhibitors shall be at least two years of age and have not reached their 7th birthday (USEF/EC rules).

QUAL 112. NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FROM NATIONAL SHOWS

Exceptions:

1. UPHA Equitation riders must re-qualify each year. (Refer to UPHA for complete rules and age of rider) (See QUAL 116)
8. The U.S. National Champion Arabian Open Senior Stallion or Arabian Open Senior Mare is no longer allowed to participate at the U.S. Nationals in their respective divisions after achieving said title. (BOD 11/15)

QUAL 113. PERFORMANCE HALTER REQUIREMENTS

See criteria outlined in REQ 112.

QUAL 114. REINING REQUIREMENTS

Placings in the Non-Pro Divisions do not affect eligibility in the Open Divisions. Refer to USEF/EC Working Western Section, Reining Horse Class Specifications for Open and Non-Pro criteria. (Res. 42-10)

QUAL 115. REINED COW HORSE REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL

1. **Limited Reined Cow/Boxing classes** - Open to any qualified rider that has not taken a cow down the fence 3 actual runs in any judged class or event (classes in which a rider "goes down the fence" include Working Cow and Reined Cow Horse classes. A rider does not "go down the fence" in a Limited Reined Cow Horse/Boxing class or in Box-Drive-Box class). Being entered in a class that includes fence work will be counted as going down the fence REGARDLESS if the rider boxed the cow and pulled up before the run was completed. (Res. 35-10)
2. Non-Pro Limited/Boxing Competitors (50 years of age and older) – this class is open to approved Non-Pro Limited/Boxing riders who comply with all eligibility rules (see NRCHA Non-Pro eligibility rules/USEF Amateur rules). (Res. 16-15)
 - a. May not go down the fence again in any judged class(es) or event(s) except for horse sales.
 - b. May fall back into the Non-Pro Limited Reined Cow Horse/Boxing division/class only once.

QUAL 116. UPHA ARABIAN BREEDS CHALLENGE CUP QUALIFICATIONS FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

UPHA Equitation riders must re-qualify each year on either a registered Arabian, Half-Arabian, or Anglo-Arabian. Refer to the United Professional Horseman's Association for program rules and qualifications. Phone (859) 231-5070.

QUAL 117. 10 & UNDER WALK-TROT/JOG REQUIREMENTS FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

The Walk-Trot/Jog Pleasure and Equitation classes for Arabians, Half-Arabians, and Anglo-Arabians are for exhibitors aged 10 and under. A rider must never have been judged in a class at a Recognized or Licensed Competition that required a canter or lope (**Exception:** Short Stirrup Reining Riders and Cross Rail 10 & Under Riders – see USEF/EC). (Res. 13-15)

1. A combined Walk-Trot/Jog Equitation/Pleasure class or a Walk-Trot/Jog class that does not specify whether it is a pleasure or equitation class will not be recorded.

QUAL 118. CATEGORIES (BOD 9/21)

Category III – Program Enrollment

- ABS Yearling Classes (Arabian Filly/Colt/Gelding) – Breeding Entry only and received a Top 10 from Regional ABS Yearling class (HA/AA Filly/Gelding offered at Regional only)
- ABS Sport Horse Yearling Classes – Breeding Entry only
- ABS AAOTR Jackpots (Arabian and HA/AA Western PI, County PI, Hunter PI, English PI, Reining) – Breeding or Original Entry
- ABS AAO Performance Halter – Breeding Entry or Original Entry – must be adjudicated at Nationals in a Performance Class
- ABS Sport Horse Under Saddle AO Jackpot – Breeding or Original Entry
- ABS Dressage Prospect Incentive – Breeding or Original Entry
- ABS Green Working Hunter Derby – Breeding or Original Entry
- Performance Futurity/Maturity/Derby – program enrollment
- Breeding/In-Hand Futurity – program enrollment
- Sport Horse 3-Year-Old In-Hand Jackpot – pay to play

Note: To qualify for:

- **Ranch Horse Conformation:** To be eligible to compete in the ranch conformation class the horse must compete in at least one Ranch or Versatility Ranch Horse class in the Arabian Division at the same competition. (Refer to USEF AR281.2)

QUAL 119. CLASS EXTENSIONS AND DEFINITIONS

1. **Governing Bodies and Rule Books** - AHA, USEF, USDF, NRHA, NRCHA, RSNC, ADS, NCHA, USTPA. Any show may hold any class that is governed by any of the Rule books or Association rules that AHA recognizes.

2. **Standard Definitions** - Breeding/In Hand - based on Horse Ages (May include specialty classes like Jackpot). All Ages, 2 & Over, 2 & Under, 1 & Under, or any age over and/or under. Yearling, 2 yrs, 3 yrs, 4 yrs, or any combination of years (2 & 3yrs, 3 & 4 yrs, etc.). Sport Horse may or may not be divided according to type - Dressage or Hunter.
3. **Divisions Based on Horse** - May be restricted by specific age or open to all. Open / Mares / Stallions / Geldings / Maiden / Novice / Limit Horse / Ladies / Gentleman/Junior Horse. Sport Horse Under Saddle may or may not be divided according to type - Dressage or Hunter.
4. **Divisions Based on Rider/Driver/Handler Status** - Amateur Owner / Amateur / Amateur Owner Trained & Shown / Select / Choice / Elite / Primetime / Maiden Rider / Novice Rider / Limit Rider. May be restricted by sex (Ladies, Gents) age groups or open to all. Note: Some descriptions above are only available to Rider's.
5. **Cutting** – Open, Non-Pro, Novice, Rookie.
6. **Performance Based on Seats** – All Seats may be run together, separate or a combination of types, i.e., Western, English, Country English, and Hunter.
7. **Carriage Pleasure Driving** - Divisions / Extensions can be based on Horse (HS), Driver (RS).
 - a. Pleasure (CD & PD) - Turnout, Working, Park, Reinsmanship, Freestyle Reinsmanship, Super Reinsmanship.
 - b. Combination (CD & COMB) - Drive & Ride, Hunter, Sport Tandem.
 - c. Obstacle (CD & OBST)
 - 1) Specialty Time Comp - Scurry, Town & Country, Double Jeopardy, Reverse Psychology, Pick Your Route, Your Route/My Route.
 - 2) High-Point Comp - Fault and out, Progressive, Gambler's Choice.
 - 3) Fault Competitions - Cross Country, Fault Obstacle.
 - d. Driven Dressage (DD) - Training, Preliminary, Intermediate, Arena Driving Trial.
8. **Combined Driving** (DC) USEF – Based on level, Intermediate, Preliminary, Training.
9. **Working Western** - All Horse / Rider Status classes plus Limited, Bitted / Bosal - Hackamore. May also include Freestyle.
10. **Working Hunter – Provides the maximum fence height** (Res. 8-15)

Working Hunter Warm Up – 2' – 2'6"/Spread Max 2'6"

Working Hunter – Open, JTR, ATR, AATR - 2'

Combined Working Hunter - 2'3" and 2' 6" (Classes may be combined or run as separate classes – unrated class)

Modified Working Hunter - Open – 2'9"

Regular Working Hunter - Open – 3'0"

Working Hunter Classic – Open

Working Hunter Derby

Green Working Hunter Open – 2'6" – See USEF for eligibility requirements

Green Working Hunter Open - 2'9" - See USEF for eligibility requirements

14.2 HH and Under Working Hunter - Open – 2'6"

14.2 HH and Under Working Hunter JTR/AATR/ATR – 2'3"

14.2 HH and Under Green Hunter - Open – 2'3"

Modified Working Hunter, JTR/ATR/AATR – 2'3"

Junior/Amateur Working Hunter JTR/ATR/AATR – 2'6"

Junior/Amateur Owner Working Hunter - JOTR/AOTR/AAOTR – 2'9"

Cross Rails not to exceed 18"
11. **Jumper** - Based on Fence Heights

Open - .8m, .9m, 1m, 1.1m

AO / AT (All ages) - .8m, .9m, 1m, 1.1m

Novice - .7m, .8m, .9m
12. **Eventing** – Based on level, Novice, Training, Preliminary or above, Combined.
13. **Western Dressage** – Based on levels = Intro, Basic, Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4, Level 5. Plus, may be based on Horse and/or Rider divisions.
14. **Ranch Sorting** – Based on rating system. See RSNC for rating definitions.

QUAL 120. AHA CLASS/SECTION LIST

See class list and sections on the AHA website under Competitions/Resources/Recognized Sections