



Ranch Riding

Divisions: *Open, Non-Pro, Youth 18 & Under, Green Rider, Green Horse, Green Rider/Horse W/T; Ultimate Ranch Challenge, Walk/Trot Ultimate Ranch Challenge*

The exhibitor/horse combo with the most points in each division will be awarded a High Point Award each show and a Buckle at the end of the series. In the event of a tie, we will go by who received the most firsts; if there is still a tie we will have a "run-off" using a new ranch riding pattern.

Brief rules:

- Exhibitors off pattern but they will not place higher than exhibitors who perform the pattern correctly.
- No hoof black, tail extensions, cavesons, tie-downs or martingales.
- Long sleeve shirt/jacket and boots are strongly suggested. Chaps and cowboy hat/helmet are optional.
- Banding is allowed.
- Exhibitors are allowed to show **2 hands** in ALL Green Horse/Rider & Ultimate Ranch Challenge classes if they use a snaffle bit, bosal or hackamore.
- Please judge the exhibitor even if the camera placement is different than what was requested. All we can ask is that you do your best to judge the exhibitors fairly.
- Faults not to be considered disqualification but should be scored according to severity for ALL Ranch Classes:
 - Crooked backs & stops
 - Anticipating stops
 - Uncontrollable speed
 - Wringing of tail
 - Knocking over markers
 - Failure to run pattern within marker
 - Opening mouth, raising head on stops and turns

Rules + Scoring Per Class:

Ranch Riding

Ranch Riding showcases your working horse's quality of movement and responsiveness while performing the required maneuvers in the pattern.

The cadence of all the gaits should be forward, free flowing and ground moving. Transitions between gaits should be smooth and responsive.

*Green Riders/ Green Horse classes can perform a simple lead change (one jog stride) with no penalty. Simple lead changes are allowed in any division. Keep in mind, a smooth flying lead change will be scored higher than a simple lead change due to the degree of difficulty- this applies to every division.

*Exhibitors are allowed to show 2 hands in ALL Green Horse/Rider & Ultimate Ranch Challenge classes if they use a snaffle bit, bosal or hackamore.

-Scoresheet + placing-

Scoring is on the basis of 0 to 100, with 70 denoting an average performance. Each maneuver will be scored on the following basis, ranging from plus 1 1/2 to minus 1 1/2.: -1 1/2 extremely poor, -1 very poor, -1/2 poor, 0 correct, +1/2 good, + 1 very good, + 1 1/2 excellent. Maneuver scores are to be determined and assessed independently of penalty points.

-Penalties-

ONE point penalties:

- Too slow/per gait
- Over bridled/per maneuver
- Break of gait for two strides or less
- Cross-cantering or out-of-lead for two strides or less

THREE point penalties:

- Break of gait at walk or trot for more than two strides
- Break of gait at lope (except when correcting an incorrect lead, wrong lead or out of lead)
- Draped reins/per maneuver
- Out of lead or cross-cantering three strides or more
- Out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides when changing leads
- Trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change

FIVE point penalties:

- Blatant disobedience (kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, etc)

ZERO score:

- Illegal equipment: including hoof black or tail extensions
- Willful abuse
- Major disobedience or schooling
- Going off pattern
- Edited videos of the horse performing the pattern.
- The use of two-hands when using a shank bit anywhere in the pattern
- Using more than one finger between split reins
- Touching the horse during the pattern with the free hand