



Tamworth. NSW. 2340. E: [archa@outlook.com.au](mailto:archa@outlook.com.au) P: 0490 915 094

 @AUSTRALIANREINEDCOWHORSEASSOCIATION

[www.cowhorseaustralia.com](http://www.cowhorseaustralia.com)

### **National Classes, Two Handed Classes, Snaffle Bit Cutting Classes, Youth Classes, & Rookie Class RULES**

**This is just a quick familiarization into the rules of each class, [ALL Competitors are required to know the rules regardless whether it's stated here or not.](#) If you have any questions about rules or are unsure, please contact us prior to any shows.**

**ARCHA National Finals** will require competitors to qualify in order to attend the Finals (\*\*\*) ARCHA reserves the right to make the National Finals an open invitation event if in the best interest of the competitors, IE COVID-19 hinders enough shows to qualify, ETC)

### **3 Ways a competitor can qualify for the NATIONAL Finals**

- Be in the TOP Points standings as determined by the ARCHA based on amount of competitors that enter the class throughout the year. Points will be awarded in accordance with the NRCHA (USA) Rule Book.
- Win an AUTOMATIC QUALIFIER. What that means at all ARCHA & ARCHA recognized shows, if you win the class, you automatically punch your ticket straight to the NATIONAL FINALS. If you are in the TOP POINTS Standings, you come off the POINTS Board and the next competitor below you bumps up into your slot.
- Be the TOP Rider in an ARCHA recognized Affiliate. IF the competitor has not qualified in one of the other two ways, and you're the Top Rider in your Affiliate Club in a Class the ARCHA hosts at the National Finals, the competitors will punch their ticket to the National Finals. **(Class must be a class the ARCHA offers at the National Finals & must be judged by a recognized ARCHA Judge)**

**National Classes:** Below events are to be run as per the NRCHA (USA) Rules book and are subject to change in accordance with the rule book.

### **OPEN Bridle Spectacular CLASS:**

- Open to all competitors, **Bridle, Rommel Reins, Western Saddle, Chaps or Chinks required.**
- **Open to any AGED Horse, however if you show the horse in a Bridle Class down the Fence, the Horse is automatically disqualified from competing in the following aged events.**
  - a. Futurity (3 years old)
  - b. All Hackamore classes (5 & Under)
  - c. Hackamore Classic (5 & Under)
  - d. **[The horse would still be eligible to compete in the Derby](#)** ( 4 & 5 year old horses only)

### **Open Two Reined Cow Horse:**

- Open to all competitors, to all horses who have not competed in a Bridle down the fence, **Two Reined equipment, Western Saddle, Chaps or Chinks required**
- 2021 Show season, if your horse has not shown in a Bridle Class prior to 2021 show season, **that Horse is eligible to show in Two Reined Class for one Show Year.**
- **A horse may be shown in the two rein equipment for one year only regardless of the class it is shown in except in Bridle Class or Head Gear Specific Class.**



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- **The countdown starts the moment you enter that horse in a Bridle or Two Reined Class & it DOES NOT matter at what point in the show year you enter the horse that horse only gets that show year for the Two Reined Class. So for example, the ARCHA show year ends in November, if you decide to enter the horse in our September show, for the first time in Bridle Class or Two Reined Class that horse only has until November in the same year, to be eligible to compete in the Two Reined Class.**
- In standard Cow Horse Classes, where the Head Stall is specific to the horse's age, IE, Non Pro Cow Horse Class, Advanced Boxing Class, Limited Boxing Class, ETC., **require HORSE age appropriate Headgear (snaffle bit or hackamore for 5 and under & two rein (one year only) or bridle for 6 and over).**
- During that Show year, the horse can be shown in a Bridle Class & Two Reined Class, however within that specific class, they must show in the Head Gear requirement for that class.
  - a. If horse shows in Two Reined Class, the horse must show in Two Reined Head Stall
  - b. If horse shows in Bridle Class, the horse must show in Bridle Head Stall
- Horses shown in a Bridle **Down The Fence** Class prior to [2021 Show Season are not eligible for the Two Reined Class](#)
- **Two Reined Class is Open to any aged Horse, However if you show the horse in a Two Reined Class or Bridle Class down the Fence, the Horse is automatically disqualified from competing in the following aged events.**
  - e. Futurity (3 years old)
  - f. All Hackamore classes (5 & Under)
  - g. Hackamore Classic (5 & Under)
  - h. [The horse would still be eligible to compete in the Derby](#) ( 4 & 5 year old horses only)  
[ALL Competitors are required to know the rules regardless whether it's stated here or not.](#)

#### **OPEN NON PRO REINED COW HORSE CLASS:**

- Non pro's only, 5 & under horse can compete in Snaffle Bit or Hackamore two handed, 6 and Older can compete in Two reined (if eligible) or Bridle with Rommel Reins, **Western Saddle, Chaps or Chinks required**

#### **Open Hackamore Cow Horse Class:**

- Open 5 & under horses who have not competed in a bridle down the fence, the following is required equipment, **Hackamore, Western Saddle, Chaps or Chinks required**

#### **LIMITED BOXING:**

- **Non Pro's** only, 5 & under horse can compete in Snaffle Bit or Hackamore two handed, 6 and Older can compete in Two reined (if eligible) or Bridle with Rommel Reins, **Western Saddle, Chaps or Chinks required**
- Competitors are required to complete the cattle work portion of this event for the entire **50 seconds**



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### **Advanced Boxing (Beginner Fence Work)**

- **Non Pro's only**, 5 & under horse can compete in Snaffle Bit or Hackamore two handed, 6 and Older can compete in Two reined (if eligible) or Bridle with Rommel Reins, **Western Saddle, Chaps or Chinks required**
- Competitors have 1:45 to complete the cattle work portion of this event. **(Competitor does not have use the full 1:45 to complete the event tasks)**

The above events are to be run as per the NRCHA (USA) Rules book and are subject to change in accordance with the rule book.

**BELOW ARE ARCHA SPECIFIC CLASSES.** All classes will be judged the same, however the rules below explain eligibility & what a competitor is allowed to do. These classes were developed for Australia specific.

### **ARCHA TWO HANDED CLASSES, SNAFFLEBIT CUTTING, YOUTH Classes & ROOKIE Class RULES:**

#### **Two Handed Reined Cow Horse: THIS CLASS IS BASED ON ELIGIBILITY OF THE HORSE**

- Open everyone regardless of skill level, to any aged horse.
- Snaffle Bit or Hackamore, in any saddle, **Chaps & Chinks NOT Required.**
- Required to wear jeans, long sleeved collared button shirt, cowboy boots, and cowboy hat or approved safety helmet.
- **If at any time while competing in this class the competitor's horse wins 3 TWO HANDED REINED COW HORSE CLASS events, the horse, not the rider, becomes automatically ineligible to continue to compete in ALL Two Handed classes (IE Two Handed Reined Cow Horse, Two Handed Advanced Boxing, and Two Handed Boxing)**
- When the horse becomes ineligible if they are in the top standings for points or won an Automatic qualifier for that show season, the horse will be eligible to compete at the **National Finals** in that class for that year, however the **horse will not be able to compete** in that class at any shows prior to the National Finals.
- **If at any time the competitor's horse wins another class (Any NRCHA (USA) rule book recognized Reined Cow Horse Class) the horse is automatically ineligible to continue to compete ALL Two Handed Classes, regardless of their standings or if they received an automatic qualifier.**
- Competitor's Horse can ride in this class for as long as they want until such time as the horse becomes ineligible according to the above rules.

#### **Two Handed Advanced Boxing: THIS CLASS IS BASED ON ELIGIBILITY OF THE HORSE**

- Open everyone regardless of skill level, to any aged horse.
- Snaffle Bit or Hackamore, in any saddle, **Chaps & Chinks NOT Required.**
- Required to wear jeans, long sleeved collared button shirt, cowboy boots, and cowboy hat or approved safety helmet.
- Competitors have 1:45 to complete the cattle work portion of this event. **(Competitor does not have use the full 1:45 to complete the event tasks)**



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- **If at any time while competing in this class the competitor's horse wins 3 TWO HANDED Advanced Boxing Class events, the horse, not the rider, becomes automatically ineligible to continue to compete in this class & the Two Handed Boxing Class.**
- When the horse becomes ineligible if they are in the top standings for points or won an Automatic qualifier for that show season, the horse will be eligible to compete at the **National Finals** in that class for that year, however the **horse will not be able to compete** in that class at any shows prior to the National Finals.
- **If at any time the competitor's horse wins another class (Any NRCHA (USA) rule book recognized Reined Cow Horse Class or Advanced Boxing Class) the horse is automatically ineligible to continue to compete in the Two Handed Advanced Boxing Class, regardless of their standings or if they received an automatic qualifier.**
- Competitor's Horse can ride in this class for as long as they want until such time as the horse becomes ineligible according to the above rules.

#### **Two Handed Boxing: THIS CLASS IS BASED ON ELIGIBILITY OF THE HORSE**

- Open everyone regardless of skill level, to any aged horse.
- Snaffle Bit or Hackamore, in any saddle, **Chaps & Chinks NOT Required.**
- Required to wear jeans, long sleeved collared button shirt, cowboy boots, and cowboy hat or approved safety helmet.
- Competitors are required to complete the cattle work portion of this event for the entire **50 seconds**
- **If at any time while competing in this class the competitor's horse wins 3 TWO HANDED Boxing Class events, the horse, not the rider, becomes automatically ineligible to continue to compete in this class.**
- When the horse becomes ineligible if they are in the top standings for points or won an Automatic qualifier for that show season, the horse will be eligible to compete at the **National Finals** in that class for that year, however the **horse will not be able to compete** in that class at any shows prior to the National Finals.
- **If at any time the competitor's horse wins another class (Any NRCHA (USA) rule book recognized Reined Cow Horse Class, Advanced Boxing Class, & Limited Boxing) the horse is automatically ineligible to continue to compete in the Two Handed Class, regardless of their standings or if they received an automatic qualifier.**
- Competitor's Horse can ride in this class for as long as they want until such time as the horse becomes ineligible according to the above rules.

#### **OPEN SNAFFLE BIT CUTTING:**

- This class is open to everyone and all horses regardless of age & regardless of earned money by competitor
- Competitor will show in a **Snaffle Bit** two handed, regardless of horse's age. Can also show in **HACKAMORE or BOSAL**, in any saddle, **Chaps & Chinks NOT Required.**
- Competitors will be required to wear long sleeve collared button shirt, cowboy boots and cowboy hat or approved safety helmet.
- Competitor can show in this class for as long as they want. No winning class 3 times or another class rule applies.



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#### **OPEN NON PRO SNAFFLE BIT CUTTING:**

- This class is open **NON PRO's ONLY** and all horses regardless of age & regardless of earned money by competitor. Competitor must own the horse & show proof of ownership. NON PRO Declaration required.
- Competitor will show in a **Snaffle Bit** two handed, regardless of horse's age. Can also show in **HACKAMORE or BOSAL**, in any saddle, **Chaps & Chinks NOT Required**.
- Competitors will be required to wear long sleeve collard button shirt, cowboy boots and cowboy hat or approved safety helmet.
- Competitor can show in this class for as long as they want. No winning class 3 times or another class rule applies.

#### **13 & UNDER YOUTH CLASS:**

- The class is open to all youths who are 13 & under as of 16 November of the current show year and all horses regardless of skill level and age.
- Youth can show either two handed or one handed. Totally up to them. Judging will be based on performance and whether it's one handed or two handed will have no bearing on their score. (IE competitor will not get more points awarded just because they showed one handed vs someone who showed two handed)
- Youth can show in any saddle and any equipment that is not a TRAINING DEVICE, regardless of the horse's age (IE 10 year old horse can be shown in snaffle bit)
- Youth only have to wear jeans, long sleeve collared button shirt, cowboy boots, and required to wear approved safety helmet.
- Youth does not have to own the horse they are showing.
- **If the Youth chooses to compete in another class other than youth classes, I.E. Non-Pro, they will be required to follow the rules and regulations that govern that class. Regardless of what ever class they decide to compete in, they will still be mandated to wear an approved safety helmet.**
- Youth can ride in this class for as long as they want until such time as they become ineligible according to the above rules.

#### **14-18 YOUTH CLASS:**

- The class is open to all youths who are 14-18 as of 16 November of the current show year and all horses regardless of skill level and age.
- Youth can show either two handed or one handed. Totally up to them. Judging will be based on performance and whether it's one handed or two handed will have no bearing on their score. (IE competitor will not get more points awarded just because they showed one handed vs someone who showed two handed)
- Youth can show in any saddle and any equipment that is not a TRAINING DEVICE, regardless of the horse's age (IE 10 year old horse can be shown in snaffle bit)
- Youth only have to wear jeans, long sleeve collared button shirt, cowboy boots, and required to wear approved safety helmet.
- Youth does not have to own the horse they are showing.
- **If the Youth chooses to compete in another class other than youth classes, I.E. Non-Pro, they will be required to follow the rules and regulations that govern that class. Regardless of what ever class they decide to compete in, they will still be mandated to wear an approved safety helmet.**



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- Youth can ride in this class for as long as they want until such time as they become ineligible according to the above rules.

### \*\*\* ROOKIE CLASSES \*\*\*

This class is designed to be an encouragement class for new riders or people thinking about getting into the sport but haven't yet.

#### Rookie class will include:

Rookie Boxing

Rookie Advanced Boxing

**Rules:** (Applies to both Rookie Boxing & Rookie Advanced Boxing)

- Riders will ride two-handed in a legal Snaffle bit or Hackamore regardless of horse's age. **No training equipment or Bridles allowed. Rider can ride in any saddle.**
- Long Sleeve button up shirt, jeans, cowboy boots, cowboy hat or safety helmet are to be worn. (Chaps or Chinks not required)
- **THIS is a RIBBON awards class only.**
- If rider wins First Place 3 times they are ineligible to continue in that specific Rookie class. However they will still be eligible for the National Finals run off and will be given an automatic slot to the run off.
- Rider wins any earnings in the Buckle classes, they are ineligible to continue in all the Rookie classes at the conclusion of that show.
- **Open Riders are Ineligible for the Rookie classes.**
  - a. Competitors will be allowed to enter one horse per Rookie Class at any given show. **IE a Rider can enter one Horse for the Rookie Boxing and enter a different horse for the Rookie Beginning Fence Work /Advanced Boxing if so choose.**
  - b. The purpose for this is to ensure our shows are not only run in a timely manner but also in fairness to give all Rookies an opportunity to compete.
  - c. The ROOKIES Class was designed as a way to encourage new riders to enter the sport of Cow Horse and have an opportunity to improve on their riding skills, as well as current members that are eligible to ride in the ROOKIES CLASS an opportunity to improve their cow horse skills. For those wanting to improve their horse's skills, **the TWO HANDED Classes were designed so that the competitor can enter as many horses as they want to.**
  - d. At any of the shows, a Competitor cannot enter the ROOKIE Classes if they are entered in any of the Cow Horse Classes at the same show (IE any class that has a Down the Fence Phase). Competitors can still enter at that show any of the Boxing Classes & Advanced Boxing Classes and also the Rookie Classes.
  - e. What this means is if the Competitor enters at **SHOW A** for example the Two Handed Reined Cow Horse Class. The Competitor for **SHOW A** cannot enter any of the ROOKIE Classes.



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- f. However if at **SHOW B**, the competitor does not enter into the COW Horse Classes & **provided they are still ROOKIE ELIGIBLE**, the competitor can enter into any of the ROOKIE Classes.
  - g. We have implemented this rule so that we can encourage the competitor to enter into the COW HORSE classes and should they feel they aren't ready for those classes yet, they can still compete in ROOKIE Classes.
  - h. **We also want this class to be open to true ROOKIES who want to try the sport out without feeling overwhelmed because of the level competition.**
  - i. **This rule does not apply to entering any of the Boxing or Advanced Boxing Classes. Competitors can enter those classes and still enter the ROOKIE Class at that show. Competitors can still enter into those classes at any show and also enter the ROOKIE Classes at the same show.**
- There will also be 100 Rookie points eligibility system for each Rookie class. Earn 100 points in that Rookie class, automatically become ineligible for that specific Rookie Class. (See point system below) Top Riders invited back to the run off at the National Finals will be based on the Rookie Points earned.
  - Will be judged by the same rules as our Buckle classes.
  - **This class will use rerun cattle.**

**ROOKIE Points System for both ROOKIE Classes:**

1st = 25PTS  
2-3= 20PTS  
4-6= 15PTS  
7-10= 10PTS

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