

#### **ARTICLE I ELIGIBILITY**

Horses must be sound of sight, wind and limb to be judged. Stallions, mares and geldings of any breed are eligible without discrimination. **Stallions cannot be shown in any youth classes.**

#### **ARTICLE II APPOINTMENTS**

Horses will be shown with a stock saddle. Riders must wear western attire, cowboy hat/riding helmet, long sleeve shirt and boots. Chaps or chinks, rope, or reata are optional.

No gimmicks will be allowed on show horses while being judged. Gimmicks include: draw reins, martingales, cavisons, nosebands, tie-downs, gag bits etc. This also applies to horses used to turn back.

At the discretion of the Board of Directors, at any time an appointed representative may be chosen to check for equipment/bit legality and to inspect for blood in the mouth. The judge can request that equipment be inspected at any time.

#### **FUTURITY**

The Futurity Class will be shown in standard headstall (brow band, shaped ear, or split ear) using a smooth snaffle bit with a broken, 2 piece, mouthpiece (minimum 5/16 inch diameter, measured 1 inch from the inside of the ring).

- The mouthpiece should be round, oval or egg-shaped, smooth and unwrapped metal.
- Snaffle bits must be such that when reins are pulled, there will be no undue leverage applied.
- Leather or "other woven material" chin straps of any width to be used. Chin strap is allowed to include metal buckles and/or keepers on snaffle bit only.
- Reins will be attached above chin strap. Split reins must be used; no closed reins.
- Two hands must be used on the reins, except in the herd work or to provide safety to rider or adjust equipment.

#### **DERBY and HACKAMORE**

Open to 4 and 5 year-old horses, as of January 1st of current show year, to be shown in a snaffle bit, as described in NRCHA rule #5.6, or hackamore, as described in NRCHA rule #5.5. The horse may have been shown previously in the bridle down the fence. The same type of headgear (hackamore or snaffle) must be used throughout the event (herd, rein and cow work) on a horse once the competition has started. Entries must be shown with both hands on the reins, except in the herd work. Horses must be shown in a standard headstall (brow band, shaped ear or split ear) using a smooth snaffle bit (see description above) or hackamore (see following description) as described in NRCHA General Rules for equipment.

The Hackamore (bosal) shall be round in shape and constructed of uniform braided rawhide or leather and have a non-metal flexible core.

- The noseband of the hackamore must measure at least 5 and ½ inches of smooth rawhide/leather before any braided buttons.
- No gimmicks of any kind may be used in conjunction with the bosal. No rigid material of any kind can be used with the bosal. No tape on noseband, no horsehair bosals.
- Smooth, flat, wrapped tape is allowed (maximum of 2 inches on each side of the hackamore) on the hackamore between headstall and the mecate reins.
- Hackamores may be randomly checked with a magnet.

#### **BRIDLE**

A spade bit or a bit having the following characteristics must be used in any of the bridle classes:

- A bit with an unbroken bar mouthpiece with one inch or higher port measured from the bottom of the bar to the top of the port.

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- There must be an operable cricket inside the port of the bit.
- The diameter of the bar must be a minimum of 5/16 inch at any part of the bar. It is legal have a barrel made of copper or metal wrapped around the bar space of the bit. The barrel must be round, smooth, and made up of one continuous, unbroken piece. Bars must be round, oval or egg shaped smooth and unwrapped metal. Latex wrap or any foreign material is not acceptable.
- The cheeks must be connected at the bottom.
- The overall length of the bit shall not be longer than 8 1/2".
- Optional tongue release will not exceed 3 inches in width. Tongue release cover and/or copper smoothly inlaid in the mouthpiece are optional.
- Bosals, martingales, or tie-downs are prohibited.
- No wire, chain or other metal or rawhide device may be used in conjunction with the bit or as part of the leather chin-strap.
- Chin-strap must be leather, smooth, flat, flexible and at least 1/2" wide. No wire, chain or other metal or rawhide device may be used in conjunction with a part of the leather chin strap. No metal rivets are allowed to come in contact with the horse. Metal keeper are NOT acceptable on the chin strap.
- Romal reins are required. All bridle reins should be held in a thumb up position. No fingers are permitted between the reins. The non-rein hand must be on the romal section. The non-rein hand is not allowed, at any time, to touch the rein section or a score of -0- will be applied.
- The same bit must be used throughout the complete work. Bit changes or equipment changes are only be allowed at the judge's discretion.

### **TWO REIN**

In the Two Rein class bosals may be of any size constructed of braided rawhide or leather and have non-metal flexible core. No iron or foreign substance may be used. Bosal under an NRCHA approved Bridle. The rider must use one hand on the reins. Fingers between the reins will be permitted. Both mecate and bridle reins are to be held in the rein hand.

### **ARTICLE III SCORING**

A Reined Cow Horse Class must consist of a reined work and a cattle work. Show management may, at its option, include herd work to an approved class.

- Contestants shall be judged on a basis of 60 - 80 points (half points may be used). The lowest score possible is 60 points and the highest score possible is 80. An average score is 70 points. Contestants are judged from the time they enter the arena until the pattern is completed.
- Failure of exhibitor to attempt to take the cow down the fence in the fence work portion of the class; failure to attempt to complete the reined work portion of the class; failure to attempt the herd work; failure to attempt to work the cow work pattern in the will result in the exhibitor not being eligible for points or placing.
- An entry which attempts to complete the cow work pattern and has not been disqualified, will be scored accordingly at the judge's discretion.
- An entry going off pattern in the rein work will receive a score of zero.
- An entry which attempts both the rein work and the cow work portion may be placed, even if a 0 score is received in one portion of the class. (Example: If a horse is disqualified and receives a 0 score for the rein work, but scores a 70 for the cow work, its total score would be a 70 and the horse would be eligible for placing.)
- A judge may blow his/her whistle at any time to terminate the work. A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that time.

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- Obvious lameness will be cause for immediate disqualification
- A No Score will include abuse or lameness of the horse. Abuse is defined as exhibiting a lame horse, abusive showing or schooling techniques. Abusive showing techniques will not be tolerated and will be whistled out immediately. Failure of exhibitor to stop immediately will result in a fine, suspension or both. A No Score is not eligible for placing or points but will count as an entry in the class.
- A Zero Score is eligible for placing or points and will count as an entry in the class.
- A judge may disqualify a contestant at any time they are in the arena for excessive schooling or abuse of the horse.
- Zero Scores include but are not limited to (see section 19 of the NRCHA Rule book for more detail):
  - ✓ Blood inside the mouth in any degree or in any means incurred during the show shall be cause for disqualification.
  - ✓ The fall of a horse or rider during is a score of 0 or at the judge's discretion when scoring a work. Definition of a fall is described as follows: When the horses shoulder and hip are on the ground with all four feet facing in one direction. Rider has fallen when they are no longer astride of the horse.
  - ✓ Horse turns tail to the animal being worked.
  - ✓ Using two hands on the reins in a bridle class.
  - ✓ Fingers between the reins in a bridle class.
  - ✓ Improper Western Attire.
  - ✓ Leaving the working area before time expires.
  - ✓ Illegal equipment,

Points scored for the reined work and cattle work are to added for a total score (see section 19 of the NRCHA Rule Book for more details). In the case of a first place tie, in a show containing dry and cattle work only, the entry with the highest cattle work score shall be named the winner. If there is a tie between entries in their cattle work scores, such ties shall be determined by the flip of a coin by a Board member and the Association Secretary. In the event of a tie in year-end points, the average high cow score over all the shows will break the tie.

If tack or equipment should break or the horse should cast a shoe while negotiating the work and the difficulty prevents the completion of the work, the entry shall receive a score of 0 or at the judge's discretion when scoring a work. Should the entry be able to continue the work despite the difficulty and without cruelty to the horse, the contestant can continue without penalty.

### **ARTICLE IV INSTRUCTION TO RIDERS**

No approved URCHA class is to be started without the appointment of a rider's representative. The representative shall be a member in good standing of the Association and shall know the rules and regulations. There will be a show director that will preside over each show. If ever there is a discrepancy that cannot be resolved by the URCHA rules, then the NRCHA Rules will take precedence.

Prior to each class, a judge may give instructions of work patterns to be followed by all riders in a class and answer any relevant questions. At no other times during the classes will a contestant be allowed to converse with the judge. Any conversation with the judge may result in disqualification. Also, at this time the judge may announce to the exhibitors the URCHA representative who may be checking their equipment. Judges should note that spurs and romals should not be used forward of the cinch. Particular attention should be paid to the hands of the riders, because a light hand is paramount to becoming a good showman of stock horses. Riders shall make an honest effort to comply with the judge's instructions. At the discretion of the

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URCHA Board of Directors, any unnecessary abuse of any livestock while participating in a URCHA event will result in disqualification and forfeiture of all fees.

### ARTICLE V ETHICS

Contestants engaging in any form of misconduct, harassment, or unsportsmanlike conduct towards other contestants, show management or judges are subject to disqualification. Contestants are not to converse with the judges beyond the exchange of normal greetings during the contest. Violators of this rule are subject to disqualification. Contestant questions or concerns will be addressed to the designated rider's representative during the show.

### ARTICLE VI CONDUCT

No contestant or other person shall engage in any form of misconduct or harassment towards show management, judges, employees, or livestock. Misconduct by a contestant may be grounds for disqualification. Any complaint must be officially filed with the secretary through the designated rider's representative, immediately following the event with payment of a fee of \$50. The Board of Directors will address the complaint. If the board finds in favor of the complainant, the fee will be refunded and appropriate action will be taken. If the board finds against the complainant, the fee will be forfeited. All decisions of the Board are final.

### ARTICLE VII OVERALL CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD WORKING COW HORSE

The following will consider characteristics to be exhibited at all times by a good working reined cow horse:

1. Horse should have an alert, responsive, willing attitude.
2. Horse should be agile, smooth, and have his feet under him at all times.
3. Horse should have a soft mouth and should respond to a light rein.
4. Horse should have a natural unaltered relaxed tail carriage.
5. Horse should be able to work at reasonable speed and still be under control of rider.
6. Horse should have a natural head carriage.

### ARTICLE VIII CLASSES AND DEFINITIONS

Riders entering in any of the following classes cannot have won more than the class limit in any cutting, reining or working cow horse event. The Board of Directors will make the final decision. The Board of Directors must approve any substitute rider.

1. A **Non Pro** is defined as anyone, regardless of age, who is NOT currently receiving remuneration directly or indirectly for showing, training, giving lessons, clinics, or assisting in the training of a horse for remuneration (not including prize money). Payment of entré fees and/or expenses by anyone other than the Non Pro, their immediate family, or their corporation is considered remuneration. See section 2.1 in the NRCHA Rule Book for more detailed information.

2. In order to hold any class there must be a minimum of 3 entries by the second show. in September, held in conjunction with our NRCHA sanctioned show; at which time the regular lead change rule will be in effect.

3. See following table for a detailed listing of classes offered, descriptions, and eligibility. Note: Youth may show in upper level classes but they must show twice (i.e., two reining runs and two cow works).

2023 Class	Money Limit	Herd, Reining, Cow	Description
OPEN FUTURITY		Herd Work Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Fence</b> )	Open to any rider. All Futurity classes are for three (3) year old horses. Fence Work at the August and September shows. Entries must show in a NRCHA approved Snaffle Bit.

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NON PRO FUTURITY		Herd Work Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Fence</b> )	Open to all approved Non Pro Riders. All Futurity classes are for Three (3) year old horses. Entries must show in an NRCHA approved Snaffle Bit.
NON PRO BOXING FUTURITY	\$750 in down the fence money	Herd Work Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Boxing</b> )	Open to all approved Non Pro riders who have NOT won \$750 dollars in classes with fence work. For horses three (3) years of age. Boxing at the August and September shows.

OPEN DERBY		Herd Work Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Fence</b> )	Open to any rider. Derby classes are for horses aged 4 and 5. Horses must be shown in an approved Snaffle bit or a Hackamore. *If cross entering with the Open Hackamore, horses must show in the hackamore in the herd, rein, and cow.
NON PRO DERBY		Herd Work Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Fence</b> )	Open to all approved Non Pro Riders. For horses aged 4 and 5. Horses must show in an approved Snaffle bit or Hackamore. *If cross entered into the Open Hackamore, horses must show in a hackamore for the herd, rein, and cow. *
NON PRO BOXING DERBY	>\$750 in down the fence money	Herd Work Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Boxing</b> )	Open to all approved Non Pro riders who have NOT won \$750 in fence work classes. Horses must be shown in an approved Snaffle Bit or Hackamore.
OPEN HACKAMORE		Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Fence</b> )	Open to any rider. Hackamore classes are for horses 4 and 5. Horses can never have been shown in a bridle or two rein down the fence with the exception of horse sales. Must show in an approved Hackamore with closed reins. * Can cross enter into the open or non pro derby and show once, must show in a Hackamore if cross entering*
OPEN TWO REIN		Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Fence</b> )	Open to any rider. Open to horses of any age that have not been shown in the bridle down the fence in any judged classes or events with the exception of horse sales prior to November 16 <sup>th</sup> of the current show year. A horse may be shown only one year in this class. A horse may be shown in a two rein for one year only regardless of the class it is shown in. Must be shown in an approved bit in accordance with the NRCHA rule 5.2 with an approved bosal in accordance with NRCHA rule 5.4 and 5.5 underneath the bridle. Only one hand may be used on the reins and the hands must not be changed. Any number of fingers between the reins will be permitted.
OPEN BRIDLE		Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Fence</b> )	Open to any rider. Open to horses of any age, to be shown in an NRCHA approved bridle. Reins with romal required. Reins held in the thumbs up position with fingers closed.

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			No fingers between the reins.
NON PRO BRIDLE		Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Fence</b> )	Open to all approved Non pro riders. Open to horses of any age, to be ridden in an NRCHA approved bridle. Reins with a romal required. Reins held in the thumbs up position with fingers closed. No fingers between the reins.

BOXING CLASSES- Includes a reined work and a single cow work (Boxing) on the end of the arena. Each contestant upon receiving a cow shall hold that cow on the prescribed end of the arena for 50 seconds. Demonstrating the ability of the horse and ride to control the cow. Time shall begin when the gate closes behind the cow, after being let into the arena. The announcer or the clock buzzer will announce the completion of 50 seconds.

ROOKIE	Eligible for one year only. Earnings <b>LESS</b> than \$500.00	Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Boxing</b> )	Open to any rider who has won less than \$500 dollars in reined cow horse competition. Riders that have been down the fence in a judged cow horse event are not eligible for this class. Riders are NOT required to own the horse they show. Open to horses of any age, using NRCHA legal equipment no matter the age of the horse. Simple lead changes are not penalized.
LIMITED NON PRO BOXING	>\$1,000	Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Boxing</b> )	Open to approved Non Pro riders who have not earned more than \$1000.00 in lifetime earnings. Riders can not have won \$750 dollars in any judged down the fence classes/events. Horses 5 and under may be shown in a snaffle bit or hackamore. Horses of any age may be shown in a Two Rein (one year only) or a Bridle. Rider is NOT required to own the Horse they show. If cross entering with the Non Pro Boxing only one cattle fee will be charged.
NON PRO BOXING		Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Boxing</b> )	Open to Non Pro riders that have not earned more than \$750 in fence work classes at any judged classes/events with the exception of horse sales. Horses 5 and under may be shown in a snaffle bit or hackamore. Horses of any age may show in the Two Rein (one year only) or a Bridle. Rider is required to own the horse they show. If cross entering with the Limited Non Pro Boxing only one cattle fee will be charged.
BOX DRIVE		Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Box, Drive, Box, Drive</b> )	Open to any competitor entered in any of the boxing classes. Horse/Rider box cow at the end of the arena demonstrating the ability of the horse and rider to control the cow. Once control has been demonstrated, the rider drives the cow around the corner and down the fence maintaining proper position and control. Once at the other end of the arena, box the cow. Once control is again demonstrated, drive cow around the corner and back up the same fence past the center

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			marker. Work is complete with a horn or a whistle. Time limit for the cow work is. 1minute, 30 seconds.
YOUTH BOXING		Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Boxing</b> )	Youth 18yrs and under. Open to horses of any age. Horses 5 and under may be shown in a Snaffle or a Hackamore. Horses of any age may be shown in a Two Rein (one year only) or a Bridle.
YOUTH FENCE		Reined Work Cow Work ( <b>Fence</b> )	Youth 18yrs. And under. Open to horses of any age. Horses 5 and under may be shown in a Snaffle or a Hackamore. Horses of any age may be shown in a Two Rein (one year only) or a bridle.
Short Stirrup		Reined Work only	Youth 10 and under. \$15 to enter. No payout and no points given at each show. Recognition given at each show and eligible for year end recognition if in 3 of 4 shows.

**ARTICLE IX PATTERNS**

The Board of Directors will select the reining pattern(s) to be used prior to each show. The pattern selected will be announced via the Association’s social media sites prior to the show date as well as at the riders meeting at the show.

**ARTICLE X CLINICS, SHOWS, PROGRAMS AND SALES**

***Section 1: Clinics, Shows, Programs and Sales***

1. The name or sponsorship of all clinics, shows, programs or sales by the Utah Reined Cow Horse Association or any use of the name “Utah Reined Cow Horse Association” or “URCHA” will not be allowed without the approval and consent of the Board of Directors of the Utah Reined Cow Horse Association.
2. All clinics, shows, programs, sales or any other sponsored events must be approved by the Board of Directors of the Utah Reined Cow Horse Association.
3. No person or organization is allowed to use the name or sponsorship of the Utah Reined Cow Horse Association without the approval and consent of the Board of Directors of the Utah Reined Cow Horse Association.
4. All clinics, shows, programs, sales and other sponsored events of the Utah Reined Cow Horse Association will be under the direction of the Board of Directors of the Utah Reined Cow Horse Association.
5. The By Laws and the Rules and Regulations of the Utah Reined Cow Horse Association will control the enrollment and participation of members and nonmembers in the clinics, shows, programs, sales and sponsored events.

***Section 2: Entering and Scratching Show Classes***

1. Entries are due no later than Sunday at 10:00 PM prior to the show via the Association’s web site (urcha.org). You must hit the submit button twice. Late entries will be accepted for an additional fee as determined by the Board of Directors and will work at the end of the draw on re-run cattle and first in draw for reining and cow work.
2. All rider and show fees are payable and due prior to showing and no later than noon on the show date.
3. It is the rider’s responsibility to call or email the show secretary prior to the day of the show to cancel entries. Canceled entries are still responsible to pay for any and all fees (cattle, office, etc.) as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

4. If a rider scratches and does not notify the Association, the rider is responsible for paying full class fees at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**Section 3: Enrollment and Participation in Clinics.**

1. Enrollment in all clinics will be opened on a date assigned by the Board of Directors prior to the said event.
2. Members of the URCHA will be given first priority to attend the said events over nonmembers.
3. Entries for a clinic will be taken in the order they are received by the person assigned by the Board of Directors to receive the entries.
4. Persons desiring to attend the clinic must pay the full clinic fee in the amount set by the Board of Directors on the date set by the Board of Directors. All checks for clinic fees must be made payable to the URCHA. If an enrollee does not pay the clinic fee on or before the date set by the Board of Directors, then the enrollee will not be allowed to attend the clinic and the next listed enrollee will be allowed to attend the clinic.
5. The number of entries allowed to attend the clinic will be set by the Board of Directors.
6. The riders for a clinic will be selected in the order that they enrolled in and in the order of payment received by the URCHA.

**ARTICLE XI YEAR END AWARDS**

Points will be awarded for as many places as there are entrants (i.e., for a class with 8 entries: First place – 8 points; second place – 7 points; third place - 6 points; fourth place – 5 points; fifth place – 4 points; sixth place – 3 points; seventh place – 2 points; and eighth place – 1 point).

**All shows will count toward year end awards. There will not be any dropped shows.** In the Open classes, the horses points from all shows will be used to calculate the year-end awards. In the Non Pro, Youth, and Rookie classes the horse and rider combination points will be used to calculate the year-end awards. In the event of a tie in year-end points, the total cow scores will be averaged from the qualifying shows and the award will be given to the highest average score.

Horses in open classes may be shown by more than one rider or the rider may be changed, as long as all riders fit the earnings criteria for the class. In the case of a rider substitution at a show, the last rider showing (the substitute rider) will be credited with the earnings.

In Non Pro, Rookie, and Youth classes, horse and rider qualify together. If a Non Pro horse is sold the original horse and rider team is no longer eligible to compete.

Year-end awards will be held at a time and place determined by the Board of Directors. Notice of the time and place will be posted on the Association's web and social media sites. In instances of a drawing for award and/or raffle item(s), winners need not be present, but once notified of winning, must make timely arrangements to pick up item(s) or to pay for shipment of item(s).

Class award winners need not be present to pick up year-end awards, but must make arrangements and pay for shipping of awards. If a member cannot attend the year-end awards ceremony, it is highly recommended that they make arrangements for another attendee to collect their award.

**ARTICLE XII RULES AND REGULATIONS**

For any problems that may arise that are not covered by the URCHA By Laws, Rules and Regulations, refer to NRCHA official handbook and those rules will govern our acts and decisions.

**ARTICLE XIII RIGHTS RESERVED BY THE URCHA**

The URCHA reserves the right to accept or reject any entry. All decisions of the Board of Directors are final. The URCHA reserves the right to cancel, transfer, or reschedule shows and



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the Futurity without notice and/or liability. In the event of a cancellation, all entrance fees will be refunded.