



The Arabian Working Western Alliance Ranch Horse Challenge Class Procedures

Updated: December 1, 2023

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 and incentives for the breeding, showing, and owning of traditional Western performance Arabian-blooded horses. An Incentive Fund was created to encourage the development of young stock suited for the Working Western disciplines. Incentive Fund monies are separate from prize money raised in the Ranch Horse Challenge.

AWWA Ranch Horse Challenge Procedures:

The AWWA Ranch Horse Challenge is held each year at the Arabian Horse Association (AHA) U.S. National Championship Show. There are two divisions: one for purebred Arabian horses and the other for Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian (HA/AA) horses. Each class is open to any registered Arabian or HA/AA horse ages 4 years and older. AHA will award a National Champion, Reserve National Champion, and 8 Top 10 awards in each division. The AWWA will determine 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 and the AHA Entry Form found at their websites. For AWWA, go to www.arabianworkingwestern.com and for AHA go to www.ArabianHorses.org. Entry fees and all show fees must be paid in full to be considered properly entered and complete.

Four-year-olds who possess an AWWA Incentive Fund certificate are eligible to compete for additional prize money and awards which are set aside specifically for them. See: **AWWA Incentive Fund Awards** section.

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 rulebook section for Ranch Horse competition. The AWWA pattern will be available on the first day that the AHA U.S. National 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 obstacles	Extended Trot
Trot over obstacles	Hand Gallop
Lope over obstacles	Picking up feet
Pick-up & carry an object	Drag an object
Serpentine	Sidepass
Ground tie	Bridge
Change of lead	Gate
Turn on the hind	Load into a trailer
Back through or around	Rope a steer head
Roll back	Cattle pen

A five-judge scoring system will be employed for the pattern work 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.

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' cards, 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, Horse Name, Exhibitor, 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, then 8th, to continue in such order until Reserve, and lastly, the Champion. As horses exit the arena they will be announced by Placing, Score, Name, Exhibitor, Owner, Sire, Dam, Breeder, and Amount of Money won.

Following the presentation of the Top 10, any special awards will be given. Special awards may be Top Scoring Amateurs or Breeder's Recognition Award for example.

An exhibitor may show up to three horses in each of the AWWA Ranch Horse Challenge Divisions.

