

**Ranching Committee  
2018 Convention  
Jacksonville, Florida**

Mr. President, the Ranching Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. Add Ranch Cutting as a new class in Ranching Heritage Challenges adopting SHW565 VRH Ranch Cutting rules.
2. Add an Open 7 and Up Working Ranch Horse Class as a new class in Ranch Heritage Challenges.
3. Amend rule SHW550 to strike "RANCHING HERITAGE CHALLENGES" from the title.
4. Add a new section for the current Ranching Heritage Challenge rules into the Official Handbook of Rules & Regulations.
5. With regard to Ranching Heritage Challenge enrollment fees, approve offering two options:
  - a. Either pay a mandatory \$10 per foal weanling enrollment fee due at the time of registration, then continue the current payment schedule until fully enrolled; or
  - b. Fully enroll the entire year's colt crop with a one-time enrollment fee of \$50 per foal due at the time of registration.
6. Seek venues to hold new Ranching Heritage Challenges.
7. Spend up to \$12,500 to expand the Ranching Heritage Bred Recognition Program to include more equine events.
8. Use \$2,500 from the nomination funds to start a Ranching Heritage Intern Endowment Fund.
9. Amend the third to last sentence of rule SHW305.6 to read: "In all other classes, including the reined portion of working cow horse, **boxing, VRH ranch reining, VRH ranch cow work, VRH limited ranch cow work and all RHC working ranch horse classes**, the free hand may be used to adjust the rider's length of rein."
10. Amend rule SHW305.7 by adding: **When using a snaffle bit in working cow horse, boxing, ranch riding, ranch trail, all VRH classes, and all RHC classes, a leather or other woven material chin strap of any width is to be used and should be attached to the bit below the reins. No iron, chain, or other material is allowed. The chin strap is allowed to include metal buckles and/or keepers.**

11. Amend the first sentence of rule SHW305.8.1 to read: “The use of two-rein equipment is allowed in working cow horse, boxing, **ranch riding, ranch trail, all VRH classes, all RHC classes, for a period of one year and at the subsequent World Show for which they qualified.**”
12. Amend the first two sentences of rule SHW509.1.6 to read: “The use of ‘two rein equipment’ is allowed as recognized by our NRCHA alliance in AQHA working cow horse, **boxing, ranch riding, ranch trail, all VRH classes, and all RHC classes.** The purpose of the two rein option is the transition between the hackamore and bridle and can be used on any aged horse in the youth, amateur, junior, senior or all age working cow horse class, amateur or youth boxing, or **ranch riding, ranch trail, all VRH classes and all RHC classes** for one year only.”
13. Amend the first sentence of rule SHW556.11 to read: “The use of two-rein equipment is allowed in **working cow horse, boxing, ranch riding, ranch trail, all VRH classes and all RHC classes** for one year only.”
14. Amend rule SHW560.3 regarding credits and penalties by:
- Removing “gapping mouth” as a 1 point penalty.
  - Adding 3 point penalty for out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides when changing leads.
  - Adding 3 point penalty for trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change.
  - Removing the phrase “first or second cumulative” from the 5 point penalty.
15. Add new rule SHW418.7 to read: **“When exhibiting in a snaffle bit or hackamore, an exhibitor may switch between two hands and one hand on the reins at any time.”**
16. Add new rule SHW556.12 to read: **“When exhibiting in a snaffle bit or hackamore, an exhibitor may switch between two hands and one hand on the reins at any time.”**
17. Amend rule SHW419.5 to include **“use of two hands (except junior and level 1 horses shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore).”**

With respect to rules SHW560.3, SHW561.10, SHW562.3, SHW563.2, SHW564.2, SHW565.9 and all RHC classes the **use of two hands (except junior and level 1 horses shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore)** shall be an Off-Pattern (OP) instead of a 5 point penalty.

18. Amend rule SHW552 to read: **“Three** divisions will be offered: open, amateur, and youth. **Within these divisions there will be the following sub-divisions: open and cowboy; amateur, limited amateur and rookie amateur; youth, limited youth and rookie youth.”**
19. Amend the second sentence of rule SHW554 to read: “Points earned **in each individual** class only count toward any award or qualification for the ranch division and do not count toward any other award or qualification for any other approved AQHA class or AQHA show award, **and shall not affect leveling in any other class.”**
20. Amend rule SHW555 such that the credit system is a 50 to 1 system instead of a 9 to 1 system. The first place horse in each class that is eligible for the all-around will receive 50 credits no matter the number of other horses entered or eligible. To be effective at 2018 VRH World Show 2018.
21. Amend rule SHW556.10 to include **“When ground-tying with split reins, one or both reins may be dropped; romal reins may be loosely draped over the horn when used with or without a get-down rope. Hobbles are allowed.”**
22. Amend rule SHW556.3 to read: “No braided or banded manes/tails or tail extensions, **except in any VRH or RHC class where roping is involved, the horse’s mane may be braided for a distance of 12”-16” in front of the saddle pad. No ribbons or other kind of ornamentation will be allowed.”**
23. Amend rule SHW557.2 by deleting the phrase **“leaving working area before pattern is complete.”**
24. Amend the first sentence of rule SHW557.3 by adding the phrase **“or leaving working area before pattern is complete.”**
25. Amend rule SHW561.10 to include the phrase **“failure to open and shut gate or failure to complete gate”** as an Off-Pattern.
26. Amend rule 561.10 regarding penalties by:
- Adding 1 point penalty for **one to two steps** on mount/dismount or ground tie, except shifting to balance.
  - Adding 3 point penalty for **three to four steps** on mount/dismount on ground tie.
  - Adding 5 point penalty for **five** or more steps on mount/dismount or ground tie.
27. Amend rule SHW 561.6 subsection 2 to specify that **Gate is required to be a hinged swinging gate (not a rope gate).**

28. Remove Pattern 6 from SHW562.
29. Amend the first two sentences of rule SHW562.2 to read: "To rein a horse is not only to guide him but also to control his movement. The best reined horse should be willingly guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance." Delete the third sentence of rule SHW562.2 which reads "Any movement on his own must be considered a lack of control."
30. Amend rule SHW562.3 by adding the phrase "**trotting in excess of ½ circle or ½ the length of the arena**" to the Off-Pattern penalties.
31. Amend rule SHW563.2 by adding the phrase "**bringing the cow straight over backwards landing on its back or head with all four feet in the air**" to the Disqualifications penalties.
32. Amend rule SHW564.2 by adding "**driving cow down the opposite fence (changing sides)**" as a 1 point penalty.
33. Amend the first sentence of rule SHW565.2 to read: "**In all** divisions, there will be a two minute time limit."
34. Delete existing rule SHW565.3 which currently reads: "For youth competition, there will be a one and one-half minute time limit. Each exhibitor may work one or two cows and has the option of ending their run before the one and one-half minute time limit or working the full one and one-half minutes. Working two cows does not assure extra credit to the run."
35. Amend rule SHW565.9 by adding the phrase "**lameness, abuse, disrespect or misconduct**" to the Disqualification penalties.
36. Amend rule SHW566 by deleting the following sentence: "The ranch conformation class must be held after the conclusion of the other events, except at the AQHA All-Around Ranch Horse World Championship Show."
37. Table proposal to add new rule SHW550 for new award for VRH Champion and Ranching Heritage Challenge Champion for further study regarding IT programming requirements.
38. Elect Jim Hunt, Chair of the Ranching Committee.

On behalf of the Ranching Committee, I move that the Membership support these recommendations and forward them to the Board of Directors for approval.

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Jim Hunt, Chairman

PENDING  
EC APPROVAL  
APRIL 2018