



NCHA Challenger Series Cutting Rules

Show Approval

1. 15 days advance notice to NCHA on Challenger Show Approval Form with Named judge and secretary. Any changes must be made within 7 days.
2. Shows published on website only, shows do not get published in Chatter.
3. Can be Affiliate or Show Producer
4. NCHA Challenger Series Cutting must be part of the title of the show.

Class Fee Structure

1. Entry fees, cattle fees and office charges up to show management
2. There will be a \$2.00 per entry Regional Awards fee for all weekend show entries (NCHA approved/recognized classes) and that money collected will be sent to NCHA with the show results. It may not be deducted from contestant's payout.
3. Show approval fee is \$200 paid by show management, to be sent in with show results. It may not be deducted from contestant's payout.
4. Standing Rule 4 does not apply

Cattle

1. Fresh cattle recommended but not mandatory
2. Ratio of cows per cutter up to show management
3. Two cows provided/Two minute clock is optional

Class Structure

1. Classes (do not have to offer Open/Non Pro) offered and schedule up to show management.
2. Parity of purses not required in any NCHA approved class or combination of classes can be included in a Challenger Show. Any class may be jackpot only, or may offer from \$1 to \$199 in added money, without regard to added money in any other class.
3. Owner/Rider must be NCHA member and meet class qualifications to compete. Challenger Shows will offer new NCHA members, or former cutters whose membership has lapsed for more than one year, a free introductory membership to NCHA.
4. Anyone showing in Non Pro/Amateur classes must complete application.
5. Can only hold up to 4 Unapproved Classes per show.
6. Youth class must meet NCHA criteria.

Judge

1. Approved judge is mandatory for added money classes
2. Approved judge must be named 7 days before show and will receive a credit.
3. Judges protest system not in place for these shows.
4. If an unapproved judge is used, he/she must have been a member in good standing for the last three (3) year's.
5. Multiple judges may be used at a show (**JUDGES CANNOT JUDGE EACH OTHER**)

Show Secretary

1. Approved secretary is recommended, but not mandatory
2. If an unapproved secretary is used, he/she must be a current member in good standing.

Video

1. Video required
2. Any standard video equipment acceptable with reasonable video and audio clarity
3. Show must keep video for 180 days in case needed by NCHA, do not need to duplicate video for weekend monitor system.

Payout

1. NCHA payout recommended, but not mandatory on money
2. Points will be awarded (example: 10 horse class – 1st place 5 pts – 2nd 4 pts down to 1 point in 5th place. All entries below would receive 1 point). Must score 60 or better to receive a point. Maximum 10 points per class
3. Participation in the jackpot will be optional for the contestant. So a cutter can enter without participating in the jackpot, but still receive whatever points he or she earns in the class.

Show Results

1. Approved class results published on NCHA website.
2. Results do not get published in Chatter.
3. Calculated into Lifetime earnings and eligibility on Horse and Rider
4. Earnings do not count toward Area or National standings.
5. Points DO count for Region Challenger Standings
5. Earnings approved/unapproved classes DO count toward Horse and Rider eligibility.
6. No classes will be refigured if contestant/horse not eligible money and points will not be posted.

Awards and Recognition

1. Approved classes count toward Achievement Buckle based on combined earnings of \$1,000 from Challenger and Championship shows, or for 100 points earned at Challenger Shows. Dollars and points cannot be mixed for awards
2. Cutters will earn points in whichever Region they are competing in, so an individual could be ranked in the Standings of more than one Region. Year-end awards will be presented to the leading participants in each class in each Region.

Weekend Limited Age Events

Held in conjunction with Challenger show may not begin until the classes are completed, unless two arenas are being used.

The Standing Rules and other guidelines which apply to Championship Shows apply to Challenger Shows, except as noted in 2020 rulebook page 51-53.