



NSBA RANCH RIDING RULES

The Ranch Riding rules will follow the NSBA Rules below:

225. The purpose of the Ranch Riding 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 control by the rider. Light contact should be rewarded and horses shall not be shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse while performing the maneuver requirements, and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations.

ELIGIBILITY

- a) Offered as an all age class for open, amateur, youth, novice amateur, novice youth and for horses three years of age or older.
- b) 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 riding at the same show; a youth western pleasure horse shown at a show is not eligible to show in the ranch riding at the same show.

CLASS FORMAT

- 226. a)** Each horse will work individually; performing both required and optional maneuvers, and scored on the basis of 0 to 100, with 70 denoting an average performance.
- b) The required maneuvers will include the walk, jog, and lope both directions: and the extended jog and extended lope at least one direction; as well as stops, and back.
 - c) Three optional maneuvers may include a side pass, turns of 360° or more, change of lead (simple or flying), walk, jog, or lope over a pole(s); or some reasonable combination of maneuvers that would be reasonable for a ranch horse to perform.
 - d) The maneuvers may be arranged in various combinations with final approval by the judge.
 - e) The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be as those described in GAITS, with an emphasis on forward movement, free-flowing, and ground covering for all gaits. Transitions should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness.
 - f) No time limit.
 - g) One of the suggested four patterns may be used, however a judge may utilize a different pattern as long as all required maneuvers and the three (or more) optional maneuvers are included.
 - h) The use of natural logs is encouraged.
 - i) Posting at the extended trot is acceptable.
 - j) Touching or holding the saddle horn is acceptable.

ATTIRE AND EQUIPMENT

- 227. a)** No hoof polish.



- b) No braided or banded manes or tail extensions.
- c) Trimming inside ears is discouraged.
- d) Trimming bridle path is allowed, also trimming of fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair.
- e) Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged.
- f) It is suggested competitors use a breast collar and a rear cinch.

FAULTS

228. a) A contestant shall be penalized each time the following occur:

1) ONE POINT

- a) Too slow/per gait
- b) Over-bridled
- c) Out of frame
- d) Break of gait at walk or jog for 2 strides or less

2) THREE POINTS

- a) Break of gait at walk or jog for more than 2 strides
- b) Break of gait at lope
- c) Wrong lead or out of lead
- d) Draped reins
- e. Out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides when changing leads trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change
- f. Severe disturbance of any obstacle

3) FIVE POINTS

- a) Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.) for each refusal

4) PLACED BELOW HORSES PERFORMING ALL MANEUVERS

- a) Eliminates maneuver
- b) Incomplete maneuver

5) ZERO SCORE

- a) Illegal equipment including hoof black, braided or banded manes, or tail extensions
- b) Willful abuse
- c) Major disobedience or schooling

6) No specific penalties will be incurred for nicks/hits on logs but deduction may be made in maneuver score.

7) No specific penalties will be incurred for over/under spins but deduction may be made in maneuver score.