

2012 COW HORSE BOXING RULES

A rider is eligible for the **Youth, Amateur and Novice** boxing classes if they have never been a finalist in working cow horse at any **AQHA world championship show** or **National Reined Cow Horse Association** major event and if they have earned less than 10 points in working cow horse in the last three years.

If a rider is eligible to compete in boxing at the beginning of that calendar year, the rider will lose his or her eligibility to enter boxing if he or she shows three or more times down the fence in any judged class. Being entered in a class that includes the 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.

Also, a competitor cannot enter a boxing class and the corresponding working cow horse class (i.e. amateur boxing and amateur working cow horse).

*For further information, please refer to the **2012 AQHA Rule Book**. If you do not have one, it's yours for the asking at AQHA, or on line at **AQHA.org**. Printouts of these rules will also be available in the show office.*

2012 RANCH HORSE PLEASURE RULES

Horses must be at least 3 years old as of January 1, 2012

Ranch horse pleasure is one class, with open, amateur and youth exhibitors.

The judged class will have three to five suggested patterns, which will be scored based on a proposed score sheet. Points earned in the class are eligible for the AQHA Incentive Fund.

No horse may cross-enter (i.e. a junior/senior western pleasure horse shown at a show is not eligible to show in the ranch pleasure at the same show; youth western pleasure horse may not show in ranch pleasure; amateur/Select amateur western pleasure entry may not show in ranch pleasure).

The Ranch Horse Pleasure Horse should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working horse. The horse's performance should simulate a horse riding outside the confines of an arena and that of a working ranch horse. This class should show the horse's ability to work at a forward, working speed while under the rider's control.

Each horse will work individually, performing both the required and optional maneuvers and will be scored from 0 to 100, with 70 denoting an average performance. The primary considerations are the overall manners and responsiveness of the horse while performing the maneuver requirements and the horse's quality of movement. Required movements include the walk, jog and lope in both directions; the extended jog and lope in at least one direction; stops; and a turn to change directions.

Three of the following maneuvers must be included: sidepass; turns of 360 degrees or more; change of lead (simple or flying); walk, jog or lope over a pole(s); or any other reasonable combination of maneuvers that a ranch horse would perform. The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be as those described in Rule 447 (a), with an emphasis on forward movement, free-flowing and ground covering for all gaits.

Apparel & Equipment: 1) No hoof polish. 2) No braided or banded manes or tail extensions. 3) Trimming inside ears is discouraged. 4) Trimming bridle path is allowed, also trimming of fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair. 5) Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged. (Rule 465(C) (d))

*For further information, please refer to the **2012 AQHA Rule Book**.*

2012 ROOKIE RULES

Eligibility for a Rookie-level class depends on both the horse and the rider's show records:

For a **HORSE** to be eligible to compete in a Rookie-level class, that horse must have earned **fewer than 10 lifetime points** in that class in any division.

For an **EXHIBITOR** to be eligible to compete in a Rookie-level class, that exhibitor must have earned **fewer than 10 lifetime points** in that class in any division.

Thus, to compete in a Rookie level class, the **horse and rider** must each have earned **fewer than 10 points** in that **particular class**.

Open, Amateur, Novice Amateur, Youth, Novice Youth and Rookie-level points all count toward Rookie-level eligibility.

Upon earning 10 points in a particular class in any division, the **horse will immediately** become ineligible to compete in that particular class at the Rookie level in any division. The owner of the horse will receive a certificate of recognition, similar to a Register of Merit, and the accomplishment will be added to the horse's show record.

Also, upon earning 10 points in a particular class in any division, the **exhibitor will immediately** become ineligible to compete in that particular class at the Rookie level in any division. The exhibitor will receive a certificate of recognition, and the accomplishment will be added to the exhibitor's show record.

And finally, Rookie-level points do not count toward anything other than computing Rookie-level eligibility and recognition. Rookie-level points **will not count** toward the **AQHA Justin Rookie of the Year Award**. For rules regarding the AQHA Justin Rookie of the Year Award, see Rule 501 in the AQHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations.

*For further information, please refer to the **2012 AQHA Rule Book**. If you do not have one, it's yours for the asking at AQHA, or on line at **AQHA.org**. Printouts of current rules will also be available in the show office.*

If you have any questions and/or comments about the new classes, Good or Otherwise, we encourage you to let us know. Please, contact any professional horseman, the AQHA show steward (if present) or the Back-2-Basics office staff. We will attempt to answer your questions and if we don't have the answer, we'll find someone who does.

Remember, these classes are new for us, too.