

2023

NEW ZEALAND CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION



NZCHA
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RULE BOOK

NZCHA AMENDMENTS TO NZCHA RULE BOOK 2022

(Amended **September 2023**)

Every effort has been taken to ensure the NCHA Australia Rule Book is adjusted correctly for New Zealand rules. However, the NZCHA has the right to add, alter or delete further rules which do not comply with the New Zealand conditions.

As per the NZCHA Constitution Rule 16: The NZCHA Council shall have full power to direct and manage all affairs of the Association.

Rule 17: The decision of the Council on the construction of, or interpretation of any Rule or By-Law shall be conclusive and binding on all members or the Association until set aside or varied at a specially convened meeting of the Association.

This Rulebook should be used in conjunction with the 2021 Rule amendment summary document. Recent amendments have been highlighted throughout this document accordingly.

Any questions or concerns, please direct to the current NZCHA Rulebook Editor, via the NZCHA Secretary.

RULE BOOK CONTENTS

FOREWORD	Page 4
OFFICERS & STANDINGS COMMITTEE	Page 5
GENERAL DEFINITIONS	Page 6
STANDING RULES	
CUTTING HORSE REGISTER	Page 8
NZCHA EVENTS	Page 10
DAY MEMBERSHIP, METHOD OF CONDUCTING CONTESTS	Page 12-13
CONTEST ARENA REGULATIONS	Page 15
SHOW COMMITTEE	Page 16
NZCHA APPROVED CONTESTS	Page 21
CONTESTANTS	Page 25
ZERO TOLERANCE	Page 26
ANIMAL WELFARE	Page 33
ZERO TOLERANCE COMPLAINT PROCESS	Page 35
NON-PRO AND ROOKIE REGULATIONS	Page 36
YOUTH DIVISION	Page 38
GRASS ROOTS CUTTING	Page 40
THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS & AWARDS	Page 41
NZCHA ISLAND CHAMPIONS SYSTEM	Page 45
NZCHA AGE EVENTS	Page 46
JUDGES	Page 49
CONDUCT AND PROTESTS	Page 55
SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY	Page 59
MECHANICAL COW RULES	Page 60
LOPING PEN RULES	Page 61
SAMS (SELF ADJUSTED MONITOR SYSTEM)	Page 61
NZCHA DRUG POLICY	Page 68
RULES FOR JUDGING CUTTING HORSE CONTESTS	Page 70
INDEX BY JUDGING RULE	Page 72
INDEX BY JUDGES CARD- CREDITS	Page 73
JUDGING RULES	Page 74
SOME POINTS ON SHOWING AND JUDGING THE CUTTING HORSE	Page 83

FOREWORD

The New Zealand Cutting Horse Association continues to have a bright future. A nonprofit organization, the NZCHA is dedicated to the equine sport of cutting whether it be on a property or in the show arena. From its humble beginnings near Fort Worth, Texas in the USA in 1898, the sport has quickly developed into an internationally recognized event.

As more and more contests are held each year with ever-increasing prize money, a greater amount of time is given to the training of cutting horses. This results in competition becoming more-and-more intense and every year it is necessary for the NZCHA to adjust and add more detailed rules to enable a judge to draw the finer points between horses. To achieve this, the NZCHA councilors must constantly review contest rules.

Encouragement of fair play among contestants and the performance of good horses have always been the paramount aims of the NZCHA, and this is as true now as it was at the introduction of the sport to New Zealand. Credit for the success of the association goes to its members. The Affiliates of the NZCHA also play an important part in the presentation of cutting horse contests.

One of the most important functions of the NZCHA is the improvement of cutting horse contests and maintenance of a complete record of these contests. Individual records are maintained on each competing horse and/or non-professional rider. At the end of each year the NZCHA awards trophies to the horses and riders in all divisions of competition, including open and non-professional, as well as youth and rookie.

The association also sponsors and runs a number of major shows.

OFFICERS & STANDING COMMITTEE

The association and membership is run according to the NZCHA Constitution.

The present standing committee is:

- President
- Vice President (Should be from opposite Island to the President)
- Secretary/Treasurer
- 6 Councilors

Portfolios are:

- Sponsor Co-ordinator
- Judges
- Rules
- Stock Scheme Coordinator
- Hall of Fame
- Training
- Show Approvals
- Media Portfolio
- Awards Portfolio
- Affiliates

NZCHA CHATTER

The official publication of the NZ Cutting Horse Association is the “NZCHA Chatter”.

The NZCHA Chatter is available as a promotional and advertising media of our sport on the Official NZCHA Website, with financial members having the options of receiving the Chatter as a hard copy (printed) or emailed version.

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

1. New Zealand Cutting Horse Association is hereafter called the NZCHA.

2. Cutting Horse Register

a) "Cutting Horse Register" means the NZCHA horse register.

b) "Imported" in relation to a horse means a horse that has been born outside the three-mile limit of the Commonwealth of New Zealand.

c) "Registered" in relation to a horse means that it is registered with the NZCHA.

d) "Registered Owner" in relation to a horse means the person registered with the NZCHA as the owner of such horse.

e) "Registered Number" in relation to a horse means the number allocated to it when accepted for registration in the NZCHA Cutting Horse Register.

f) "Owner" in relation to a horse includes where the context reasonably permits, both the legal owner of the horse and the owner of any interest therein and the beneficial owner of the horse.

g) "Name" in relation to a horse means that the prefix or suffix, the registered number and the words or letters assigned to the horse upon registration with the NZCHA.

h) "Records" means the records of the NZCHA.

i) Where the context reasonably permits:

Masculine gender includes the feminine and neuter genders.

The singular number includes the plural number.

3. "**Affiliated**" means a contest officially recognized by the NZCHA.

4. "**Contest**" - a class with less than two (2) entries competing (trying to complete a two and a half (2.5) minute work) constitute a contest and shall be recognized for NZCHA awards.

5. "**Competition**" means any judged cutting horse competition where placings, ribbons, prizes or points are awarded.

6. "**Age Event**" means a competition restricted by the age of the horse (refer section NZCHA Age Events for specific rules).

7. "**Jackpot Competition**" means a competition where prize money is restricted to entry fees. It is permissible to have an added purse.

8. **“Show Committee”**

a) “Show Committee” in relation to a competition means the committee responsible for conducting the competition.

b) The term “show management” as used herein is the organization or individual acting as sponsor of a cutting horse contest for which said organization or individual sought and received the approval of NZCHA to conduct the same.

9. **“Competition Ground”** means the arena within which the competition is being or is about to be conducted. Recommended minimum size to be 24m - 30m x 45m -60m. Surface must either be of sand or tilled to a depth of 5cm to 15cm.

10. **“Competition Secretary and The Secretary of the Competition”** means the secretary of the competition.

11. **“Prize Money or Purse Money”** means the amount of stated cash to be distributed as prize money.

12. **“Prize”** includes any reward, gift or presentation whether in the form of a certificate, a card, ribbon, monetary payment, trophy or otherwise.

13. **“Awards”** include decision, placing and adjudication.

14. **“The Closing Date for Entries”** in relation to a competition means the date on or before which entries must be received as last published by the body conducting the show.

15. **“Closing date of the show”**- this statement means on completion of the show.

16. **“First Day”** in relation to a competition or age event means the day on which judging of a competition commences.

17. **“Exhibit”** used as a verb includes the verb “Show” and vice versa, and to exhibit or to show includes to compete.

18. **“Misconduct”** includes any conduct considered to be unworthy of a sportsman or calculated to induce a breach of the peace or to create a nuisance or to prejudice the smooth running or prestige of any recognized competition.

19. **“Restricted Cutting Horse Contest”** as used herein is interpreted to mean a cutting horse contest where entry is limited by the age or sex of the horse – individual breed shows, mare, gelding, stallion, or any event deemed restricted by the NZCHA Council

21. **“Non-Pro”** as used herein is the abbreviation for the words Non-Professional Rider who is also a full member of the association.

22. **“Entry”** – A nomination becomes an entry, for the purpose of calculating prize money or the number of horses advancing to a final, when the draw is completed. Any nomination scratched prior to the draw is not an entry in the event.

STANDING RULES

CUTTING HORSE REGISTER

1. The NZCHA may, subject to the constitution and regulations, register any horse in the Cutting Horse Register. The NZCHA may decline to register any horse or decline to accept any transfer without assigning any reason thereto.
2. Registration in the NZCHA register shall be open to all horses irrespective of breed or sex.
3. All horses must be registered in the Cutting Horse register after competing at any NZCHA or affiliated event. It is the owner’s responsibility to submit a NZCHA Horse Registration form within one (1) month after the horses first competition.
4. In the case of an imported horse, the name of the horse may include the bracketed abbreviations “(imp)” and the name of the country.
5. No name or part of a name shall be registered if, in the opinion of the NZCHA, it is likely to mislead either with regard to sex, relationship, origin or otherwise.
6. A horse shall not be described or referred to in cutting publications other than by its registered name.
7. All registered horses must be shown under the name assigned to them by their breed association, and all horses not breed registered must be shown under the name in the NZCHA Register only, at any and all contests approved by the NZCHA.
8. The NZCHA reserves the right to insist that a distinguishing prefix be added to the name of the horse seeking registration in the NZCHA Cutting Horse Register where this name by similarity is likely to cause confusion in the Cutting Horse Register.

9. A number shall be allocated to each horse registered in the Cutting Horse Register.
10. The NZCHA may either cancel, suspend, or vary the registration of any horse in the register at any time for any reason which the NZCHA, in its absolute discretion, may consider sufficient and without assigning any reason thereto and no member or owner shall have any claim against the NZCHA by reason of any such cancellation, suspension or variation.
11. During the period of suspension of registration of a horse, it shall be deemed to be not registered.
13. Upon any sale, exchange, gift, lease, loan, mortgage or other disposition of a horse or any interest in a registered horse there shall be lodged by a registered owner with the Secretary of the NZCHA within sixty (60) days of such disposition either -
- a. An application for transfer in the prescribed form signed by the owner as transferrer and by the transferee; or
 - b. An application for the cancellation of the registration of a horse.
14. A transfer shall not be deemed complete until signed by both transferor and transferee.
15. The NZCHA may accept or, without assigning any reason thereto, refuse to record any transfer.
16. Subject to the regulation, every transfer approved by the NZCHA will be entered in the Cutting Horse Register.
17. If transfers and any relevant fees for horses in the NZCHA registry are not lodged with the NZCHA following the sale of a horse the new owner will have no points recorded (either for the horse or rider) until such transfer and proof of ownership with the prescribed fee is paid. Horse transfers must be in place prior to a Non-Pro showing a horse or any money/points won will not count toward year end standings.
18. The NZCHA Cutting Horse Register is open to all horses whether registered with a breed society or not.

NZCHA EVENTS

1) The classifications of NZCHA approved events are:

a. **OPEN** - Open to all horses regardless of breed, age, sex, colour, conformation, appearance or previous performance. Horses are to be judged on performance only.

b. **NOVICE** - For horses that have not won in excess of \$1,000 in affiliated NZCHA cutting horse competitions in their lifetime & excluding all age/restricted earnings and all Non-Pro age/restricted earnings.

c. **OPEN NON-PRO** - Open to all NZCHA Members with a Non-Professional Status regardless of lifetime earnings.

d. **Limited Non-Pro** - Open to New Zealand Non-Professionals with lifetime earnings in non-professional events of \$2,500 or less excluding all age and restricted earnings as determined by the records of the NZCHA.

e. **\$1,500 NON-PRO** - Open to New Zealand Non-Professionals with lifetime earnings in non-professional events of \$1,500 or less excluding all age and restricted earnings as determined by the records of the NZCHA.

f. **ROOKIE** - Open to all Persons who have not won \$750 in any NZCHA approved cutting horse competition, as determined by the records of the NZCHA excluding all Snaffle Bit and restricted events that are not snaffle bit aged events. Any Youth who has accumulated 100 or more lifetime points will also cease to be eligible. Money or points earned while competing on a day fee will also be included for eligibility purposes. The burden of proof of eligibility will be on the competitor.

Rookies are exempt from Non-Pro ownership rule.

g. **YOUTH** - age 18 years **and under** - as at the 1st May of the competition Year. Youth points are accumulated at all shows which have Youth events during the competition year.

Note: Helmets are mandatory for all youth when they are riding a horse inside or outside the arena at all NZCHA affiliated events.

h. **SNAFFLE BIT (RIDER)**- The Snaffle Bit Rider is a one- or two-handed contest, open to ALL riders regardless of LTE. There is a limit of two horses per rider in this class, and only the points from

their highest earning horse will count towards high point awards. Horse/rider combinations may only enter a maximum of two Snaffle Bit classes per show.

Any rider who has competed in a hands down event in the current season is not eligible to ride in Snaffle Bit Rider. Once a rider competes in a hand down class at any point in the season, they are no longer eligible to ride in snaffle bit rider for the remainder of that season.

Points earned in Snaffle Bit Rider are stand alone and do not count towards any other event eligibility.

Snaffle Bit classes are exempt from non-Pro rules excluding Snaffle Bit Aged events.

A competitor may borrow a horse and may pay a day fee to compete, however day fee competitors are not eligible to compete at National Finals or be eligible for North or South Island Annual awards.

Horses may be shown using one or two hands on the bridle reins. Twisted wire snaffles, gag snaffles or shank snaffles shall not be used. Snaffle bits are to be a minimum of 10mm (3/8") and have a smooth single jointed mouthpiece. Bosals and hackamores may be used. They shall be of rope or braided rawhide and have no metal parts. All other dress/equipment as per Rule 16.

i. RESTRICTED RIDER- For all Riders 18 years and over, who for one reason or another, have only one event they would otherwise enter at a show.

Riders who have entered two other cutting events at the same show are not eligible for this event.

Riders are limited to one horse for this event.

j) SNAFFLE BIT (HORSE) - The Snaffle Bit Horse is a one- or two-handed contest, open to ALL Horses regardless of LTE. Horse/rider combination may not compete in a Non-Pro event or Open Horse event at the same show. Combinations may only enter a maximum of two Snaffle Bit Classes per show. Points earned in Snaffle bit Horse are stand alone and do not count towards any other event eligibility. A competitor may borrow a horse and may pay a day fee to compete, however day fee competitors are not eligible to compete at National Finals or be eligible for North or South Island Annual Awards. There is no limit of horses per rider in this class. Horses may be shown using one or two hands on the bridle reins. Twisted wire snaffles, gag snaffles or shank snaffles shall not

be used. Snaffle bits are to be a minimum of 10mm (3/8") and have a smooth single jointed mouth-piece. Bosals and hackamores may be used. They shall be of rope or braided rawhide and have no metal parts. All other dress/equipment as per rule 16. Snaffle bit classes are exempt from non-Pro rules excluding Snaffle bit aged events.

All other dress/equipment as per Rule 16.

2. Novice Horse; Limited Non Pro, \$1500 Non-Pro, Rookie; Snaffle bit (Rider and Horse)- may finish the points year in the event class they commence, even after they break the respective class barriers during the year.

Money won in age events, Youth do not count toward class eligibility (excluding the Rookie class).

3. A horse or non pro's eligibility to enter NZCHA approved classes will be based on NZCHA lifetime earnings of a said horse or non pro after the running of the National Finals. This rule refers to Novice Horse, Limited Non Pro, \$1500 Non-Pro; Rookie and Snaffle bit (Horse and Rider)

4. All monies earned, stay in the category it was won in.

5. Money won overseas will be applied to lifetime earnings to determine class eligibility.

DAY MEMBERSHIP AT AN NZCHA APPROVED EVENT

Day Membership is available if the below criteria can be met:

- Day Fee Members may ride on a day fee three times before they are required to become a financial member of the NZCHA.
- If a NZCHA financial membership has lapsed for three + years or they have never been a financial member, they may ride on a day fee.
- Day members cannot compete at the National Finals.

Money or points earned on Day Fee accumulate against LTE but are not eligible for or contribute to annual awards. NZCHA recommend a day membership be charged at \$5.00 per day.

METHOD OF CONDUCTING CONTESTS

1. The herd of cattle should be held at one end of the arena by two riders who do not allow any cattle to pass them until the contestant has the animal he/she has chosen to work cut out from the herd. After this animal has been driven past the riders holding the herd, it will have to be turned back giving the contestant a chance to show his horse's ability to keep it from returning to the herd. The turning back is usually done by two riders selected by the contestant. It is recommended in a show with several spectator performances, only the contestants, herd holders and turn back riders be allowed in the arena during the cutting horse event. Spectators must be considered at all times, and by restricting the number of horses in the arena, greater concentration is encouraged on the horse working.

2. Usually yearling or two-year-old cattle in good condition give a horse enough play to put on a good show. Selecting cattle that will work is important. No horse, regardless of how good he may be, can put on a good performance unless the animal he cuts out tries to get back in the herd.

3. The number of cattle needed for a contest depends on the number of horses entered and the number of go-rounds to be worked. The minimum number of cattle required by the NZCHA for an approved contest be at least equal to 2.5 times the number of works scheduled. In other words, at least 2.5 head of stock per horse per go- round must be provided. Before the draw is made for working order, the number of horses to work in each group of cattle must be determined with a maximum of 12 per draw. The cattle should then be separated in direct proportion to the number of horses to be worked, (i.e. 12 horses, at least 30 cattle; 15 horses, at least 38 cattle). Where Finals are to be held, additional cattle must be provided in the same ratio.

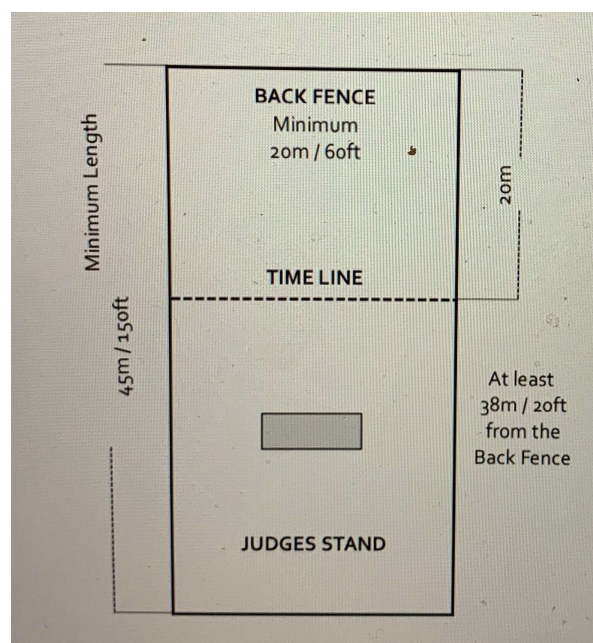
Further exemptions may be granted under extenuating circumstances upon application and approval by council.

4. In many cases, shows may schedule other classes in addition to NZCHA Open and Non-Professional contests. It is recommended that fresh cattle are allocated to Open and Non-Professional contests since higher entry and cattle fees are usually charged for these classes. Youth contests should always be provided fresh cattle. If Open, Non-Professional and Youth classes are not held first, separate fresh cattle should be provided and held back for these classes.

5. Show management may provide a means of announcing or displaying the score for each horse immediately after its work. This will greatly increase spectator interest and enthusiasm for the contest.
6. Whenever possible, it is recommended that stands be provided for the judges, and that they be placed in the arena. This is particularly true for large contests where a complete go-round will be worked without interruption. During rodeo or horse show performances the judges can be mounted on horseback or in utility vehicles to assure them a good view.
7. It is advised to have a management plan and risk management plan when organizing a cutting show. Having a good arena director will ensure that contestants are ready to follow immediately after the preceding competitor. This will help put on a good show and will make the event more popular. Have every detail worked out before hand and be sure everyone concerned knows what they are supposed to do. Never wait until you are in the arena to decide how something should be done. The spectators paid their money to see a show and do not care to wait while some discussion is held in the arena.
8. While the event preceding the Cutting Horse Contest is going on, get the cattle in the yard right behind the arena gate and make sure there are enough people there to push them in the arena the second you are ready for them. Be sure the herd holders, turn back riders and the contestants are ready, and the Judges have their judging sheets and a pen and see that the announcer has all of the information they need. All of this will add a lot to the show.
9. Any person riding a horse in an event in the arena should be a member of the NZCHA. Day membership is available.

CONTEST ARENA REGULATIONS

1. Arena Size- Recommended Width 24m (80') — 36m (120') x Recommended Length 45m (150') — 80m (250')
2. The back fence should be a minimum of 20m (60') wide and should be the same distance from the side fences on either side.
3. The timeline should be a minimum of 20m (60') from the back fence.
4. It is recommended that the judge or judges 'stand/s be at least 38m (120') from the back fence.
5. The surface should be of tilled earth or fine sand with a minimum depth of 10cm (4") to 15cm (6"). Note: If the arena floor is of concrete a 30cm (12") rolled clay base must be provided, then a minimum depth of 15cm (6") of sand. If the floor is of rolled clay, a minimum depth of 15cm (6") of sand and if floor is of natural cushioned earth, then a depth of 10cm (4") is sufficient. The arena should be watered to control dust which can cause problems for contestants and animals.
6. The time allotted to each horse to work is two and a half (2.5) minutes.
7. The timeline is merely a point at which the contestant's run begins. The designated working area is the area of the contest arena between the judge and or judges 'stand/s and the back fence. However, for the purposes of Rule 16 b (Rules for Judging Cutting Horse Contests), the whole arena will be considered.



8. Show committees must calculate how long their show will take to complete. A good rule of thumb is that it takes about five (5) minutes per horse including herd settling. Should the events not be completed during daylight hours and lights are not available, the show committee may be liable to refund entry fees and cattle hire for events cancelled due to insufficient light, similarly, events may be cancelled due to excessive dust or rain.

9. There should not be children in the arena while a show is running unless they are in the arena for the purpose of being involved in the cutting competition. While in the arena, they must be under adult supervision at all times.

SHOW COMMITTEE

1. Every APPLICATION FOR THE APPROVAL of a recognized competition shall be in such form as may from time to time be prescribed by the NZCHA and shall include:
 - a. The **DATE AND VENUE** of the competition.
 - b. **DETAILS OF THE CLASSES** in accordance with which cutting horses are to compete or are to be exhibited.
 - c. A copy of any **SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS** which are intended to apply to the competition.
 - d. All other **INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE REGULATIONS** and by the NZCHA.
 - e. Amount of **PRIZE MONEY** and distribution.
2.
 - a) More than one (1) show will not be affiliated within a 300km road travel radius on the same day. A championship cutting will take precedence over a jackpot cutting, or if both shows are of the same criteria, the first approval form received in the office will be the show affiliated, should there be two (2) or more clubs wish to affiliate on the same day. No show will be affiliated by the NZCHA on the same date as any major show held by the NZCHA.
 - b) No date and schedule of events and nominated purses which has been fixed for holding an affiliated competition and which has been approved by the NZCHA shall be **ALTERED OR CANCELLED** without the majority consent of the NZCHA Council unless it be by an act of god. Show

committees are required to give entrants twenty-four (24) hours notification of any alteration or cancellation of a contest or event.

3. Within fourteen (14) days of completion of the competition one (1) copy of the results, judges' sheets and show sheets must be sent to the Secretary/Points Collator of the NZCHA and must contain full and correct particulars of all awards and prize money. Also, all levies pertaining to the said show must be paid within fourteen (14) days.

4. The entry fee payable in respect of each horse entered shall be paid at the same time of lodgment of the application for entry except in the event of an age event where part of the entry fee may be lodged with entry and the balance at a later date. ALL ENTRY FEES AND CATTLE HIRE MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO COMPETING IN THE RELEVANT COMPETITION.

a) Late entries will be accepted at the discretion of the show committee conducting the event.

Any late entry accepted must work at the end of next available herd and will incur a penalty determined by the show committee. Scratching's will not change a competitor's place in the draw or alter the number of cattle in the herd.

5. The NZCHA shall guarantee all entry fees paid by contestants to the show management presenting cutting horse contests only, provided –

a) The contestants must be NZCHA members in good standing.

b) The Show must remit all levies, as set by NZCHA, to the NZCHA within fourteen (14) days of completion of the said show. Failure to remit these levies within this period may result in the said show committee being disaffiliated with the NZCHA.

NZCHA LEVIES - all per competitor/horse combination

Open Horse, Novice Horse and Open Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, \$1500 Non Pro, Rookie, Restricted Rider, Youth, Snaffle Bit Rider, Snaffle Bit Horse and approved restricted events = \$6.00

Aged Events: Futurity, Derby, Classic, Superstakes etc = \$10.00

c) It is recommended that entries are received on an official entry form as provided and supplied by the organizing affiliate or show committee and the entry form is duly signed and

acknowledged by the contestant entering the event.

d) Disciplinary action will be taken against NZCHA members causing implementation of standing rule 5 in a twelve (12) month period.

e) No points for NZCHA annual awards or certificates may be received by either the owner or rider of any horse requiring implementation of standing rule 5 on the date of the offence. Failure to make full restitution, including the above-named penalties, within twenty one (21) days of official written notice from the NZCHA will cause all points for NZCHA annual awards and certificates to be cancelled from the date of the offence until the date full restitution is received by NZCHA.

f) A member or member's horses are banned from competing in NZCHA affiliated cutting contests until any outstanding amounts are paid.

6. If a prize winner is disqualified, the horses placed next in order of merit shall be moved into the higher places in the prize list according to their respective placing by the judge.

7. No affiliate conducting a recognized competition shall be responsible for any accident or injury that may be caused to or by an exhibit and it is a condition of entry that each exhibitor shall hold such affiliate harmless and shall indemnify such body against any legal proceeding arising from such accident or injury. An exhibitor must volunteer to take part and compete.

8. The show management should appoint an Arena Director whose duties shall be:

- a) to maintain complete control of the arena and see that the program runs as scheduled.
- b) to ensure that contestants, turnback men and herd holders are ready to compete when called.
- c) to note any violation of rules and forward a full report to the show management.
- d) to ensure a risk management plan is completed and all incidents are recorded and given to the show management.

9. ALL NZCHA CHAMPIONSHIP CUTTING HORSE CONTESTS MAY BE VIDEO RECORDED.

No complaints regarding judging will be considered for any shows that are not video recorded.

This will assist the Director of Judges in making fair judgement of any protests concerning the judges' performance. **(Video Recording is optional at Jackpot cutting contests)**

- a) At all NZCHA affiliated cutting horse contests the Adjusted Monitor System or Self Adjusted Monitor System may be used (refer Casebook, SAMS page 119).
10. The show committee must draw for working order of horses or riders, before each go-round and final. If a re-draw is required one Councilor or one Cutters Advocate must be present.
- a) In the event that a horse which was properly entered is left out of the draw, a redraw will not be held. In order to establish a working order for this entry, the secretary will draw a numbered token based on the number of entries in the class involved to include a token for the late entry. The entry which was left out of the draw shall work behind the entry drawn. Additional cattle will be provided, however original cattle changes are not affected.
11. The show management must determine how many horses will be worked in each group of cattle before the draw is done. The maximum number of cutters recommended is 15, however in no circumstances is it to exceed 17.
- a) Herds are to be divided evenly with a minimum of 2.5 head of cattle per cutter. In the event that there is an odd number of cutters in an event, the lesser number will be in the last herd.
- b) Any competitor that misses their draw for whatever reason must be accepted, if so requested. Payment of an additional entry fee is at the discretion of the committee. The competitor will work last in the first available group of cattle. Scratching's will not alter a competitor's place in the draw or alter the number of cattle in the herd.
- c) Notice of intention to scratch a horse must be given to the show secretary at least forty eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of the show otherwise cattle hire and entry fees will be payable. Show committees may extend this time limit up to fourteen (14) days provided they advertise the fact on official entry forms and at least once in the NZCHA Chatter.
- d) It is mandatory that a rider drawn back to back should have his second draw automatically placed behind the horse drawn immediately following those two draws to facilitate the smooth running of the show.
- e) All horses must be ridden in order of competition draw that is announced and posted prior to the commencement of the show, unless circumstances relating to rule 11 b apply. Riders may be substituted in Open and Non-Pro competitions after the draw has been done. In the case of Non-Pro classes all relevant Non-Pro rules will apply and must be adhered to.

- f) At all affiliated events the judges 'score for each contestant will be publicly announced at the completion of the contestant's run and the judges 'sheets (or copies) must be posted at the end of the contest (judges 'sheets for age events will be posted at the end of each said go round).
- g) If re-run cattle must be used for any events, the cattle charge for re-run cattle shall not exceed half the price charged for fresh cattle. `
12. For any show with application for approval of \$5000 or more in prize money that is affiliated with the NZCHA by either a private individual or an affiliate (50) percent of the advertised prize money must be lodged with the NZCHA with that event's identity prior to the seven (7) days period before the commencement of the show.
13. All persons wishing to implement incentive schemes must seek council approval by presenting a detailed submission and guaranteed finance presented on letterhead by the guaranteeing entity. All incentive schemes must be sanctioned by the NZCHA to enable advertising in the Chatter and a presence at NZCHA shows.
14. In the event of conflict at a competition, the regulations of the NZCHA will prevail.
15. Any issues with Members or Judges at an approved show must be directed firstly verbally to the Competitors Advocate or a NZCHA Councillor. If the issue is unresolved, it must be followed up by a written statement to the NZCHA Secretary for council to address the issue/s.
16. Show management or NZCHA Council have the right to consult the NZCHA Director of Judges at any time with regards to the Adjusted Monitor System or Self Adjusted Monitor System.
17. The show management, its officers, or employees, shall be held accountable for all funds collected and/or disbursed in connection with contests approved by the NZCHA.
18. It is not a mandatory requirement for clubs to payout prize money on a score of 60 (excluding aged events).
19. If any circumstances occur which are not or which are alleged not to be provided by these regulations, the NZCHA may deal with matters and make such decision as it deems fit and its decision shall be final and binding upon all persons affected thereby.
20. Should an animal (cow or horse) be injured or debilitated; it must be attended to immediately. If it occurs during a run, the run must be stopped so that the animal may be dealt with.

Removing a cow from the herd after the first horse has worked may be only done when it is in the best interest of human or animal welfare. Such decision to remove a cow shall be made by the show management or its representative.

Examples:

- 1) At any time a cow leaves the herd and subsequently endangers the cutter, the helping horses or other contestants. Ruling: The cow will be removed from the arena.
- 2) A cow leaves the herd several times and does not challenge or endanger any other animal or human being. Ruling: The cow will remain in the arena.
- 3) A wild cow voluntarily leaves the working area. Ruling: At the discretion of show management or Councillor, the wild cow does not have to be returned to the herd.

NZCHA APPROVED CONTESTS

There are two (2) categories of NZCHA approved contests. Points won in both categories are counted towards awards.

NZCHA Championship Cutting Horse Contests

In order to qualify for this title, shows must meet all standing rules for approval and in addition, must have a full programme. Other NZCHA approved classes may be run with this type of contest. No minimum purse is required. One hundred (100%) percent of the total entry fee must be added back to the stated purse. *(The NZCHA Futurity Show is exempt from being full programme and aged events do not require added entries)*

2. Jackpot Cutting Horse Contests

Must include an Open & Open Non-Pro class. There is no restriction on which other jackpot classes are held or the number of classes held.

- One hundred (100) percent of the total entry fee must be paid out as prize money.
- Other NZCHA approved classes may be run with this type of contest.
- Jackpots may have a minimum guaranteed purse. It is permissible to add a guaranteed purse which must be paid out with entry fee.

- Jackpots must have a minimum entry fee of \$10.

Jackpot payout system

1 competitor = 100%

2 competitors= 1st 60%, 2nd 40%

3 competitors= 1st 50%, 2nd 30%, 3rd 20%

4 + competitors= 1st 40%, 2nd 30%, 3rd 20%, 4th 10%

3. Show committees may hold a maximum of two shows at any venue on any one day. Any or all

NZCHA approved classes may be held once only at each of these shows.

4. To be NZCHA approved, the application form for all shows must be received by the NZCHA

Show Approver no later than thirty (30) days prior to the closing date of entry for the show involved including the NZCHA National Finals and NZCHA Futurity Show.

All approved shows must appear in at least one (1) NZCHA Chatter. Early receipt of an approval application gives the contest more publicity in the NZCHA Chatter.

5. A show that is approved by the NZCHA must use the Association rules in their entirety. A show may be approved without naming a judge or judges. A show should designate an alternate judge in case the judge or one of the judges is unable to be present.

- a) If there are recognized overseas visiting judges asked to officiate at NZCHA approved contests, their results will be recognized if they are NZCHA (Australia or USA) approved judges.
- b) Shows must use judges from the NZCHA approved judges List.
- c) No person listed on the NZCHA probation list will be permitted to judge.
- d) All NZCHA approved Championship cutting horse contests may be taped or filmed.
- e) All NZCHA approved events must use official NZCHA judges' cards and forward same to the association along with all completed NZCHA forms, within fourteen (14) days.

6. If any charge is to be made other than entry fee, it must be stated as NZCHA Levy, cattle hire or office or video fee and be separated from the entry fee. This fee is to be charged to all contestants and stated on the affiliation form for publication in the Chatter. In all cutting horse contests approved by the NZCHA all levies collected by the Show Management as calculated from the levies table must be forwarded to the NZCHA. No deduction, other than as specified above, shall be made. Failure to comply will cause approval of the show to be withdrawn.

7. New Zealand Cutting Horse Association competition must be open to any horse, regardless of breed, age, sex, colour, conformation, appearance, or previous performance. Horses are to be judged on performance only.

8. Approval may be made with the NZCHA to run a restricted cutting contest, i.e. where entry is limited by age or sex of the horse, individual breed shows, mare, gelding, stallion, invitation or any event deemed restricted by the NZCHA Council. Points or money won in these classes will be designated towards NZCHA lifetime earnings but not towards high point awards except for High Point Mare, Stallion & Gelding.

- a. A show granted restricted cutting horse contest status must adhere to all NZCHA approved contest rules (unless special exemption is granted by the NZCHA Council).
- b. Recognized breed societies are allowed to run one (1) national championship show provided that the cutting horse events are judged under NZCHA rules for judging cutting horse contests.
- c. The events need not be affiliated with the NZCHA and all NZCHA levies will apply.

9. Payment of Prize Money at Approved Contests (Age Events and Jackpot Events excluded as they have their own scale rules.)

All NZCHA approved contests will be paid out on the following sliding scale basis:

Four (4) places -40%, 30%, 20%, 10%

Five (5) places -30%, 25%, 20%, 15%, 10%

Six (6) places -30%, 24%, 18%, 12%, 9%, 7%

Eight (8) places -25%, 20%, 15%, 12%, 10%, 8%, 6%, 4%

Ten (10) places -20%, 16%, 14%, 11%, 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4%

10. Competitors receiving a 60 score and making the lineup will receive the payout for the placing but will not receive the points towards annual awards or Lifetime earnings, at all levels.

(Horse/Rider or aged events), except in an event of two or more go rounds and a score of 61 or more is achieved in the other go round.

The NZCHA Council will be able to approve an application from any show committee to hold a show, where all or any cutting horse events may be run over 2 go rounds with points aggregated and to have any monies won count towards NZCHA awards. Each horse must have the same rider

throughout the contest, except in cases of hardship or injury. Hardship and injury is to be determined by the show committee; Cutters Advocate and any NZCHA Councillors present.

Definition of Entries – Entries as referred above relates to the number of horses listed in the draw at the start of competition. Any nomination listed prior to the draw and scratched prior to the draw is not considered an entry in the event.

11. An exhibitor may enter one or more horses but a rider may ride only:

OPEN - No Limit

NOVICE- No Limit

YOUTH- 2 horses

NON-PRO- 4 Horses

ROOKIES- 1 Horse

RESTRICTED RIDER - 1 Horse

SNAFFLE BIT (RIDER) - 2 Horses

SNAFFLE BIT (HORSE) - No Limit

In the event of a non pro riding more than one (1) horse in an event, only the points or money from the highest earning horse will count toward high point awards.

12. INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

All incentive schemes must seek Council approval by presenting a detailed submission and guaranteed finance by the company on their letterhead by the guaranteeing entity. All incentive schemes must be sanctioned by the NZCHA to enable advertising in the Chatter and a presence at NZCHA shows. No incentive program can suggest any form of affiliation with the NZCHA without prior approval from the Council and acceptance of any terms and conditions imposed by the Council for that approval.

CONTESTANTS

1. All entry fees and cattle hire must be paid prior to competing in any contest. Show committees must enforce this rule.
2. All registered horses must be shown under the name assigned them by their breed association
3. Owners and riders of horses in NZCHA affiliated events must be either financial members or the nominee of a constituent membership except Rookies, Youth, Snaffle Bit Rider, Restricted and international members who may compete on the relevant day fee.
 - a) Day fee competitors are ineligible for year-end awards and to compete at National Finals.
5. No contestant, NZCHA member or other person shall engage in any form of misconduct, verbal harassment, or physical aggression toward show management, judges, NZCHA employees, fellow contestants, or members of the public while at an affiliated show. Intoxication with liquor or drugs shall not be considered an excuse. The NZCHA does not tolerate alcohol and drug intoxicated members. Show management and/or the arena director have the right to bar an obviously intoxicated person from the arena. A person suspected of alcohol or drug use/intoxication may be asked to undertake a breath test before competing with a point five (.05) or above reading resulting in immediate disqualification. Show management has the right to immediately disqualify, refuse entry and remove from the grounds any person who violates this rule.

No entry fees, cattle hire, camping and gate charges etc. will be refunded and any prize money won by the offender or any horse ridden by the offender may be forfeited.

Any horse being ridden by the offender at the show shall be disqualified from further participation at that show in any event where the offender is the nominated rider. Refusal to comply with show management's requests regarding this rule will result in immediate removal by the police or security. Should the offender be a member of the NZCHA, show management shall as soon as is reasonably practical report any infraction of this rule to the NZCHA for referral to Council.
6. A contestant may drop out of any contest due to injury to himself/herself, or his/her horse, or due to sickness or death in his/her family. A contestant shall not at any time withdraw from any contest he/she is participating in due to dissatisfaction or grievance with the judge or judges, show

management, or other contestants without forfeiting all money he may have won in previous go rounds. Entry fees or any part thereof will not be refunded after a contest starts.

7. All contestants will work at the appointed time designated by the show management or be disqualified for that go round with no score.

8. Upon consultation with the show secretary an entry may be substituted after the closing date of entry and prior to the draw being announced. However, after the draw has been announced there shall be no changes as per show committee rule 11e. This does not apply to age or restricted events.

9. If a contestant refuses to compete in finals, any money won in previous go-rounds will be forfeited. In the event money has been distributed before finals, it must be refunded within fifteen (15) days after the refund request is made, or the contestant will be suspended until the money has been refunded.

10. Should any horse be injured at an NZCHA sponsored event and the NZCHA may be found to be negligent, the NZCHA official vet must be utilized or the NZCHA will hold no responsibility nor be liable for any compensation for vet costs incurred.

11. Mobile phones must not be used in the working arena.

12. A contestant shall not enter the show arena at any time during an approved or sponsored affiliated cutting horse contest with any kind of training device, tack or equipment not permitted by the rules for judging cutting horse contests, rule 16, page 79. The show management, representative, or judge must disqualify a contestant if he enters the arena with any such equipment and all entry fees and/or premiums pertaining to said contestant shall be forfeited. Includes any other horses in the arena from one hour prior to the show start time to 10 minutes after the shows final "Line Up" are subject to this rule, anyone found in breach of this will be asked to remove the training equipment or leave the arena.

a) After the buzzer sounds, the cutter will discontinue working and ride his horse forward past the timeline before dismounting except to retrieve a lost article, or in extenuating circumstances.

- b) The bit may be inspected at the judges' discretion and in the event a violation of the rules is discovered, the violator will be subject to disciplinary action by the NZCHA.
 - c) All cutting horses must be ridden astride.
 - d) Each contestant is limited to four helpers.
 - e) In the event of bad light affecting competition, the Cutters Advocate or Councillor/s, through show management shall have the right of appeal to the judge(s) to stop a contest. If both parties agree the light is sufficiently bad enough to hinder both the competition and judging, the contest or particular herd of cattle in question may be rescheduled or cancelled in its entirety. In the event of cancellation, all entry fees and cattle hire shall be refunded to the contestants - this rule will also apply to excessive dust or rain.
13. The following provisions regarding conduct shall apply to any cutting event.
- a) Training activities of any kind while on the show grounds other than in designated practice facilities are prohibited.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

The Zero Tolerance policy requires that any of the following acts should be reported.

- i) Slapping or hitting a horse on the head, or any other part of the body, one time or more than one time, in any manner, either with the rider's hands, reins or any other object.
- ii) Using a bit in such a way that a horse is caused to bleed from its mouth or face.
- iii) Using any object held in the rider's hand to hit a horse;
- iv) Any act which the general public would perceive to be a violation of 13 b.

This includes such acts occurring not only in the show arena but also those occurring anywhere on the show grounds, the warm-up area, practice pen or any other location.

If show management or judge at any NZCHA approved or sponsored event discovers inhumane treatment or abuse of a horse, they should immediately bar the responsible party and horse from further competition in the event and the judge will give a score of zero. The NZCHA must be notified in writing within seven (7) days of the alleged offence taking place and the complaint will be referred to the NZCHA Council for investigation and consideration.

1st offence – warning, 2nd offence – probation with fine, 3rd offence- period of suspension.

Official practice areas should post a sign containing standing Rule 11 b and, no smaller than 600mm square, at the entrance to such areas.

Rule 13 b) Inhumane treatment or abuse of a horse in any manner in the show arena or on the show grounds is prohibited. Inhumane treatment includes the showing of a crippled, lame or injured horse or a horse with any health abnormality which could result in that horse's undue discomfort or distress. Abuse includes excessive jerking, spurring whipping or any other act intended to cause trauma or injury to a horse. Any act of abuse, or intent to abuse, a horse in the show arena or on the show ground which could also endanger the safety of other persons or animals will be dealt with in the strongest possible manner as provided by the NZCHA rules.

If show management at any NZCHA approved or sponsored event discovers inhumane treatment or abuse of a horse, it may immediately bar the responsible party and horse from further participation in the event. The decision of show management as to inhumane treatment can be based upon consultation with a veterinarian.

If show management determines, in its sole discretion, that the welfare of the horse requires immediate action and a veterinarian is not available, show management shall consult with the judge(s) of the event before taking any action allowed by this rule.

13c) NZCHA MEDICATION POLICY

In order to remain true to the ideals of fair play and for the preservation of horse welfare, it is appropriate to state the NZCHA Rules relating to the welfare of horses in competition and, in particular, the use of medications. As with other horse sports the welfare of the horse is of paramount importance.

- Any horses competing or entered for sale at events managed by the NZCHA may be tested for medication residues.

- At other shows holding more than one age event, at least one horse from any age event may be tested. Random testing of horses at any NZCHA managed show may be undertaken without notification.

- All testing will be by blood sample with the blood testing providing a determination of medication levels i.e., not a screening test. Tamper proof testing kits will be used. Collection of samples for testing is to be undertaken by a veterinarian under instruction from the NZCHA management. Sampling will be taken immediately on exit of the nominated horse/s from the competition arena, or in the case of sale horses, immediately prior to entry into, or exit from the sale arena
- A registered laboratory will perform the test. No person shall cause to be administered internally or externally to a horse, either before or during an approved event, any medication or substance which could affect its performance or appearance at that event, except for those permitted therapeutic medications, the use of which is provided for in the Permitted Medication clause
- Any horse found to have a prohibited medication residue will be referred to the NZCHA Council.

The NZCHA will determine whether an offence has been committed and what penalty shall be imposed. The cost of medication tests will be borne by the NZCHA except where such a test is deemed to be a Rule violation, in which case the costs will be borne by the owner. Where inhumane treatment or abuse of a horse is found to have occurred or any medication administration is in violation of the Rule, NZCHA shall be notified.

- Within the definition of this Rule, certain substances may be used without restriction (Unrestricted Class). These include antibiotics, except procaine penicillin, anti-ulcer medications, amino acids, vitamins, electrolytes, topical ointments and creams not containing corticosteroids, analgesics, local anaesthetics or irritants, preventative or restorative oral joint therapeutics, altrenogest acepromazine (not permitted in sale horses)

Any other medications that may be administered to horses prior to entry to a competition or sale must be given time to clear metabolites from the horse's system, i.e., they must not be administered inside the effective withholding time.

PERMITTED MEDICATIONS

Permitted Medications, and only those listed, may be administered by a licensed veterinarian, trainer or individual acting under the owner's direction, to a horse prior to or during competition or sale within the defined limitations. Notification for the use of these medications is not mandatory.

The responsibility rests with the aforesaid person/s to comply with the dosage limits for these medications. Failure to comply with the stated dose and frequency of administration will result in a high risk of exceeding therapeutic dose levels. All horses whose medication levels exceed maximum permitted plasma concentrations will be referred to the NZCHA for review and disciplinary action.

1. Medication must not be given within 6 hours of competition.
2. Only one non-steroidal anti-inflammatory (NSAID) medication is permitted. It is a violation to concurrently medicate with more than one NSAID.
3. The following are Permitted Medications:

PHENYLBUTAZONE - the maximum permitted plasma concentration is 15.0 micrograms per milliliter.

Each 24 hours, no more than 4.45 milligrams per kg bodyweight should be administered. For a 450 kg horse, the maximum daily dose is 2.0 grams, which equals 2 x 1.0 gram sachets, 10 x 200 milligram units of paste, or 10 mls of 200mg/ml injectable solution. Where phenylbutazone is orally administered,

half the maximum daily dose should be given at 12 hour intervals. Phenylbutazone should not be given for more than 5 consecutive days.

FLUNIXIN MEGLUMINE - the maximum permitted plasma concentration is 1.0 microgram per millilitre. Each 24 hours, no more than 1.0 milligram per kg bodyweight should be administered. For a 450 kg horse, the maximum daily dose is 500 milligrams, which equals 10 mls of 50mg/ml injectable solution. Flunixin should not be given for more than 5 consecutive days.

KETOPROFEN - the maximum permitted plasma concentration is 0.25 micrograms per millilitre. Each 24 hours, no more than 2.0 milligrams per kg bodyweight should be administered. For a 450 kg horse, the maximum daily dose is 1.0 gram, which equals 10 mls of a 100 mg/ml injectable solution. Ketoprofen should not be given for more than 5 consecutive days.

MELOXICAM – Each 24 hours no more than 1.2 milligrams per kg bodyweight should be administered. For a 450 kg horse, the maximum daily dose is 5.4 gram, which equals 9 mls of 30 milligram units oral paste or 13.5 mls of a 20 mg/ml injectable solution. Where meloxicam is orally administered, half the maximum daily dose should be given at 12 hour intervals.

EMERGENCY MEDICATION

Any acutely ill or injured horse may be treated by a licensed veterinarian with the approval of show management, for any condition that would not prevent the horse from competing following treatment.

THE TREATED HORSE MUST BE KEPT OUT OF COMPETITION NOT LESS THAN 24 HOURS AFTER MEDICATION

A veterinary report must be supplied by the attending veterinarian and lodged with show management within twelve hours of attendance to the horse. The report must include the following details:

- Identification of the horse
- Date and time of treatment
- Diagnosis of the injury or illness
- Identification of all medications used, including dose, route of administration, date and time of last dose.
- Identification and signature of attending veterinarian.

The report is to be countersigned by show management with time of lodgment recorded on the report. Any horse under medical treatment for an acute illness or injury prior to or during competition may be refused further entry on NZCHA veterinary advice.

Application for any horse treated under emergency medication provisions to compete within the 24-hour exclusion period may be made to show management. The decision to permit re-entry into competition will be made by show management on review

of the veterinary report and assessment of the status of the horse. Should a medication test identify levels exceeding permissible plasma concentration or inconsistent with stated medication usage the owner of the horse will be required to prove that the medication was administered in a therapeutic dosage and no closer than 24 hours prior to competition. These same permissions apply to horses requiring emergency treatment prior to an NZCHA sale where the horse is deemed suitable to enter the sale ring following veterinary attendance.

13 d) Unsportsmanlike conduct in the show arena or show grounds is prohibited.

- e) A contestant shall not talk with the judge(s) beyond the exchange of normal greetings during

a show, nor shall a contestant discuss with the judge any previous scores, events, or related happenings within thirty (30) days after a contest in which both parties participated;

f) A contestant shall make no comment within a judge's hearing regarding any work taking place at a performance.

g) No alcoholic beverages may be consumed or brought into the arena while an NZCHA approved or sponsored cutting horse contest is taking place;

h) A contestant shall not intimidate or attempt to intimidate the judge(s). Violation of this subsection will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the NZCHA.

i) The responsibility for reporting violations of this standing rule rests with, but is not limited to, show management, NZCHA Council, and the judges.

j) A contestant may not talk with a monitor(s) or the Director of Judges, beyond the exchange of normal greetings during a show. A contestant will make no comments within a monitor's hearing regarding any work taking place at a performance. A violation of subsection 1 and 2 of this rule will call for disciplinary action as determined by the Board of Directors.

k) Judges sheets must not be removed, altered or tampered with in any way. Any infraction of this rule will be considered a serious offence and will be reported to the NZCHA for possible disciplinary action.

14. COMPETITORS ADVOCATE

A program has been set up for the use of a representative of the contestants, or a liaison, to work between contestants and show management. This is not a requirement but is a system that can be utilized if the NZCHA or an Affiliate feel required.

a) A Competitors Advocate must represent all contestants with the show management and be the sole liaison with said management. He must report if he observes any horse being abused or if there are actions by any contestant detrimental to the best interest of the association such as the following: loud and profane language, drunkenness or being under the influence of intoxicants, use of devices not permitted by NZCHA rules or any other infraction of standing rules.

A representative shall have no contact or communication with the judge(s) beyond that permitted to any contestant. and if they are not present then any Councillor or member of show/ event management can act as representatives

15. Any member who is found guilty of any infringement of NZCHA rules may be ineligible to represent the NZCHA at any international event.

ON THE SPOT FINES

- 1) Training equipment (rings, tie-downs etc.) applied to a horse in the contest area, warm-up area or loping pen Fine: \$150
- 2) Failure to adhere to Standing Rule; 16 b) with regards to correct attire at all times as required by this rule. Fine: \$150
- 3) The use of offensive language in the contest arena, loping pen or practice pen. Fine: \$150
- 4) Smoking (of any nature) in the contest arena Fine: \$150
- 5) Consumption of alcohol in the contest arena, warm-up area, loping pen or practice pen/mechanical cow area. Fine: \$150
- 6) The use of a mobile phone in the contest arena (forward of the judges stand) Fine: \$150
- 7) Excessive pulling, jerking or spurring of your horse at an affiliated NZCHA event. Fine: \$500
- 8) Any abuse of an animal on ground which causes an animal's mouth, nose or sides to bleed. Fine: \$500
- 9) Slapping or hitting an animal forward of the wither. Fine: \$500.

Employers, please be aware, you are responsible for persons in your direct control.

These fines can be actioned by the NZCHA Council using the above fines as maximums only.

ANIMAL WELFARE

The NZCHA fully supports the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals according to the regulations of New Zealand law.

a) Help Horses

1. Their condition and fitness must be equal to the amount of work they will be asked to per-

form. An act of cruelty is “Any act or omission as a consequence of which the animal is unreasonably, unnecessarily or unjustifiably overworked, overloaded, overdriven, overriden, or overused”.

2. The feet of help horses must be properly trimmed or shod.
3. There must be provision of adequate water at appropriate times in the arena.
4. Close attention must be paid to the duration of time for which help horses are used. This time must be appropriate to the condition and fitness of the horse and weather conditions.
5. Where possible, help horses should be removed from the arena and unsaddled rather than be tied continually to the arena fence.
6. It is recommended that help horses that have been used for a large portion of any show, shall be retired at the conclusion of the show and not kept on to work for any practices after the show.

b) Practice Pen Area

This area must be closely controlled as far as overuse of both horses and cattle are concerned.

Water must be available as appropriate in these areas.

c) Loping Areas

The loping area within a cutting pen must be restricted to cutting competitors only and where other loping areas exist, further restriction to competitors in the current or next event only. Loping areas must not be overcrowded and behaviour that could result in injury to horses or riders must be prohibited. Local clubs must enforce this policy.

d) Spurs & Bits

The use of bits is covered by Rule 16. (Refer page 83 Judging Rule 16) Notwithstanding, the sale or display of inappropriate bits at any show is prohibited. “No person shall have in their possession or custody, any spur or any other similar appliance which has sharpened rowels”. This ruling must be rigorously enforced.

e) Cattle Welfare

The following NZCHA recommendations must be implemented by organizing committees:

1. NZCHA recommend that cattle used at all events should be of suitable condition.
2. Minimum Age - should be of age where they are tractable to cut.

3. Cows and calves should not be used in the same herd as each other.
4. Female cattle more than 24 weeks pregnant or obviously springing are not recommended.
5. Obviously lame or injured cattle should be removed from the herd entering the arena, and if necessary, before the first horse is worked. Settlers and/or show management to be responsible.
6. Cattle should be settled before working to ensure they are tractable & comfortable with horses.
7. Heat - Mid 30s should be looking for shade, preferably shade cloth. Sprinklers to be used with caution as they increase humidity and can overheat cattle in the wrong circumstances.
8. Water must be available in holding yards. Hay in racks is recommended for cattle being held overnight.
9. The use of dogs to work cattle in yards is permitted.
10. Cattle to be handled by competent stockman without whips and poly pipe.
11. Cattle must have two sound eyes (Pink eye scars are acceptable).
12. In the case of an animal being injured and having to be removed from the arena, transport and covering screen are to be available for removal for the injured or stressed animal to stop public and animal distress.

ANIMAL WELFARE OFFICERS

Annually the NZCHA Council should appoint a suitable amount of Animal Welfare Officers nationally in order to ensure that our animal welfare regulations are upheld at all times, at all affiliate events. The appointed Animal Welfare Officers are tasked with enforcing the above Animal Welfare rulings as well as any other rule pertaining to Animal Welfare that sits within the current NZCHA rulebook. These rules must be enforced for the entirety of the event and they must be enforced throughout the entire show or event grounds.

The NZCHA request that at all NZCHA approved events, a sign stating guidelines around rule 13B and our animal welfare rulings is to be placed on the gate of the arena.

Any breach should be followed up by show management immediately after consultation and it is within the rights of the Show/ Event management or the Animal Welfare officer to ask that the person(s) responsible does not participate for the remainder of the day/and or in that event. The breach should also be reported back to the NZCHA Council by Show Management/ the Animal Welfare Officer involved which will be followed up following the formal complaints process detailed above.

The NZCHA request that any member whilst enforcing such rulings are treated with respect and courtesy.

NZCHA ZERO TOLERANCE- COMPLAINT PROCESS

A system has been implemented to deal with valid complaints in a non-biased and professional manner.

1. All complaints to be in writing to the NZCHA- See NZCHA Website for the complaint form.
2. Evidence (photograph or video or credible witness/s)
3. The NZCHA to adjudicate
4. The accused must be provided an opportunity to present their case
5. Fines - At NZCHA Council discretion

Step One – Incident occurs – Witness/ Complainant to report to a present- Animal Welfare Officer/ Member of Show/ Event Management or an NZCHA Councilor. The representative who received the report (or another member with similar designation) should verbally advise the person(s) involved and this should be considered a warning. Incident is to be recorded by either the complainant or the member who received the report, utilizing the NZCHA complaint form which should be sent to the NZCHA Secretary. No further action will be taken at this point unless the NZCHA Council deem necessary. The complaint form is to be held on file. Any individual who has received a

warning is also encouraged to complete a complaint form for investigation should they feel they have been mistreated.

Step Two – If a repeated offence, an Animal Welfare Officer, Member of the NZCHA Council or Show/ Event Management has the right to take immediate action as directed by this rulebook. This can include the member being banned from the day's proceedings and/or the event. The Incident must be reported using the NZCHA formal complaints process for further consideration by the NZCHA Council. Historic reports may at this point be used for decision making. It is at NZCHA discretion to impose the ruling: Second Offence – probation with possible fine, 3rd offence- period of suspension.

NON PRO REGULATIONS

1. Riders of horses entered in any classification of NZCHA Non-Professional events shall be restricted to holders of NZCHA Non-Professional status.
2. Any and all present or future ownership rights to any horse being exhibited in NZCHA Non-Professional cutting horse classes must be owned by the contestant showing the horse or by the contestant's spouse, spouses' immediate family, children, parents, siblings, grandparents and guardians. Defacto Relationships must be advised to the NZCHA in writing.
 - a) An official NZCHA Lease (horse transfer) agreement will be accepted as ownership.
 - b) A NZ Non-Pro does not need to own the horse if they compete in the Open Horse, Novice Horse, Snaffle Bit Horse, Rookie or Restricted Rider or aged events.
3. A NZ Non-Pro may receive direct and indirect remuneration for the training of cutting horses and or cutting horse riders, up to \$25,000.00 Gross per annum or the value of \$25,000.00 gross per annum, not including the sale of a cutting horse they have trained.
4. Any person who has shown, trained, or assisted in training a cutting horse or cutting horse rider for remuneration over \$25,000.00 Gross per annum shall be considered a Professional by this association, with the exception of those who have been granted a change of status, from Professional to Non-Professional.

5. In the event that a member who holds an NZCHA Non-Professional Status publicly exhibits in any Non-Pro contest, whether approved or unapproved, a cutting horse not owned by the member or by the member's spouse, spouses immediate family, children, parents, siblings, grandparents and guardians, the said status can be revoked. Penalties for ownership rule violations will be loss of Non-Professional status and any other member found guilty of aiding and abetting the rule violator will be subject to the same penalties depending on the severity of the incident.

Consideration for exemptions to the rule may be considered by the NZCHA Council.

5a) Upon notification in writing to the NZCHA and after receiving from them a permit authorizing the same, the holder of an NZCHA Non-Professional Status will be permitted to show a horse he/she does not own but intends to purchase, in a maximum of three (3) NZCHA approved Open and Novice Horse classes only. Only one such permit will be granted for a rider for a given horse at any one time and points won will not count toward any NZCHA earnings awards, title or certificate.

5b) Rookies, Snaffle Bit Rider and the Restricted Rider classes are exempt from the Non-Pro ownership rule.

6. NON-PRO DISPENSATION

a) Should a NZCHA Non-Pro elect to ride outside New Zealand they would need to fit into the ruling as defined for that country's competitors, however if the NZCHA were asked to verify they were Non-Pros, the NZCHA would supply a copy of our ruling and it would be up to that country to decide on the riders overseas status.

b) Anyone who has trained cutting horses or riders overseas would retain the status of NZCHA Non-Pro Status unless they had earned over NZ \$ 25,000.00 gross per annum solely from training cutting horses or training cutting riders.

c) Anybody who has ridden professionally overseas who has earned over NZ\$ 25,000.00 gross would not be eligible for NZCHA Non-Pro status.

Clarification: The NZCHA introduced these Non-Pro regulations because we have **no** Professional trainers whose sole income is from training cutting horses or cutting riders. "The title of Professional trainer shall only apply to a Competitor who earns more than \$25,000.00 Gross per annum,

solely from training Cutting Horses or Cutting Horse Riders, the sale of Cutting Horses they have trained is excluded”.

7. ROOKIES

- a) The event is one handed, judged as per rule book.
- b) Open to all persons who have not won \$750 in their lifetime (*Excluding ALL Snaffle bit earnings*). Any Youth who has accumulated 100 or more lifetime points will also cease to be eligible. A Rookie may finish the point year in the class even if he breaks the \$750 (refer also rule 1g, page 8).
- c) Any prize money won in Youth divisions will not affect Rookie eligibility. Any prize money won in Non-Pro classes will affect Rookie eligibility.
- d) A Rookie may borrow a horse for all cutting events except Non-Pro events and can pay a day fee to compete. A Rookie or Youth competing on a day fee will not have points or monies allocated towards high point standings unless they are a full member. Monies will count towards Rookies eligibility.
- e) A Rookie may ride only one horse per event in the Rookie class.
- f) A Rookie may compete on a borrowed horse until he/she breaks out of the Rookie class.
- g) A Rookie is exempt from all Non Pro rules.

YOUTH DIVISION

1. Any Youth eighteen (18) years and under as at the 1st May of the competition Year is eligible for Youth Membership.
2. A Youth membership allows them to show in Youth classes only. Youth must pay full membership to compete in Novice, Open, Non-Pro and Rookie classes or can compete in Rookie by paying a day fee.
3. Points shall be awarded to winners in NZCHA Youth cutting horse contests who are financial members.
4. Prizemoney may be awarded for Youth cutting, however for the purpose of awards, points will be calculated on the following basis:

No of Entries	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----

1	1			
2	2	1		
3	3	2	1	
4+	4	3	2	1

5. Any Youth who has accumulated 100 or more points in his lifetime will cease to be eligible for Rookie classes.

6. Only members of the NZCHA shall be eligible to receive any awards offered by the NZCHA in the Youth division. It is recommended that, whenever possible, adults be used as turn back men and herd holders at NZCHA Youth cutting horse contests.

7. Show committees conducting Affiliated cutting horse contests must include a Youth cutting horse contest.

8. Stallions may be barred from NZCHA Youth cutting horse contests if this information is forwarded by the association running the competition to the NZCHA at the time application for approval is made.

9. Any child under seven (7) years of age cannot ride or be in charge of a horse at any NZCHA affiliated event.

10. Awards for the annual NZCHA Youth championships can only be gained in Youth contests.

A contestant may ride two horses per contest, however only the points from the highest scoring horse will apply for awards. Regardless of age, married contestants are ineligible for competition in youth classes.

11. Helmets are mandatory for all Youth Competitors or Children (all those under 18 years of age) when they are riding a horse both inside or outside the arena at any NZCHA affiliated event.

GRASS ROOTS CUTTING

The NZCHA has included this section in our rules as we agree to the concept and applicable conditions (highlighted in green) from these NZCHA rules as they could be applied at club level as a club event at shows.

Grass Roots Cutting is a new format of a weekend show event aimed to give new and inexperienced weekend cutters a fun and affordable entryway to the sport. Grass Roots events will complement the existing NZCHA Championship and Jackpot Shows or run as standalone shows, with lower cost and more flexibility for show producers.

The Grass Roots events will make it easier for affiliates (clubs) to create events tailored to their unique situations. It also gives new people and current members who are just cutting for fun a better experience and encouragement while being rewarded for their efforts.

Rules / Eligibility for Grass Roots Events

1. To be eligible to compete, a competitor must be a financial NZCHA member or take out a day membership.
2. To be eligible you must NOT have won 3 NZCHA cutting events in any class NOR won \$500 or more in any NZCHA cutting classes. If you win 3 events or exceed \$500 in winnings you may remain in the class until the end of the points year.
3. A competitors run will consist of cutting two cows with two minutes working time per run
4. The event will be judged under the same rules as all NZCHA events.
5. Dress code and all other NZCHA rules and policies apply as per NZCHA rule book.
6. One horse, One rider however a horse may be entered in both classes with the same or 2 separate riders.
7. As per Rookies classes the rider does not have to own the horse.
8. On payment of a second entry fee, at the time of initial entry submission, you may enter the same horse twice in the same event however only your highest score will count towards placings and points.
9. A Judge of A rating or above must be engaged to judge the event with the judge providing feedback after the completion of the event to the competitor, if requested, to assist in improvement

THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS AND NZCHA HIGH POINT AWARDS

1. The National Finals are open to all horses and riders of good financial standing in the NZCHA.

2. The National Finals and National Aged Events will be held annually at a date that the NZCHA Council decides upon (consultation with members is recommended).
 - a) All approved shows after the previous year's National Finals and the completion of the following years National Finals will be the contestable year to determine National Champions in all events sanctioned by the NZCHA. The AGM will be held at the National Finals. In the event of the National Finals not being run, the AGM will be at the end of the contestable year (which is the time that the National Finals was scheduled to be run).
3. The National Championships will be the final show for the point score year and will determine National champions in all events sanctioned by the NZCHA and other National Championship awards e.g Mare, Stallion, gelding and Five-Year-Old.
4. No show will be granted approval by the NZCHA in the five working days (Monday to Friday inclusive) preceding the National Finals and including the National Finals date/s.
5. The National Championships will stage a full program of NZCHA approved events.
6. Points shall be allocated by the NZCHA at the rate of one (1) point for each \$1 won in prize money at all approved contests throughout the point's year except youth classes and scores of 60 or equivalent in case of double judging or two go rounds.

NZCHA GUIDELINES FOR NZCHA NATIONAL FINALS

- a) Show application to be with the NZCHA 30 days before the entry closing date for the event for approval and advertising.
- b) National Finals will be contested after the Island Finals in alternate Islands.
- c) NZCHA National Champions will only be decided at this National Finals show.
- d) Judges scores from the Finals show will be calculated to award the National Champions in all classes eligible to be contested for as per standing rules.
- e) At the NZCHA council discretion all events at the National Finals may be run as a two go round aggregate and if the NZCHA decide to run a third go round it will be a clean slate Final (2018).
- f) Pay-outs at National Finals will be paid over 2 go rounds and the aggregate at 25% per go round and 50% for the aggregate.
- g) The highest aggregate in each class or the winner of the third go round clean slate final will be the NZCHA National Champions and will receive NZCHA ribbons, a NZCHA Buckle and a NZCHA

perpetual trophy to be presented at a time arranged by the Show Committee. Champion certificates will be issued when ready.

h) Qualification -To qualify to attend the NZCHA National Finals the entrant must be a financial member of the NZCHA (in a member category which is eligible to compete) before the date when entries close for the National Finals.

i) Two qualified judges according to the rule book must judge the National Finals or one International Judge approved by their National Association.

j) Suitable sound system must be present.

k) Video of events is recommended to support the SAMS judging system.

7. HIGH POINT AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE NATIONAL FINALS AND/OR AWARDS NIGHT.

Awards presented at the NZCHA annual awards ceremony are: (NB may be necessary for some buckles to be post awards)

a) Open Horse Champion of the Year

b) Open Non-Pro Champion of the Year

c) Novice Horse Champion of the Year

d) Limited Non-Pro Champion of the Year

e) \$1500 Non Pro Champion of the Year

f) Rookie Champion of the Year

g) Youth Champion of the Year

h) Snaffle-bit Rider Champion of the Year

i) Snaffle-bit Horse Champion of the Year

8. ADDITIONAL AWARDS

a.) **High Point Horse Awards-** Mare, Stallion, Gelding & Five-Year-Old- Money won in ALL Open cutting horse competitions plus earnings from restricted events for mares or stallions or geldings.

b.) **NZCHA High Point Class Awards** - Open Horse, Open Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, Novice Horse, \$1500 Non Pro, Rookie, Youth, Snaffle-Bit Rider, Snaffle-Bit Horse.

Money won in each event that decides which horse or rider has the highest points in each year in each event as per rule book.

c.) **NZCHA North Island and NZCHA South Island High Point Awards-** Open Horse, Open Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, Novice Horse, \$1500 Non Pro, Rookie, Youth, Snaffle-Bit Rider, Snaffle-Bit Horse. Prize money won in each event that decides which horse or rider has the highest points in each year in each event in each island.

9. OTHER NZCHA AWARDS/ LIFETIME AWARDS

The NZCHA awards Life Time Awards Certificates based on a horses Life Time Earnings and a riders Life Time Non Pro Earnings.

- **Certificate of Ability (COA) \$ 2,000 Life Time Earnings** - includes horses open earnings and age/restricted earnings. The horse named must have a lifetime earnings of \$2000 or more as witnessed by the records of the Association. Only those points(dollars) earned while the horse named was owned and ridden by a member of this Association shall be considered with respect to this certificate. Certificates shall be issued to those horses that newly qualify annually, for no charge.
- **Certificate of Merit (COM) \$ 3,000 Life Time Earnings** - includes horses open earnings but excludes age/ restricted earnings. The horse named must have a lifetime earnings of \$3000 or more as witnessed by the records of the Association. Only those points(dollars) earned while the horse named was owned and ridden by a member of this Association shall be considered with respect to this certificate. Certificates shall be issued to those horses that newly qualify annually, for no charge.
- **Snaffle Bit Horse Achievement (SBA) \$1,000-** Life Time Earnings includes approved Snaffle Bit Horse. Events only. The horse named must have Snaffle Bit Horse lifetime earnings of \$1000 or more as witnessed by the records of the Association only those points(dollars) earned while the horse named was owned and ridden by a member of this Association in Snaffle Bit Horse Events shall be considered with respect to this certificate. Certificates shall be issued to those horses that newly qualify annually, for no charge.

- **Youth Certificate of Ability-** The youth must have a lifetime earnings of 100 points earned in approved youth contests. For earnings to be eligible the Youth and the owner of the horse ridden must be members of the NZCHA. The Certificate is issued annually and there is no charge.
- **Youth Certificate of Merit-** 200 points in approved youth contests only. The Youth must hold a Certificate of Ability, and upon their earnings reaching 200 points, a Certificate of Merit is automatically issued. Eligibility is as for Youth C.O.A.
- **Non Pro Hall of Fame \$4000 Life Time Earnings** -includes Non Pro earnings only excluding Non Pro age/restricted earnings.
- **Horses Hall of Fame \$5,000 Life Time Earnings** - includes horse open earnings but excludes age/ restricted earnings Horses may also qualify for the Hall of Fame by Triple Crown championship (NZCHA Futurity, Derby, Classic) or \$10,000 age event earnings.
- **Riders Hall of Fame \$10,000 Life Time Earnings** - includes non pro earnings but excludes non pro age/ restricted earnings. Riders may also qualify for the Hall of Fame by 3 NZCHA Futurity championships or 3 NZCHA Derby championships or 2 NZCHA Futurity and 2 NZCHA Derby championships.
- **Superior Horse Award (S.H.A) \$10,000 Life Time Earnings-** includes open earnings but excludes age/restricted earnings. The Horse named must have a lifetime earnings of \$10,000 or more as witnessed by the records of the Association. Only those points(dollars) earned while the horse named was owned and ridden by a member of this Association shall be considered with respect to this certificate. Certificates shall be issued to those horses that newly qualify annually, for no charge. Any Horse achieving the Superior Horse Award shall automatically inducted into the Heritage Horse Hall of Fame if not already inducted for its contribution to Cutting in NZ.

HERITAGE HORSES HALL OF FAME

For horses that have made a considerable contribution to the history and sport of cutting. This may include mares or stallions whose progeny have excelled. Upon nomination and approval of council.

HERITAGE PEOPLE HALL OF FAME

For individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the promotion of cutting horses and a personal contribution of time, effort and interest in the NZCHA. Upon nomination and approval of council.

10. ANNUAL AWARDS

- 1). If there is no class on at an affiliated show for the following: Novice Horse, Limited Non Pro, \$1500 Non-Pro; then money won in the next eligible class for the contestant to compete in will come back to the competitor's respective category
- 2) In an event consisting of 2 go rounds earnings from a 60 or 0 score will be added to Lifetime Earnings, providing 61 or more is earned in the other go round and equivalent if double judged. 2 x (0) zero scores do not constitute a score so no payout. This rule also refers to all NZCHA events no matter how many go rounds in that a 60 is a score the competitor making the line up will receive the payout for that placing but it will not count towards LTE. (IE No Points).

11. NZCHA ISLAND CHAMPIONS SYSTEM

Awards will also be presented for Island Hi Point Champions after the end of seasons Island Finals show in the same categories according to Page 47/Rule 7 (Point score year will be the same as the National Awards but finish at the end of the Island Finals shows).

- a) The last club show in each Island must be the Island Finals to determine who will be the North Island Champions or South Island Champions.
- b) A full programme of NZCHA classes must be run.
- c) Points (being 1 point for each \$1.00 won, except where a score of 60 has been paid which equals- No Points) gained over the season will go towards the NZCHA Island awards.
- d) Structure of the Island Finals will be up to the organizing committee. (i.e., 1, 2 or 3 days, go

rounds with finals or aggregated or separated individual shows) but must abide by the standing rules for show approval or any guidelines set down by the NZCHA Council.

e) All monies gained in non aged event classes will count towards either North or South Island Champions awards in the Island that the competitor permanently lives in determined by the address given at the time of paying membership

NZCHA APPROVED AGED EVENTS

1. Application may be made with the NZCHA to stage an affiliated age event. All Futurities affiliated by the NZCHA, commencing with the NZCHA Futurity on a date set by the NZCHA Council will be held prior to the following NZCHA Futurity. Other futurities may be conducted provided normal affiliation requirements are satisfied.

2. Levies per horse must be paid to the NZCHA for each age event affiliated with the NZCHA as per NZCHA levies.

3. These events shall be for horses from FOUR (4) years of age. They need not be held with any other NZCHA approved cutting horse classes, however any other NZCHA approved classes may be held with approved age events.

The classification of aged events are:

Futurity - 4-year-old

Derby/ Superstakes - 5-year-old

Classic - 6-year-old

Challenge - 7-year-old

Classic-Challenge -6- & 7-year-old

Seven-Up - Horses 7 years of age and older

Snaffle Bit Futurity – 4-year-old

For the purpose of these NZCHA Approved Age Event classifications the NZCHA Futurity Show and any other club aged events will run between August 1 until the following August 1 (unless special circumstances prevail).

NOTE: This does not alter a horse's birthday it merely gives show committees twelve (12 months) leeway to run age events under the above categories.

For the purpose of NZCHA affiliated age events all horses will have a birthday on the 1st August every year.

4. Any cutting futurity horse which competes in an organized cutting horse competition (affiliated or unaffiliated) or any cattle working competition prior to the running of the NZCHA Futurity, will be deemed ineligible to compete in the NZCHA Futurity. Refer to definition, page 4 for explanation of competition.

5. The NZCHA council recommends that two judges are used with one judge being AAA OR one international judge (AAAA or AAA) at the NZCHA Futurity Show, with prize money up to and including \$3000 plus added entry.

6. Show committees may place a limit on the number of horses allowed to be ridden by one rider in age or restricted events. Each horse must have the same rider throughout the event, except in cases of hardship or injury. Hardship and injury to be determined by show committee and the cutters representative.

7. At any NZCHA event, unless otherwise stated in the terms and conditions of entry, should there be a tie for first place a runoff will be conducted. The tied competitors will draw for order of work in the same herd.

8. All age and restricted events must be affiliated with the NZCHA. Any NZCHA members who competes or rides in an unaffiliated aged event or restricted event may be disciplined, fined, placed on probation or suspended from the NZCHA.

9. All affiliate age and restricted events must use the NZCHA rules other than those rules printed on the official conditions of entry forms.

10. No aged restricted event will be affiliated by the NZCHA. on the same date as any other affiliated age or restricted event.

11. All age events and restricted events run directly by the NZCHA will use a minimum 2.5 head of cattle per competitor.

12. For all other age and restricted events it is recommended that a minimum of 2.5 head of cattle per competitor are used.

13. All age events must adhere to the following conditions:

For 1-6 entries 2 complete Go-rounds, no final. Pay out on aggregate to 4 places

For 7-14 entries 2 complete Go-rounds, top 6 to clean slate final

Pay 6 places (39%, 25%, 16%, 9%, 7%, and 4%)

For 15-24 entries 2 complete Go-rounds, top 8 to clean slate final

Pay 8 places (38%, 24%, 15%, 8%, 6%, 4%, 3%, and 2%)

For 25 or more 2 complete Go-rounds, top 10 to clean slate final

Pay 10 places (37%, 24%, 14%, 7%, 5%, 4%, 3%, 2.5%, 2%, 1.5%)

Definition of Entries – Entries as referred above relates to the number of horses listed in the draw at the start of competition. Any nomination listed prior to the draw and scratched prior to the draw are not considered an entry in the event.

14. Show management has the right to create a second go-round cut off point at their discretion, providing that the cut off score or percentage dropped is clearly stated prior to the commencement of the competition.

15. Should go-round money be paid; it must be added or sponsored money. Under no circumstances can it be deducted from the entry fee or guaranteed purse which must be paid in full in the finals or aggregate.

16. Shows may provide practice pens and a mechanical cow.

17. Draws and programs for shows may be provided to the NZCHA for inclusion on the website.

18. It is highly recommended that show committees pay prize money within 21 days of the event.

JUDGES

1. Each judge must sign his/her score card and the show management shall post same in a conspicuous place immediately following each go-round and final. There must not be any consultation between judges until after score cards are turned in and after cards are turned in, there will be no changes.

2. When two (2) or more individuals are judging a cutting horse contest and one (1) or two (2) judges cannot complete judging of the go-round, the score or scores of the remaining judge or judges who complete the go-round will be the sole basis of computing the go-round. Each judge must score each horse individually, and if any one of his/ her scores is counted in a go-round, all of

his scores must be counted except as provided herein: where five (5) or more individuals are judging a cutting horse contest, the highest and the lowest scores for each horse may be discarded and the accumulated scores of the remaining judges used to compute the go-round. This rule shall also apply to finals.

a) When two (2) or more individuals are judging a cutting horse contest of more than one (1) go-round or with finals and one (1) or more judges becomes unable to continue between the go-rounds or finals the said judge or judges shall be replaced first by the alternate judge named for the contest and second by a judge acceptable to the majority of the contestants and to the show management. If the alternate judge is unavailable, the second option shall be used.

3. Under exceptional circumstances a judge may judge any member of his immediate family if they are living in the same household. This includes parents, children, spouse/defacto, spouses/defactos parents, and daughter in law, son in law, grandparent, grandchild, stepchildren. A judge may judge a horse that he has owned, exhibited, trained, managed or sold for direct or indirect remuneration within the thirty (30) day period immediately preceding any NZCHA approved or sponsored event at which the said judge officiating either in full or in part. A judge may judge any individual rider, or horse owned by him/her, who has had training from or given training to the said judge within the thirty (30) day period.

4. Active members of the association over the age of eighteen (18) may be added to the NZCHA approved Judges list upon satisfactory completion of all stated requirements. Any judge may be required, and all new judges sixty (60) years of age and over will be required to pass a physical examination given by a physician approved by the Association including tests for vision and hearing. Any person seeking approval as an NZCHA judge shall have been a financial member of the association continuously for a two (2) year minimum period immediately preceding the application including youth or family membership, and shall have no record of suspension, probation, or reprimand by the NZCHA for the two (2) year period immediately preceding the application. Any person seeking approval as an NZCHA judge must attend a NZCHA judge's seminar. Only those applicants attending and making passing scores on all phases of NZCHA's testing procedures will be considered for approval as an NZCHA judge.

5. In order for a judge to maintain or advance in rating, he or she must fulfil the required number of shows for that rating each year. A judge will be lowered one (1) rating for failure to maintain the required number of shows each year.

a). All judges who judge an NZCHA approved or sponsored aged event during the year will receive credit for two (2) classes per aged event.

6. All Judges must attend an NZCHA judge's seminar every two (2) years. Any judge failing to make passing scores on all phases of NZCHA's testing procedures will be deleted from the association's approved Judges list. Any judge so deleted may be reinstated at their current level by attending a judge's clinic within a twelve (12) month period and passing said testing procedures at their appropriate level. Failure to sit the test within the twelve (12) month period will result in a reduction of one (1) rating per year until such time as they sit and pass the test.

7. NZCHA approved judges will be classified based on experience and judging record as follows:

a) "AAAA" Judge – This person must have judged at least ten (10) approved or sponsored contests within the last five (5) years with no valid protest against said judge. To maintain this rating a judge must officiate at a minimum of one (1) NZCHA approved or sponsored show each year. Failure to do so will result in the reduction of one rating per year or removal from the NZCHA Judges List. AAAA judges are required to achieve a score equal to at least eighty percent (80%) of the test points available at annual NZCHA judge's seminars.

A seventy five percent (75%) pass mark is required in both the practical and written sections.

b) "AAA" Judge - This person must have judged at least six (6) approved or sponsored contests within the past (3) years.

To maintain this rating a judge must officiate at a minimum of one (1) NZCHA approved or sponsored show each year. Failure to do so will result in the reduction of one rating per year or removal from the NZCHA Judges List. AAA judges are required to achieve a score equal to at least seventy five percent (75%) of the test points available at annual NZCHA judge's seminars.

A 70% pass mark is required in both the practical and written sections.

c) "AA" Judge - This person must have judged at least four (4) NZCHA approved or sponsored contests within the past three (3) years. To maintain this rating a judge must officiate at a minimum of one (1) NZCHA approved or sponsored show each year. Failure to do so will result in

the reduction of one rating per year or removal from the NZCHA Judges List. AA Judges are required to achieve a score equal to at least seventy percent (70%) of the test points available at annual NZCHA judge's seminars. A 65% pass mark is required in both the practical and written sections.

d) "A" Judge – This person must officiate at a minimum of two (2) NZCHA approved or sponsored shows every two (2) years from the date of first approval. A judge may officiate only at any NZCHA approved or sponsored event having an added purse of \$500.00 or less regardless of whether there is a co-judge or not. A Judges are required to achieve a score equal to at least sixty percent (60%) of the test points available at annual NZCHA judge's seminars. A 50% pass mark is required in both the practical and written sections.

e) "The recommended fees for NZCHA Approved Judges are \$100 per day or \$10 per class if judging is shared".

9. A Judge may be removed from the NZCHA approved Judges List or maybe dropped to a lower classification for cause: Recommended to use as guidelines only as it will be difficult to conduct a protest without video evidence.

a) Any contestant may protest a judge's decision upon submission to the NZCHA director of judges a written statement requesting a review of the judge's performance. Said statement must be submitted within seven (7) days of the closing date of the show involved, and must be accompanied by a cashier's cheque or money order in the amount of \$55.00 and made payable to the NZCHA.

b). Upon receipt of such a statement, the NZCHA Director of Judges will request the show sponsor to immediately forward the tape of film of the class involved to the NZCHA.

c) The tape, film, judges sheets and disputes committee forms containing the alleged errors will then be reviewed by a committee appointed by the NZCHA Board of Directors.

d) A total of one hundred (100) points will be assigned to each class reviewed. The judge's grades for the protested classes will be based on points accumulated from the proper placing of horses, less a deduction of three (3) points for each misapplication of major (three (3) or five (5)) penalties. The scores of the committee appointed by the NZCHA Board of Directors will be

averaged to obtain the official placing. Major penalties will be assessed only when charged by those persons reviewing the protest.

e) The maximum number of places used for grading purposes will be six (6). For six (6) places the points allocated for each place will be: 1st - 40;

2nd - 25; 3rd - 15; 4th - 10; 5th - 6 and 6th - 4. In cases where lesser numbers of places are paid in accordance with the optional pay out systems the points will be pro-rated as follows:

Four (4) places, 1st - 45; 2nd - 30; 3rd - 17; 4th - 8; Three (3) places, 1st 50; 2nd - 35; 3rd - 15;

Two (2) places, 1st - 60 and 2nd - 40.

f) The judge's placing of horses in the protested class will be compared to the official placing and awarded points as set forth in section (d). If a judge places a horse higher than the official placing, then the credit established by the judge's placing will be earned. If a Judge places a horse lower than the official placing, then the credit established by the judge's placing will be earned. If the spread between first and second places in the official and second official placing is one and one-half (1.5) points or more, then a Judge must place the same horse first to receive any credit for that horse. If a judge has ties, the points for the places involved will be averaged; however, no horse may receive more points than those allotted by the official placing. If the official placing has ties and the judge's placing does not, the judge will receive full credit for those placings.

g) If the review finds that a judge wrongly applied a single rule on three (3) occasions or has wrongly applied any combination of the rules five (5) occasions while judging an individual class, a major protest will be affirmed against the judge. If a single rule is wrongly applied twice or a combination of three (3) rules wrongly applied during the class, a minor protest will be affirmed against the judge. Two (2) minor protests within a two (2) year period will constitute a major protest. If the review also finds that a Judge has failed to maintain the minimum grade standard established for his or her judge classification while judging an individual class, a major protest will be affirmed against the Judge. Grade standards for NZCHA Approved judges are: AAA - 75-85; AA - 65-74; A - 55- 64.

Any judge scoring less than 55 points will be removed from the NZCHA Approved Judges List.

h) All affirmed protests will be recorded on the record of the judge involved. Any judge whose record reflects two (2) major affirmed protests will be dropped one (1) Judge classification. AAA and AA judges may clear a major protest from their record by judging three (3) additional NZCHA approved events without a protest.

A judge may clear a major protest from their record by judging three (3) additional NZCHA approved events without protest. A judge whose record reflects a major protest may not advance in classification.

i) Where protests are upheld, the \$55.00 fee will be returned to the contestant; where denied, one-half (50%) will be sent to the show sponsor and one-half (50%) will be retained by NZCHA.

j) Decisions of the reviewing body with respect to any protest filed pursuant to this rule are final and may not be appealed.

k) Protests may be made by active members of the association only.

l) In the event an NZCHA approved judge is suspended by the NZCHA for any reason, the judge's approved status shall be cancelled, and all rights and privileges forfeited.

10. A judge (or judges) must present in writing any grievance that he/she may have against contestants or shows to Council and his/her case will be reviewed by the NZCHA. If any Councillors or Competitors Advocate witness a grievance against a judge they must report this immediately to the NZCHA.

Any grievance must be filed within seven (7) days of the closing date of the show involved.

11. A judge shall conduct himself/herself in a manner fitting and proper to the one afforded this honour of officiating at any NZCHA approved or sponsored contest. Any misconduct on the part of the judge at any NZCHA contest, including the use of abusive language, showing favoritism to, or discrimination against, either an individual or a horse performing in the contest, or any other action unbecoming to one in his/her position, either on the grounds or elsewhere, during the entire show will make the judge subject to disciplinary action.

a) A judge who fails to judge after accepting an assignment will be subject to removal from the NZCHA approved Judges List as well as to additional disciplinary action.

b) It is recommended a judge should not appear on the show grounds before the stated time for commencement except as may be required by show management. It is recommended Judges

shall not visit with owners, trainers, exhibitors, or agents before the judging and shall talk only with representatives of show management, beyond the exchange of normal greetings, until the entire show or contest is completed.

c) Under no circumstances will a published judge be permitted to enter the contest for which said judge was approved.

d) A judge shall not discuss with any contestant previous scores, events, or related happenings during a show or within thirty (30) days after a contest at which the judge has officiated.

e) The penalty for violating sub-sections (b) and (d) of this rule will cause such judge to be disciplined, fined, placed on probation or suspended from the NZCHA.

f) A judge shall not intimidate, or attempt to intimidate, a contestant. The penalty for violating this subsection will cause such judge to be disciplined, fined placed on probation or suspended from the NZCHA.

g) Mobile phones should be turned off in the judges' stands (unless having to be used as a back up timing device).

CONDUCT AND PROTEST

1. Any contestant may protest a judge's decision upon submission to the NZCHA a written statement covering the errors made by the judge or judges. Said statement must be submitted within seven (7) days of the closing date of the show involved and must be accompanied by a cashier's cheque or money order in the amount of \$55.00 and made payable to the NZCHA

a). No complaint against any judge will be dealt with unless accompanied by visual evidence in the form of a quality video of the entire event, or other conclusive evidence. This will be accompanied by the appropriate protest fee.

b) The tape, film, judges sheets, and disputes committee forms containing the alleged error or errors will then be reviewed by a committee appointed by the NZCHA

c) If the committee finds that a judge has wrongly applied a single rule on three (3) occasions or has wrongly applied any combination of rules on five (5) occasions while judging the individual class a major protest will be affirmed against the judge. If a single rule is wrongly applied twice

or a combination of three (3) rules is wrongly applied during the class, a minor affirmed protest will be recorded against the judge.

d) Where protests are upheld the \$55.00 fee will be returned to the contestant; where denied, one half (50%) will be sent to the show sponsor and one-half (50%) will be retained by NZCHA.

2. Any person desiring to file a complaint regarding any alleged violation of these rules may do so by submitting the complaint in writing to the NZCHA together with a cashier's cheque in the amount of \$55.00 made payable to the NZCHA. A complaint must be filed with the NZCHA within seven (7) days of the closing date of the show involved.

Upon receipt, all complaints will be referred to the appropriate committee for investigation and consideration. If the committee determines, after investigation, that no further action is warranted, the complainant will be notified, and no further action will be taken on the matter. If the committee determines, after investigation, that there are grounds for possible disciplinary action, the NZCHA shall be notified, and the matter will be scheduled for a hearing before the NZCHA.

Complaints submitted through by show management or by judges shall be handled in the same manner as outlined above, except the \$55.00 deposit is not required.

3. The NZCHA may take action, in accordance with its constitution, to reprimand fine, suspend or expel any member or de-register any horse of which the member is the registered owner in the records of the association, if it considers such member to be guilty of a breach of any of the disciplinary provisions as mentioned in the rules of the association or whose conduct in any respect shall be deemed prejudicial to the interest of the association.

a) When a member is disciplined or suspended, or a non-member is denied membership privileges, the name of such member or non-member will be published in the official publication of the NZCHA.

b) Any suspended member of the NZCHA will not be allowed to participate in an NZCHA approved cutting horse contest as an owner of a horse or as a rider, or to act as agent or be astride or handle any horse at an approved NZCHA affiliated event; and in the event such suspended member enters an approved show during the period of this suspension either as owner,

rider or agent, an additional six (6) months will be added to his/her suspension.

Any member may be suspended and denied privileges of the association and any non-member, approved show or official thereof may be denied privileges of the association for the failure to pay when due any obligation owing to the association (including the NZCHA Chatter) or for giving a worthless cheque for entry fees, stall fees, office charges, stock charges, premiums, or any other fees or charges connected with the exhibition of cutting horses; provided, however, that the

member or non-member subject to suspension shall be given fourteen (14) days written notice of the amount due, and the intention of the association to suspend or withhold privileges. Any suspension and denial of privileges under this rule shall terminate upon full payment of the obligation due to the association.

c) Any member who is found guilty of any infringement of NZCHA rules may be ineligible to represent the NZCHA at any international event.

d) Any member suspended from the NZCHA cannot register himself or herself or their agent acting on their behalf at any official NZCHA auction sales.

4. Every person who is suspended by any equestrian association for unsportsmanlike conduct at a show or contest shall stand as suspended by the NZCHA upon official notice to this association from the Equestrian association of any such disciplinary action.

a) The NZCHA may honour the disciplinary actions of its affiliate organizations when supplied with satisfactory evidence that the person so disciplined has been given a full impartial hearing by the affiliate organization involved; however any action taken by an affiliate will not limit any authority or jurisdiction of the NZCHA.

b) Any member of the NZCHA who threatens or actually inflicts, bodily harm or injury to another person based upon that persons actions, conduct or decisions while acting in any official capacity for the NZCHA or any NZCHA Sponsored or approved event shall be subject to disciplinary action by the NZCHA.

c) No person shall make a derogatory remark, nor take, or threaten to take, adverse action against any NZCHA sponsor, its agents, servants or employees, relating in any manner to the

sponsors involvement with the NZCHA or an NZCHA event. Any person who violates this rule is subject to disciplinary action and is also responsible to the NZCHA for any loss or damage caused by a violation of this rule. If any member institutes litigation in which the association is included as a defendant in an effort to recover damages, to overturn enforcement or interpretation or the constitution, by-laws, rules or regulations, or for any other reason whatsoever, and does not prevail in said litigation by the recovery of all relief requested, said member shall be liable to the association for its attorney's fees, costs of court, and other expenses incurred in connection with such litigation. Venue for any litigation in which the association is included as a defendant shall be at a place chosen by the NZCHA

5. Every notice required by these rules and regulations may be served by delivering a copy of the notice to the person to be served, or his attorney, either in person or by mail, postage prepaid, to his last known address as it appears on the association's records and upon mailing, such notice shall be deemed received by such person when it is deposited in New Zealand Post.

Regulation from the NZCHA Constitution

If any member of the Association shall willfully infringe any of the Rules, by-laws or regulations of the Association or if any member shall in the opinion of the Committee be guilty of conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Association, he shall render himself liable to expulsion on the majority decision of the Committee. A member shall have the right to appear at and be heard at any Committee meeting considering a complaint against him. Any member expelled shall have the right of appeal upon a requisition signed by not less than TEN (10) percent of the financial members of the Association to an Extra-ordinary General Meeting of the members held within SIX (6) weeks after the date of receipt of such requisition by the Secretary.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Use Social Media appropriately. By all means share your positive experiences of Cutting but do not use Social Media as a means to breach any of the above expectations and requirements of you as a Participant of Cutting.

Do not make any public comment that is critical of the performance of a judge, competitor, official or employee/officer/volunteer/member/affiliate of the NZCHA or on any matter that is, or is likely to be, the subject of an investigation or disciplinary process; or otherwise make any public comment that would likely be detrimental to the best interests, image and welfare of the competition or Cutting industry.

Social Media means any form of online or interactive application or other form or medium that enables users to create, share and/or upload content, including SMS, MMS, email and such platforms as Facebook, WhatsApp, Myspace, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, blogs, podcasts, message boards and websites.

MECHANICAL COW RULES

Use this section as a guideline and fit rules where they can be accommodated by individual show situations. It is the responsibility for members to operate mechanical cows with common sense.

1. Mechanical cows used at shows must be operated in a yard, pen or arena.
2. When the mechanical cow is in operation the gate into the pen must be closed.
3. The mechanical cow pen must have a regulation cutting surface.
4. All NZCHA practice pen rules and regulations will apply to mechanical cow pens pertaining to abuse of animals and rider conduct.
5. No mechanical cow devices can be used at any NZCHA affiliated show, or activity, without applying to the NZCHA office detailing of who will be responsible for the mechanical cow operations.

LOPING PEN RULES

Use this section as guidelines only. It is the responsibility of members to use common sense

1. Horses not entered in the current cutting class are prohibited from the enclosed loping pen or area where horses enter into the competition ring. Ideally, unless space allows, No more than 17 horses should be in the loping pen at any one time (This does not apply to help horses).
(This is determined by 17 horses being the maximum number of horses in any one herd).

2. No horse (unless for little hug cutter classes as run by affiliates) can carry two or more persons at any time in the loping pen or competition arena.
3. Horses cannot be lead from another horse in the loping area.
4. When entering the loping pen yield to all horses in motion.
5. Enter the stream of horse traffic from the outside in the same direction as the group and look around before leaving the group to avoid contact with another horse.
6. Stay to the inside of the group if you wish to go slow, stay to the outside if you wish to go fast.
7. Never stop in traffic. Dry work should be done in an area where there is no traffic.
8. Riders must be in control of their horse at all times.
9. All lopers must follow NZCHA attire rules while in the loping pen.
10. Do not weave in and out of traffic and avoid contact with other horses. Maintain a constant speed in your position.
11. Change directions and maintain flow in one direction when asked. Always ask when you wish to change direction.
12. Apply boots and groom in areas with no traffic.
13. If you must tie your horse, tie them to a secure fence, not panels. Do not tie stallions, kicking or biting horses in the loping pen in the traffic area.
14. Yield to all vehicles, pedestrians or horses wishing to enter or exit the loping area.
15. Maintain NZCHA animal welfare rules while in the loping area.
16. Keep a good sense of humour and be courteous to everyone in the loping area.
17. Do not ride under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
18. Adjust stirrup lengths to suit the person riding the horse.
19. All horses must be ridden in approved NZCHA equipment while in the loping area.

LOPING PEN - Guidelines for Event Management

It is strongly recommended that show committees and event managers have a system of monitoring the Loping Pen Rules at all shows.

The Loping Pen is the workplace for many who attend cutting shows and activities. It is the duty of

every show committee or employer to provide a safe place of work. This can be achieved by placing a person at the entry gate of the loping pen (this can be a competitor or an employee of a Trainer who is a member of the NZCHA). The Loping Pen must be free of dangerous objects, have a level, dust free, sand or soft surface, with safe fences that have secured rails for tying horses. The area must be free of potholes, rocks and slippery surfaces. If the show is held after dark, the loping pen must have lighting adequate to illuminate the entire area. Loping Pens should have water points in or near to the area. Loping Pens should be large enough to allow ample space for horses to lope, trot or walk in a circle as well as have an area for dry work. There should also be an adequate area for tying up horses and for grooming purposes.

The number of horses allowed in the Loping Pen at any one time is determined by the number of horses in the herd that is being judged (17 is the maximum numbers in any herd). Horses in the next herd of cattle can be allowed in the loping area if sufficient room is provided.

This means enough room that horses can move freely without coming into contact with other horses. Horses that have been shown in the herd being judged are encouraged to leave the loping area to provide room for horses in the next herd.

Horses that are not entered in the cutting events (other than help horses) must not enter the loping area during the competition times. Green or recently broken horses should not enter the Loping Pen. Inexperienced riders must not ride in the Loping Pen. No one under the age of 5 years old should ride a horse in the Loping Pen or Arena.

The Loping Pen is restricted to NZCHA members. The space is designed for show horses not for joy riding or learning to ride. It is a place of business and should be treated as such. The number of persons on foot should be restricted to competitors and unattended children should not enter the area. Any item or object that might frighten a horse should be removed or covered. Remember, a safe workplace is the right of every worker and the duty of every employer to provide.

SAMS (SELF ADJUSTED MONITOR SYSTEM)

Shows are encouraged to adopt this system

It is imperative that the system be announced prior to the start of the show.

1. There will be no adjustment to the following:
 - a. No change in run content.
 - b. No change in one (1) point penalties.
 - c. No review of any run not reported to the announcer at the time the Judge calls in his/her score.
2. The following criteria will be followed when either a three (3) or five (5) point penalty is in question on the Judge's card. The Judge must report the score and indicate that a review will take place on that particular score. For instance, if a horse has a completed run with run content score of 74 and has incurred a three (3) point Infraction, he must designate the specific infraction in the appropriate penalty box.

If the judge wishes to review the penalty, he/she will report the score as follows to the announcer:
"74R"

The announcer must announce "74R" for the review to be valid, and this announcement must be made when the run is complete and before the next run takes place. It is the Judge's responsibility to be sure the call indicating the "R" is announced. At the same time he/she records his/her score with the "R", he/she circles the penalty to indicate where the review will be made.

All reviews should be made during a cattle change, but in no case will the review be permitted to take place during the following class.

A Judge must resolve any and all reviews in that particular class before moving on to the next class. A Judge should have an NZCHA Casebook with him/her in case he/she needs to aid his/her decision-making process. If the Judge, after reviewing the video tape, decides that his/her score must be lowered based on the penalty review, he does the following:

- a. He/she leaves the original mark for the horse and circle in place. He/she does not erase the original or alter it in any way.
- b. Next to the original score and circle he/she indicates the new score and initials same. If there is no room on that horse's score line, a Judge may use the bottom of his/her Judge's sheet or the back of his/her score sheet to record the "adjusted" score and initial the change. Under no circumstances should the Judge use another piece of paper or any other means to indicate a change of score. If the Judge does not change the original score, he/she shall initial it within the

circle. The Judge then turns his/her score sheet into the announcer (show management) and the announcer will make the following statement:

“Horse #19, Docs Tommy, has a score of 74 if no adjustment or 71 if adjusted.”

If there are more adjustments in that group of cattle, each announcement will be the same.

Under this system, it is imperative that the elected representative and show management enforce each and every rule pertaining to “judge-contestant” contact. If any contact is made with the Judge by a contestant over the review process before, during or after the process, the cutter will be excused from the arena, all entry fees forfeited, and the judge will file an immediate letter with the NZCHA stating the situation and all related facts. The system is being implemented not only as aid to assist the Judge but also to provide the contestant with a more fair and accurate score.

To aid this system, show management must provide video equipment by which the review process can take place. Any system will work as long as it provides a clear picture and is consistent for all contestants. The procedure has been designed to add an element of fairness to our judging system and the better the review process and equipment, the easier the review becomes.

At the Judge’s discretion, this system may be used in any cutting class.

Judges should approach the use of the system as an aid to their overall success in placing horses in the correct order. The following is offered to all Judges based on our successful NZCHA monitor system that is currently in place at all NZCHA sponsored events and is being used by many Affiliates at their aged events and/or major circuits.

Summary of “SAMS”

1. Deal with the three (3) and five (5) point penalties only. You are never to re-judge the run or the run content or adjust any one (1) point penalties.
2. Make your call after careful thought process and move on to the next review. Do not dwell on the call. Our current system has taught us that after three reruns of the same situation the Judge should have a working knowledge and basis in fact for a decision.
3. Rule 21 is in the rule book to determine in favour of the cutter, if a penalty situation does not have an absolute conclusion. However, it is important that Rule 21 is used as an aid, not a crutch. If there is inconclusive film evidence, the call must stand as is. No adjustments will be made.

4. Do not let the review process affect your concentration or confidence. All Judges will make an error, and the review process, along with the Casebook, will increase your capacity to make the correct call when the situation reoccurs. The goal of any Judging system is to put the money and horses in the proper order.

5. The penalty review will not have any impact on the run content except to add or subtract the penalty value (3 or 5 points) to the score.

To recap, here are the important points:

- a. Record your score as normal. Designate the appropriate penalty for reviews.
- b. Communicate your score to the announcer 3pt. 5pt. i.e., 74R
- c. Review the major penalty only; 3 or 5 points as designated.
- d. Use the Casebook, if necessary, to aid your decision.
- e. Complete the reviews and make the class complete before moving to the next class. In the event of equipment failure, all scores reviewed or not reviewed will remain official, and the Judge continues to mark his/her card in the normal fashion.

6. Two or three Judges—one uses the “R” and the other(s) did not:

The judge(s) marking the “R” will review the situation first. If the Judge(s) does not change their score, the other Judge(s) will not be required to look at the run. If the Judge(s) changes the score, then the other Judge(s) will be required to review the situation. If the decision of the Judge that called the “R” results in the difference of a major penalty between the Judges; the other Judge (s) will be required to review the situation. This should be done totally separate with no communication between the Judges during the reviews.

7. Two or three judges—no “R” is called:

If during any run one Judge calls a major penalty (3 or 5 points) and the other Judges do not call a review, then all Judges must look at that particular situation, separately with no communication among them. It is the Show Secretary's responsibility to review each Judge's score card to determine if there are any major penalties (3 or 5 points). They may agree there is, or is not, a penalty. The purpose is that all Judges reviewed the situation. This is to better help the judges and also the contestants.

8. The NZCHA does not allow the use of the “self-review” system where more than three Judges are being used. The NZCHA has trained and qualified a number of “field monitors” available at an affordable cost to monitor large shows. With three or more judges, the system has difficulty because of the many review situations created and the time factor involved. A “Field” or “Staff” monitor can be used with much greater efficiency.

The “SAMS” is a positive step toward better NZCHA Judging and more accurate placing of horses. The goal of the NZCHA Judging system has been and remains the proper purse distribution based on credits and penalties.

If you have any questions about the system or its use, please contact the NZCHA, and we will attempt to answer all inquiries.

In order for the Judge to use the Self Adjusted Monitor System, show management must provide an isolated location for the Judge to review the runs in question. The room is to include a good sized TV, video player and NZCHA Case Book.

Under no condition is a Judge to review any runs in the arena or in the presence of contestants or other Judges.

Guidelines for Adjusted Monitor System

The Adjusted Monitor System (AMS) is a system that has been designed to make Judging equally fair for each contestant. The AMS is required to be used with five Judges and may be used with a two and three Judge show. In the five Judge systems, the high and low scores will be discarded. The following guidelines are to be used by the monitors who will be administering the Adjusted Monitor System.

1. First and foremost, the monitor is not the Judge, but is there in the capacity to monitor and make rulings on major penalty discrepancies, based on reviewing film and using the “NZCHA Judging Casebook of Rules and Regulations for Judging Cutting Horse Contests.”
2. Monitor(s) may talk to contestants and owners about a particular run or penalty provided the Director of Judges or a designated non-contestant liaison is present. The monitor(s) will be allowed

to watch the show in a designated area. They will not talk to contestants or owners beyond the exchange of normal greetings during the show.

3. The monitor(s) will deal only with three and five-point penalty discrepancies in the Judge's cards.

4. The monitor(s) will be concerned with obvious penalties. All other calls will be ruled as judgment calls.

5. Procedure of the monitor: *The monitor will be required to watch all runs either live in the Judges stand or in an appropriate monitor room with adequate monitor (live feed). The monitor will be required to record all obvious three and five point penalties.*

a. The monitor(s) look at the judge's cards for three or five point penalty differences. In the event the Judges are split on a particular penalty, and in the event that the monitor judge has recorded an obvious three or five point penalty which was not recorded by either Judge, (This will be known as a Monitor Review MR) then the work is reviewed on film, and is then ruled on by applying the "Rules for Judging Cutting Horse Shows" found in the NZCHA Rule Book.

b. If the monitor(s) are in full agreement that the rule in question was violated or not violated, then the Judge in error will be asked to the monitor room. If the monitor(s) are split on the rule in question, Rule 21 is applied.

c. If the Judge or Judges charged a penalty, the Judge will be asked to show the monitor where he/she charged the penalty in that run.

d. If the Judge or Judges did not charge a penalty, then the penalty will be shown to the Judge / Judges.

e. In either case, the Judge or Judges can see the situation as many times as he/she wishes, and if he/she requests any clarification of the rule in question, then it is given to him/her from the Rule Book and Casebook examples.

f. If a major penalty has been called in error, thereby making clear and obvious one- point penalties not previously charged, then the adjusted score shall reflect the one- point penalty.

g. At this time, the Judge has the opportunity to change his/her score or leave his/her score as originally marked. In no way is the Judge intimidated or encouraged into changing his or her score or leaving his or her score as originally marked.

h. If the Judge wishes to change his/her score, an affidavit is signed by the Judge signifying the penalty, and the score is adjusted by the amount of that penalty from a “ “ to a “ “.

If the review was called by the Monitor (MR) then the MR shall be recorded on the Judges Score card.

EXAMPLE:

Go Round - Group of Cattle

I wish to change from a [] three-point penalty [] five-point penalty – Signature- Date – to a (horse's name)

i. Monitor(s) will be given the authority to educate a Judge after he/she has signed his/her penalty slip and made his/her decision on a call when there is an obvious misapplication of a rule violation.

6. The monitor(s) will have full use of video equipment, including video replay, slow motion, and wide angle or overhead film to determine each infraction in question. If a monitor finds a penalty to be ruled inconclusive due to video evidence; the run will not be reviewed by a Judge or Judges (Inconclusive film evidence). If there is inconclusive film evidence, the call must stand as is. No adjustments will be made.

7. There will be no inquiries; runs will be reviewed on the basis outlined in 5a. However, contestants may ask to review a run in question with the Director of Judges or with a liaison and the monitor(s).

8. If there are no discrepancies on the Judges' cards, the run will not be reviewed, except for the evaluation of Judges during go rounds. For the purpose of evaluating Judges during go- rounds four or five runs will be looked at in each bunch of cattle.

9. The monitor(s) will not review one-point penalties; however, they may review any run with a Judge where there are clear misapplications of multiple obvious one- point penalties. Scores of 195 and below, in a go-round, will not be reviewed.

10. All reviews with Judges will be taped.
11. A Judge Evaluation sheet will accompany each set of cattle. This will allow monitors an up-to-date record in case they have to give a Judge a warning.
12. Monitors will abide by all rules set forth in the criteria for Judge Evaluation.
13. Judge monitor responses will be issued to each Judge at the completion of the show. Exit interviews may be conducted.
14. Once the scores are adjusted, show management has the responsibility for official placing at the show.

NZCHA DRUG POLICY

CHANGES TO THE MEDICATION RULE – What this means to you.

There is no restriction to the medication of horses prior to competition so long as all residues from those medications are cleared from the horse prior to competition. These same rules apply to sale horses. Owners and trainers should consult with a suitably qualified veterinarian if there are concerns about the administration of any medication in the lead time before competition.

There are no restrictions to the administration of a group of substances deemed to be non- performance enhancing or behaviour modifying. These (Unrestricted Class) substances are listed in the Rule book and may be used without penalty.

The NZCHA Rules allow for the controlled administration of a limited range of Permitted Medications with strict dosage and timing of medication in advance of entry to competition or sale. These medications **MUST NOT BE ADMINISTERED WITHIN 6 HOURS OF COMPETITION OR SALE**. Failure to comply with the stated dosage and frequency of administration will result in a high risk of exceeding permissible plasma concentration. Medication forms are not required for the administration of Permitted Medications. It is the obligation of the owner / trainer to comply with the dosage limits for these Permitted Medications.

Horses may be treated whilst at an event or sale under emergency provisions for acute injuries or illnesses by a veterinarian. Any horse treated under this provision must have a full veterinary report submitted to the show/sale management within 12 hours of treatment, containing information as

defined in the Rules. IF A HORSE IS TREATED UNDER THE EMERGENCY PROVISION IT CANNOT COMPETE WITHIN 24 HOURS OF MEDICATION.

You are in violation of the Rules if:

- You present a horse for competition or sale with detectable medication residues for any medication not allowed as per the NZCHA rules.
- You medicate any horse with a Permitted Medication within 6 hours of competition or sale.
- You medicate a horse with a Permitted Medication at dosages that exceed the maximum recommended levels, even if treatment is outside the 6 hours prior to competition or sale, and plasma concentrations exceed maximum permissible levels at the time of sampling.
- Your horse is treated under emergency provisions and is then presented for competition within 24 hours of medication. The veterinary report for the treatment of a horse under emergency provisions does not support medication residues found in swabs subsequently taken from the horse.

RULES FOR JUDGING CUTTING HORSE CONTESTS

2017-2020

The official interpretation of the NCHA Rules for Judging Cutting Horse Contests.

This is provided to the membership of the NCHA as a tool in judging, showing and preparing horses for showing.

DEFINITIONS :

CUTTER:

For the purpose of this casebook, the term CUTTER refers to the contestant and his/her horse as a working unit. From time to time the unit will be divided. In these instances, the text will describe the activities of the contestant and his/her horse separately.

RULING:

the term RULING refers to the action that shall be taken by the Judge.

NOTE:

the term NOTE signifies further explanation of a RULING

INDEX BY JUDGING RULE

1. Herd Work
 - a. Failure to comply
2. Cutting toward centre and driving a cow
3. Loose reins
4. Setting up cow and working in centre of arena
5. Disturbance
 - a. Noise directed at cattle
 - b. Running into herd, scattering or picking up cattle
 - c. Training or abuse of horse.
6. Back Fence
7. Horse turns tail
8. Reining
 - a. Positioning after cut is clear
 - b. Second hands on reins while cutting or working
 - c. Spurring in the shoulder
 - d. Toe, foot or stirrup on shoulder
9. Losing a cow
10. Changing cattle after specific commitment
11. Losing working advantage (miss)
12. Pawing or biting cattle
13. Hot quit
14. Horse quits cow
15. Failure to separate a single animal after leaving herd
16. Equipment
 - a. Rule compliance
 - b. Dress compliance
 - c. Effective before start

- d. Exception
- e. Violation
- f. Violation penalties
- 17. Horse or contestant falls to ground
- 18. Leaving working area before time expires
- 19 Re-works - incorrect working period (time) or outside disturbance
- 20. Scoring
- 21 Benefit of contestant

INDEX FOR NZCHA JUDGES CARD CREDITS

- Herdwork - page 84- Rule 1
- Driving a cow - page 84- Rule 2
- Loose reins - page 85- Rule 3
- Setting up a cow-working centre of arena - page 85- Rule 4

PENALTIES

- 1/2 point - (miss) losing working advantage page 82 - Rule 11
- 1 point - (miss) losing working advantage page 82 - Rule 11
- 1 point - reined or visibly cued/positioning after cut is clear - page 81 - Rule 8
- 1 point - toe, foot, or stirrup on horses shoulder page 81 - Rule 8d
- 1 point - noise directed to cattle - page 80 - Rule 5a
- 1 point - holding on too long to a cut - (e) page 81 - Rule 8a
- 1 point -working out of position - (f) page 80 - Rule 4
- 1 point - hand too far forward - (g) page 81- Rule 8
- 3 points -cattle picked up/running into or scattered herd page 80 - Rule 5b
- 3 points -failure to make a deep cut - page 80 - Rule 1a
- 3 points -hot quit - page 82 - Rule 13
- 3 points -pawing or biting cattle - page 82 - Rule 12

3 points -second hand on reins while cutting or working page 81 - Rule 8b

3 points -spurring in shoulder - page 81 - Rule 8c

3 points -back fence - page 81 - Rule 8g

5 points -horse quitting cow - page 82 - Rule 14

5 points -losing a cow - page 82 - Rule 9

5 points -changing cattle after specific commitment - page 82 - Rule 10

5 points - failure to separate a single animal after leaving the herd - page 83 - Rule 15

60 score - horse turns tail - page 81 - Rule 7

60 score - horse falls to ground - page 84 - Rule 17

Disqualification from go-round -leaving working area before time expires - page 88 - Rule 18

Disqualification from contest - illegal equipment - page 83 - Rule 16

JUDGING RULES

JUDGING RULE 1

Each horse is required to enter the herd sufficiently deep enough to show its ability to make a cut.

One such deep cut will satisfy this rule. Failure to satisfy this requirement will result in a three (3) point penalty.

a) A horse will be given credit for its ability to enter the herd quietly with very little disturbance to the herd or to the one brought out.

JUDGING RULE 2

When an animal is cut from the herd, it is more desirable that it be taken toward the centre of the arena, and credit will be given for same. Additional credit will be given to the horse which drives his stock sufficient distance from the herd to assure that the herd will not be disturbed by his work, thereby showing his ability to drive a cow.

JUDGING RULE 3

Riding with a loose rein throughout a performance is a requirement and will be recognized.

JUDGING RULE 4

Credit will be given for setting up a cow and holding it in a working position as near the centre of the arena as possible.

NOTE: The degree of difficulty presented by the stock cut out shall weigh heavily on the judge's decision. Credit must be given to the horse which meets the challenge of a hard charging, fast moving animal without loss of working position and control. Where other considerations are equal, the horse which works a longer time should receive greater credit.

JUDGING RULE 5

If the cutting horse or his/her rider creates disturbance at any time throughout his/her working period (2.5 minutes) will be penalized.

- a) Any noise directed by the contestant toward the cattle will be penalized one (1) point.
- b) Each time a horse runs into the herd, scatters the herd while working or picks up cattle through fault of the horse, he/she will be penalized three (3) points. The entire cow must enter the working area of horse.
- c) The Judge shall stop any work because of training or abuse of the horse by the contestant or disturbance of the cattle.

JUDGING RULE 6

A horse will be penalized three (3) points each time the back fence actually stops or turns the animal being worked within one step (three (3) feet) of the fence; the back fence to be agreed on and designated by the Judge or Judges before the contest starts; meaning the actual fence only, no imaginary line from point to point to be considered. If any of the contestants voice an objection before the contest starts, the Judge or Judges shall take a vote of the contestants, and a "back fence" acceptable to the majority shall be designated and used.

JUDGING RULE 7

If a horse turns the wrong way with tail toward animal being worked, an automatic score of 60 points will be given.

JUDGING RULE 8

While working, a horse will be penalized one (1) point each time the reins are used to control or direct (to rein) the horse, regardless of whether the reins are held high or low. A one (1) point penalty shall also be charged whenever a horse is visibly cued in any manner. If the reins are tight enough that the bits are bumped at any time, he shall be penalized one (1) point each time even though the hand of the rider does not move.

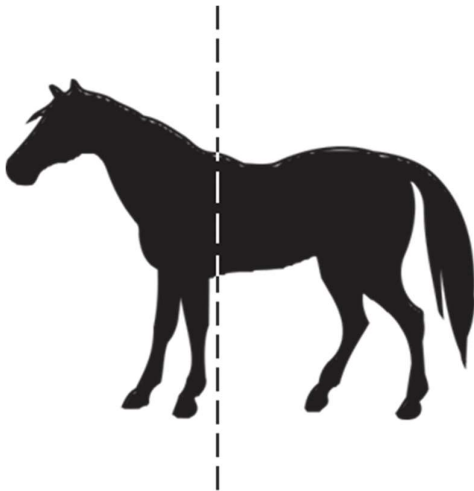
a) A horse must be released as soon as the desired animal is clear of the other cattle.

Additional reining, cuing or positioning will result in a one (1) point penalty for each occurrence.

b) The rider shall hold the bridle reins in one hand. A three (3) point penalty shall be charged if the second hand touches the reins for any purpose except to straighten them.

c) Spurring behind the shoulder shall not be considered a visible cue. A three (3) point penalty shall be assessed each time a horse is spurred in the shoulder.

d) A toe, foot, or stirrup on the horse's shoulder is considered a visible cue. A one (1) point penalty shall be charged for each occurrence.



The Point of the Shoulder

JUDGING RULE 9

If a horse lets an animal that he is working get back in the herd, he will be penalized five (5) points.

JUDGING RULE 10

If a rider changes cattle after visibly committing to a specific cow, a five (5) point penalty will be assessed.

JUDGING RULE 11

When a horse loses his working advantage, misses a cow, or is working out of position; he will be penalized (a) 1/2 point, (A) 1 point, or (F) 1 point.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

- Loss of working advantage is defined as; when a horse goes by a cow to the degree that he loses his position to maintain control of the cow. (A) or (a).
- A miss is defined as: A response of the horse to the action of the cow being worked, resulting in a loss of working advantage or being out of position. (A) or (a).
- Working out of position is defined as: The position of the horse in relation to the cow being worked, being consistently either too short or too long in working to control a cow. (F)

JUDGING RULE 12

Unnecessary roughness, such as a horse actually pawing, biting or kicking cattle, will be penalized three (3) points.

JUDGING RULE 13

A contestant may quit an animal when it is obviously stopped, obviously turned away or is obviously behind the turn-back horses and the turn-back horses are behind the timeline. A penalty of three (3) points must be charged if the animal is quit under any other circumstances.

NOTE: A cow shall be considered stopped when it is no longer moving forward. It is not necessary for all four feet to be on the ground. A Cutter may quit a cow, after the cow has come to a stop, as long as the cow is not turning into this horse.

JUDGING RULE 14

If a horse quits a cow, a penalty of five (5) points will be assessed.

JUDGING RULE 15

If a horse clears the herd with two (2) or more cattle and fails to separate a single animal before quitting, a five (5) point penalty will be charged. There is no penalty if time expires.

NOTE: Any time a cutter commits to a specific animal and fails to cut the same animal a five (5) point penalty will be charged.

JUDGING RULE 16:

Horses must be ridden with a bridle having a bit in the mouth or with a hackamore. A bridle shall have no nose band or bosal and hackamores shall be of rope or braided rawhide with no metal parts. Braided rawhide balls across the horse's nose are not permissible. A Judge must be able to freely pass two fingers between the hackamore and muzzle completely around the horse's nose. Choke ropes, tie downs, wire around the horse's neck, nose, or brow band, tight nose band, quirt, bat or mechanical device giving the rider undue control over a horse will not be permitted in the arena where an NZCHA approved or sponsored event is being held. Wire of any kind and on any part of the curb device is not permissible. Leather Curb straps or curb chains must be at least 3/8 of an inch in width and must be attached to the bit by nylon string, nylon straps or leather straps. Decorative knots, rawhide balls or tassels are not permitted on curb devices. Breast collar may be used, no portion of which may pass over the horse's neck. Breast collars attached to the swell of the saddle on competing horses will be considered illegal. Chaps and spurs may be worn. Chinks (any leggings not reaching the boot) are not permitted attire in the Contest Arena. A competing horse's tail cannot be tied in any manner that would restrict movement of the tail. Stock saddles will not be permitted in the Main Arena during any NZCHA produced shows with the exception of Snafflebit events and for use on Help Horses. Any rider found to be contravening this dress code will be subject to the following: 1st offence - warning, 2nd offence - fine and 3rd offence - period of suspension. Any time a contestant is guilty of an infraction of this rule or any part therein, he/she shall be disqualified. A Judge has the right to have a contestant report to him/her if he/she is suspicious of any infraction of Rule 16.

Horses in the Snaffle Bit class may be ridden with a bridle having a snaffle bit only and shall have no noseband. Twisted wire snaffles, gag snaffles and short shanked snaffles shall not be used. Snaffle bits are to be a minimum of 10mm (3/8") and have a smooth single jointed mouthpiece. Bosals and Hackamores may be used. They shall be of rope or braided rawhide and have no metal parts.

All horses must comply with Rule 16 while in the arena.

b) Any person in the arena after the start of an NZCHA approved or sponsored event must wear western attire, including hats. All must wear long-sleeved shirts with collars, buttons, snaps or a zip. T-shirts are not permissible. Sweaters may be worn over an appropriate shirt.

Long sleeves must be worn rolled down. In extreme weather, show management with the consent of the Judge, may allow deviation from the dress requirements with regard to hats and/or sleeve length at outdoor shows outside of the working area only.

Under no circumstances will 'hoodies', football jerseys or 'sloppy joe's' be allowed within the main Show Arena. Any rider found to be contravening this dress code will be subject to the following:

1st offence - warning, 2nd offence - fine and 3rd offence - period of suspension.

c) Rule 16 shall become effective thirty minutes prior to the published starting time of championship and jackpot cuttings.

d) Rule 16 may be set aside by show management for an official practice session provided that the practice session ends at least thirty minutes prior to the start of any performance.

e) Contestants are limited to a maximum of four (4) helpers.

f) If any member of the NZCHA witnesses a violation of Standing Rule 16, they must report the violation immediately to the competitors Advocate or a Councillor.

g) Violations of Rule 16 b, c, d & h shall result in disciplinary action as determined by the NZCHA.

NOTE: In the event a rider's equipment breaks during a horse's performance, the horse will be permitted to complete its allotted time and shall be scored in accordance with the other NZCHA Rules for Judging Cutting Horses. (Rerun shall not be granted for equipment failure).

JUDGING RULE 17

When a contestant is thrown from a horse or a horse falls to the ground, an automatic score of sixty (60) points will be given.

JUDGING RULE 18

Any rider who allows his/her horse to quit working or leave the working area before his/her allotted time is up will be disqualified for that go-round with no score.

JUDGING RULE 19:

A contestant will be awarded a complete rework if in the Judge or Judges' opinion 2 1/2 minutes time was not allotted for the work, or if excessive disturbances had been created by factors other than those caused by the contestant, or their help and the Judge or Judges have stopped the time. Such factors would include gate coming open, fences falling down and objects entering or falling into the working portion of the arena but would not apply to cattle scattering through wildness or normal arena activities. Any rework must take place within the group of cattle drawn by the contestant and must occur before a change of cattle is executed. At the contestant's option, the rework may occur immediately or as the last work in that set of cattle. No rework shall be granted if the contestant involved has incurred a three (3) or five (5) point (major) penalty prior to a disturbance. After the cutter has completed his 2 1/2 minutes work, if in his/her opinion a situation has occurred of sufficient seriousness so as to warrant a re-run, he/she may immediately make a request for the same to the Contestant's Representative or to the designated Judge or Judges who shall report this fact to show management before the next horse is called to work. Show management shall make such facts as are available known to the Judge(s) and if the majority are in agreement that due cause did exist, a re-run may be granted provided the original work was free of a three (3) or a five (5) point (major) infraction. If the clock has not started, a re-work will automatically be granted.

IMPORTANT NOTE TO SECRETARIES AND TIMERS

The Judge(s) has the sole right to terminate a work prior to the 2 1/2-minute buzzer. The Secretary or timer shall notify the Judge(s) immediately if the clock has not been started or malfunctions.

NOTE: The show management should make every effort to ensure that gate latches are secure and that the pen is strong enough to hold the cattle.

JUDGING RULE 20:

A Judge marks from sixty (60) to eighty (80) points. One-half (1/2) points are permissible.

NOTE: Judges are encouraged to use a full spread of scores in judging a contest. It is highly unlikely that in a class of twenty five horses, ten horses would have identical works and be marked the same score; however, many cutting horse contests conclude with several of the horses that place sharing the same scores because Judges did not assess a high enough point value to those

good runs that occur early in the contest. By using a full spread of scores, the remaining horses in the contest are more likely to place in the positions earned by their performance.

JUDGING RULE 21:

When the Judge is in doubt about a penalty, the benefit always goes to the contestant.

Penalties:

- (a) 1/2 point – (miss) losing working advantage (11)
- (b) 1 point – reined or visibly cued (8)
- (c) 1 point – noise directed to cattle (5a)
- (d) 1 point– toe, foot or stirrup on the shoulder(8d)
- (e) 1 point – hold on too long on a cut (8a)
- (f) 1 point – working out of position
- (g) 1 point – hand too far forward 3 points – hot quit (13)
- (b) 3 points – cattle picked up or scattered (5b)
- (c) 3 points – second hand on reins (8b)
- (d) 3 points – spur in shoulder (8c)
- (e) 3 points – pawing or biting cattle (12)
- (f) 3 points – failure to make a deep cut(1)
- (g) 3 points – back fence (6)

- (a) 5 points – horse quitting a cow(14)
- (b) 5 points – losing a cow (9)
- (c) 5 points – changing cattle after a specific commitment (10)
- (d) 5 points – failure to separate a single animal after leaving the herd (15)
- 60 score If horse turns tail (7)
- 60 score If horse fall to ground (17)

Disqualification (score 0) – illegal equipment, or leaves working area before time expires

1. GIVE CREDIT

- a) For entering the herd quietly with very little disturbance to the herd or to the animal brought out (Rule 1).
- b) For taking an animal toward the centre of the arena (Rule 2).
- c) For driving a cow sufficient distance from the herd to assure that the herd will not be disturbed by the contestant's work (Rule 2).
- d) For riding with a loose rein throughout a performance (Rule 3).
- e) For setting up a cow and holding it in a working position as near the centre of the arena as possible (Rule 4).

NOTE: A herd-holder's duty is to assist the Cutter in containing the herd and group of cattle the Cutter is trying to cut from. This gives the Cutter ample opportunity to demonstrate to the Judges his/her ability to work the herd, drive a cow, and set a cow up in the middle of the pen. These conditions allow a Judge to give credit to the Cutter under Rules 1a, 2 and 4. After assisting the Cutter in making a cut, the herd-holder should move to a position toward the arena wall that will enable him/her to contain the herd, but not distract from the run. Any excessive action by the Herd-holder will be dealt with as a reduction in run content. Although there is no specific major penalty for this action, it does hinder the Cutter's horse from showing his / her full potential. Therefore, Judges will begin reducing run content when excessive help from herd- holders affects the run, such as: saving a major penalty from occurring; cutting the pen down; and in fresh cattle, driving the herd out for the Cutter to cut from. Herd- holders should keep in mind they are jeopardizing the Cutter's score when they give too much assistance to the Cutter.

2. Consider the **DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY** of the run. DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY is determined by the amount of effort exerted by the cow in its attempt to return to the herd. A cow that turns quickly and moves rapidly is more difficult to hold in a working position than a cow that turns and moves slowly. A Judge must give credit when a Cutter is able to hold a working position on a tough cow.

3. Consider the **EYE APPEAL** of the run. Runs that are attractive because of the style of the horse and the correctness of the overall performance shall receive credit.

4. Consider the **AMOUNT OF COURAGE** shown by the Cutter. A Judge shall give credit for a Cutter staying on a tough cow. Credit shall be given for a Cutter coming off the fence with a cow and then establishing a working position near the centre of the arena before quitting the cow.

NOTE: Coming off the fence in an attempt to set up a cow in the centre of the arena before quitting and staying on a tough cow are high risk situations. If a rule infraction occurs in this situation, a Judge must call it; therefore, the Cutter who shows this type of Courage and commits no rule infractions, shall receive credit.

5. Consider the **AMOUNT OF TIME** that the Cutter actually spends working cattle during the 2 1/2 minute run. A Cutter shall be given credit for his/her willingness to exhibit his/her horse actually working cattle. Obvious stalling in the herd or reluctance to cut a cow to allow time to run off the clock shall have a negative influence on the total point value of the run.

NOTES:

- a) Run content is a numerical evaluation (60-80) based on a running analysis of what actually occurs during the work, without regard to penalty
- b) Guidelines for evaluating a work. The Judge will start judging each horse when the Cutter's time begins, and each run will be started from a median score of (70). The run will conclude at the first sound of the buzzer. The Cutter's run content will be based upon compliance with credit situations. Numerical value of run content will fluctuate up or down (60-80) throughout the run. Run content may be decreased without actual occurrence of a penalty. Actual occurrence of penalties will only be deducted at the conclusion of the run.

At any point in the run a Judge should be able to ascribe a numerical value based on the above standard. The standard is run content, a numerical value, minus penalties equals the score.

Run Content is a numerical value – penalties = score

SOME POINTS ON SHOWING AND JUDGING THE CUTTING HORSE

The following questions and answers are included in this Rule Book as an aid to a clearer understanding of the Rules for Judging Cutting Horses. The opinions expressed are based on surveys and Judging Clinics conducted by the NZCHA

1. What is the desired number of cattle to work?

The number of cattle to cut in the two and one-half minute time limit is not over three head on fresh cattle. If a cutter can do as much on two head as another can do on three, the cutter working the two head should have the higher score because he/she has not spent as much time in the herd.

2. Approaching the herd.

A horse should never be set down hard approaching the herd. Walking or trotting to the herd is acceptable provided the horse is taken up very easily before getting close enough to disturb the cattle. The horse should display no hesitation, weaving or reluctance to approach and enter the herd.

3. Entering and working the herd.

The true cutting horse enters the herd with ease, concentrating on the job to be done; not looking over the fence or biting; alert, but quiet, making no unnecessary movements that might disturb the cattle. Here are some specific points on herd work;

- a) How far should a horse go into the herd to cut a cow? He should go deep enough to show his/ her ability to get one out.
- b) Is it all right to enter the middle of the herd on either side and to the middle or back side and get the one wanted? Yes.
- c) Is it all right to go behind the herd and bring out the one wanted? Yes.

4. When should a horse be turned loose?

A rider entering the herd may have a light-rein contact with the horse and maintain this contact while he/she is in the herd and while he/she is in the process of cutting the animal free from the remaining cattle. When the animal has been cut, he/she should let his/her horse alone, and the horse should be given enough slack so that it would be obvious to the Judge that the horse was on his/her own.

5. Bringing the cow from the herd.

The cutting horse should stay a reasonable distance from the cow if possible, showing a great deal of expression but no illness toward the animal being cut. Illness is defined as biting, trying to bite, pawing, kicking or charging. Facial expression and ear position should not be considered as a sign of illness. He/she should be on his/her toes, making counter movements to

the cow regardless of the distance separating them. The horse should not rush or push cattle excessively in bringing one from the herd unless the cow turns around and tries to get back at the edge of the herd. The horse should bring a cow a sufficient distance from the herd toward the centre of the arena, so the herd will not be disturbed while working, and set the cow up.

6. When is a cow set up (in working position)?

The cow should be in the middle of the arena or as near this point as possible with the horse making movements to counteract movements of the cow. This does not mean that the horse would be moving while the cow is standing still. When the cow moves, the horse should make faster moves so that he/she will hold the cow, not only from returning to the herd but also from going from side to side (wall to wall), without excessive help from his/her turn-back riders.

7. When is a horse out of position?

The loss of working advantage (being out of position) is not determined by the distance that a horse goes by a cow; it is determined by the response of the horse to the action of the cow. A horse should have no difficulty maintaining working advantage over a slow moving cow. The horse which can maintain working advantage over a cow which presents a severe challenge shall receive credit. No penalty should be charged the horse which immediately regains position after going sufficiently past a cow to cause it to turn.

8. Picking up cattle.

No penalty shall be assessed for cattle that leave the herd so long as it is not caused by the contesting horse.

9. What is not a satisfactory way of quitting a cow?

A contestant may quit an animal when it is obviously stopped, obviously turned away, or is obviously behind the turn-back horses and the turn-back horses are behind the timeline. A penalty of three (3) points must be charged if the animal is quit under any other circumstances.

Any questions or concerns, please direct to the current NZCHA Rulebook Editor, via the NZCHA Secretary.