



The Arabian Working Western Alliance Ranch Horse Challenge Class Procedures

Purpose:

The purpose of the Arabian Working Western Alliance (AWWA) Ranch Horse Challenge is to create a sense of community and comradery in the Arabian Horse industry by providing opportunities & incentives for the breeding, showing, and owning of traditional Western performance Arabian-bred horses.

AWWA Ranch Horse Challenge Procedures:

The AWWA Arabian Ranch Horse Challenge and the AWWA HA/AA Ranch Horse Challenge are held each year at the U.S. National Arabian Horse Show. The Ranch Horse Challenge is open to any registered Arabian or HA/AA horse ages 4 years & older. AHA will award a National Champion, Reserve National Champion, and 8 Top 10 awards in each class. The AWWA will determine added prize money. Payback amounts are determined by using the AWWA Payback Chart located below.

To participate in the AWWA Ranch Horse Challenge an exhibitor must complete BOTH the AWWA Entry Form found at the website and the AHA U.S. Nationals Entry Form. Entry Fees must be paid in full to be considered completed.

Four-year-olds are also eligible for additional AWWA Incentive Fund awards if they possess an AWWA Incentive Certificate. To obtain an AWWA Incentive Certificate, see section on AWWA Incentive Funds.

A random order of go will be posted no later than one hour prior to start of class.

Each horse in the Ranch Horse Challenge is presented individually riding the AWWA-designated pattern in accordance with class specifications set forth in the Arabian Division of the USEF rule book section for Ranch Horse competition. The AWWA pattern will be available on the first day that the AHA U.S. Nationals Show Office opens. The pattern will consist of at least six, but no more than eight, maneuvers. Maneuvers will test and display the versatility and athletic capabilities of a horse able to perform in multiple working western disciplines. The course is not designed to trick or trap any horse. The intent is to reward a horse and rider team based on

their level of expertise. Judges will walk the course to confirm safety and suitability of course. Exhibitors will be allowed to walk the course prior to competition.

Examples of possible maneuvers include, but are not limited to:

- Walk over obstacle
- Extended Trot
- Trot over obstacle
- Lope over obstacle
- Hand gallop
- Picking up feet
- Pick-up & carry an item
- Drag an object
- Serpentine
- Sidepass
- Ground tie
- Bridge
- Change of lead
- Turn on the hind
- Load into a trailer
- Back through or around
- Open & close gate
- Rope a steer head
- Roll back
- Walk through cattle pen

A five-judge scoring system will be employed for the pattern scoring where one high and one low score is eliminated. The remaining three scores will be totaled to determine the final placings in the Ranch Horse Challenge class.

Prior to the start of the class, three maneuvers will be selected by the call judge to serve in case of any ties. To break a tie, the scorer will first count up the total penalties as recorded on the three judges' cards utilized in the scoring. If a tie still exists, the maneuver selected as the #1 tie breaker on the call judge's card will be used. The horse with the better score will place over the other horse. If horses are still tied, the scorer moves to the maneuver selected as the #2 tie breaker on the Judge 2 card. The horse with the better score will place over the other horse. If horses are still tied, the scorer moves to the maneuver selected as the #3 tie breaker on the Judge 3 card. The horse with the better score will place over the other horse. If horses are still tied after utilizing all three selected tie-breaker maneuvers from all three judges' card, any monies for the tied positions will be added together and divided by the number of horses tied. A coin toss will determine the winner of any awards.

Following the completion of the individual pattern work the Top 10 winners from the Ranch Horse Challenge will be announced back into the arena for award presentation. Each horse will enter the arena individually in numeric order by announcing Back Number, Name, Rider, Owner, Sire, Dam, and Breeder. They will line up in center of arena. Champion & Reserve Champion will be announced and presented for additional awards. Horses will exit arena in placing order with 10th place going out first,

followed by 9th place, then 8th, in such order until Reserve and lastly the Champion is called. As horses exit the arena, they will be announced by Placing, Score, Name, Rider, Owner, Sire, Dam, Breeder, and Amount of Money Won.

A rider may show up to three horses in each of the AWWA Ranch Horse Challenge classes.

AWWA Incentive Fund Awards

AWWA Incentive Fund awards are available to eligible 4-year-olds who are entered and shown in their respective Ranch Horse Challenge class **and** possess an AWWA Incentive Certificate. To obtain an AWWA Incentive Certificate, a horse must be sired by an AWWA Enrolled Stallion **and** have a Mare Nomination Form on file prior to December 31st of the breeding year beginning in 2023. Please go to the AWWA website for forms.

Incentive Fund awards and any payback are separate from the Ranch Horse Challenge awards and prize monies. Each year the total amount available in AWWA Incentive Funds is determined by adding Stallion Enrollment, Mare Nomination, and Sponsorships together. Funds are divided by Division (i.e. Arabian or HA/AA) according to the breed of offspring each stallion sires, breed of resulting foal from mare nominations, and sponsorship designation. The total of each Division will be divided as 75% for pattern work and 25% for In-hand Conformation. Distribution of prize money for pattern work is 23% first, 14% second, 10.5% for third, 9% for fourth, 8% for fifth, 7% for sixth, 6% for seventh, 5% for eighth, 4% for ninth, 3.5% for tenth; 3% for eleventh, 2.5% for twelfth, 2% for thirteenth, 1.5% for fourteenth, and 1% for fifteenth. Any money not distributed from the pattern work will be equally divided among the winners.

Distribution of prize money for In-hand Conformation is 25% for first, 15% for second, and 7.5% for third to tenth. Any money not distributed from the In-hand competition will be equally divided among the winners.

Following the completion of the pattern work for the AWWA Ranch Horse Challenge class, the 15 highest scoring eligible 4-year-olds will be asked to return for the Incentive Fund award presentations. These 15 eligible 4-year-olds are called AWWA Incentive Finalists. Scores earned in the AWWA Ranch Horse Challenge are used to place the eligible 4-year-olds. Each Incentive Finalist will enter arena individually in numeric order by announcing Back Number, Name, Rider, Owner, Sire, Dam, and Breeder. They will line up in center of arena. Champion & Reserve Champion for the Incentive Fund awards will be announced and presented for additional awards. Horses will exit arena in placing order with 15th place going out first, followed by 14th place, then 13th, in such order until Reserve and lastly the Champion is called. As horses exit the arena, they will be

announced by Placing, Score, Name, Rider, Owner, Sire, Dam, Breeder, and Amount of Money Won.

AWWA Incentive Fund awards are also available for an In-hand Conformation class. There is no additional entry fee for the In-hand Conformation competition. Only the 15 AWWA Incentive Fund Finalists are eligible for the In-hand Conformation competition.

Following the under-saddle award presentation, the 15 Incentive Fund Finalists will be asked to unsaddle in the paddock area and prepare for the In-Hand Conformation competition. The 15 Incentive Fund Finalists will be invited back into the arena in numeric order. Each horse will be announced into the arena by Back Number, Name, Handler, Owner, Sire, Dam, and Breeder. The exhibitor that rode the horse in the AWWA Ranch Horse Challenge must show the horse for the In-hand Conformation; however, exhibitors with more than one horse in the Conformation class may find an additional handler for the other horse(s). Class procedure for the In-Hand Conformation will follow class specifications set forth in the Arabian Division of the USEF rule book for Ranch Horse Conformation.

Each of the five judges will mark his/her card to place all 15 horses. Once all cards are turned into the scorer, horses are excused to the paddock. Tabulation points will be assigned to each placing for each judge beginning with 15 points for first, 14 for second, 13 for third and so on down to 1 point for 15th place. All five judge's tabulation points are added together to determine the final placings for the In-Hand Conformation. Any ties in the final tabulation of In-hand Conformation awards will be left tied. Prize monies will be added together and divided by number of horses tied. A coin toss will determine winner of any prizes.

The AWWA Incentive Fund Finalists with the 10 highest scores from the In-hand Conformation competition are invited back into the arena individually by numerical order announcing Back Number, Name, Handler, Owner, Sire, Dam, and Breeder. They will line up in center of arena. Champion & Reserve Champion will be announced and presented for additional awards. Horses will exit arena in placing order with 10th place going out first, followed by 9th place, then 8th, in such order until Reserve and lastly the Champion is called. As horses exit the arena, they will be announced by Placing, Score, Name, Handler, Owner, Sire, Dam, Breeder, and Amount of Money Won.

AWWA Stallion Auction Bonus Money

Beginning in 2028, there will be additional awards and bonus money for those eligible 4-year-olds who resulted from a breeding purchased through the AWWA Stallion Service Auction. Proceeds from the AWWA Stallion Service Auction are divided by Division (i.e. Arabian & HA/AA). Each Division is

