

Rules and By-laws

MNSCHA

Minnesota Sorting Cow Horse Association

Revised 1/11/2019

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# PURPOSE AND NAME

## Name

The name will be MNSCHA – Minnesota Sorting Cow Horse Association. The MNSCHA had its beginnings in 2011 at an informal meeting preceding a National Sorting Cow Horse Association (NSCHA) show. A few riders met at Dave Reigstad’s in Kandiyohi, Minnesota and decided to organize for a state show. On January 22, 2012, the first official meeting was called to order in Paynesville, Minnesota, and they voted to start a Minnesota Chapter of the National Sorting Cow Horse Association and elections for Board members were held.

November 1st of 2014 MNSCHA members unanimously voted to discontinue sanctioning with National Sorting Cow Horse Association due to their breach of contract via lack of prompt record keeping and failure to produce a timely NSCHA World Show. On December 11, 2014, the MNSCHA members again universally decided to become their own individual entity.

## Purpose

MNSCHA’s purpose is to offer a safe, fun, educational, and competitive venue of ranch sorting to the state of Minnesota and surrounding areas. The MNSCHA offers youth and novice classes along with free admission for spectators to encourage participation from individuals unfamiliar with horses and cattle allowing us to educate people about the safe and ethical treatment of these large animals. By getting new people involved either as spectators or participants, it will enable us as an association to broaden the horizons and offer new opportunities for everyone.

# DISCLAIMER OF RESPONSIBILITY

## Safety of Participants or Spectators

MNSCHA does not assume responsibility for safety of participants or spectators at the shows, or other events it promotes. Responsibility for participant and spectator safety remains solely with Show Management. (This does not exclude Arena Management or Owners from responsibility). Show Management applies for approval on voluntary basis, agreeing to conduct the show according to MNSCHA rules which are designed to promote a fair competition. Assumption of responsibility for safety by Show Management is required as an express condition to grant the designation, “MNSCHA Approved Show”. MNSCHA’s limited objective is to require, by rule enforcement, “a level playing field” of competition. While safety is a paramount concern of all parties, the MNSCHA does not assume responsibility for it. MNSCHA’s limited purpose for sanctioning a show is to promote fair competition. MNSCHA will use the disciplinary procedures, enforcement of penalties, and specific rules and policies as covered in MNSCHA bylaws.

## Limitation of Liability

All producers and show hosts must carry insurance for spectators as required by state law. All producers and show hosts shall post plainly visible signs at one or more prominent locations in the premises where the livestock activity takes place that includes a warning of the inherent risks of livestock activity and the limitation of liability under state statutes.

### Definitions

#### “Inherent risks of livestock activities” means dangers or conditions that are an integral part of livestock activities, including:

1. The propensity of livestock to behave in ways that may result in death or injury to persons on or around them, such as kicking, biting, or bucking;
2. The unpredictability of livestock’s reaction to things like sound, sudden movement, unfamiliar objects, persons, or other animals;
3. Natural hazards such as surface or subsurface conditions; or
4. Collisions with other livestock or objects.

#### “Livestock” means cattle, sheep, swine, horses, ponies, donkeys, mules, hinnies, goats, buffalo, llamas, or poultry.

#### “Livestock activity” means an activity involving the maintenance or use of livestock, regardless of whether the activity is open to the PUBLIC, provided the activity is not performed for profit. Livestock activity includes:

1. Livestock production;
2. Loading, unloading, or transporting livestock;
3. Livestock shows, fairs, competitions, performances, races, rodeos, or parades;
4. Livestock training or teaching activities;
5. Boarding, shoeing, or grooming livestock; or
6. Riding or inspecting livestock or livestock equipment.

#### “Livestock activity sponsor” means a person who sponsors, organizes, or provides the facilities for a livestock activity that is open to the PUBLIC.

#### “Participant” Means a person who directly and intentionally engages in a livestock activity. Participant does not include a spectator who is in an authorized area.

# MANAGEMENT

The management of the MNSCHA shall be vested in the Board, made up of elected officers and directors.

## Authority and Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the officers, Board of Directors, [[1]](#footnote-1)committee chair persons, and MNSCHA members to:

1. Promote MNSCHA in a way that reflects positively on the association
2. Ensure the website reflects accurately what is happening and what will be happening in the MNSCHA
3. Ensure the MNSCHA Facebook page and website are the official form of notice to MNSCHA membership.

## Quorum

A majority (50%) of the members of the MNSCHA Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of MNSCHA business.

## Robert’s Rules of Order

Meetings must be conducted with guidance from the most recent edition of Robert’s Rules of Order.

## Meetings

1. There will be at least three meetings of the Board per year at such time and place agreed to by the Board and shall be open to all members. Members of the Board will meet as needed throughout the year to conduct MNSCHA business.
2. Notice of meetings will be posted on the MNSCHA website and Facebook page one full week before meeting and shall include the place, date, and time of the meeting.
3. At the beginning of all member meetings, the minutes and the treasurer’s report will be read from the previous meeting. All the minutes and Treasurer report will be made available for the meetings.
4. Any formal action taken at any meeting of the membership shall require a majority vote of active members present.
5. Reasons for any disciplinary action will be closed to the general assembly of members. No information such as participant win/loss, terms of reinstatement, sealed records of shows and/or any other information deemed private by the MNSCHA Board of Directors shall be made public information.
6. Any non-member present at a meeting CANNOT vote.
7. A person who attempts to purchase a membership solely to sway or disrupt a meeting may be suspended, terminated or refused membership by the Board of Directors.

### Special Meetings of Board

1. The MNSCHA Board of Directors may have special meetings to discuss disciplinary actions, suspensions, terms of reinstatement, and other information deemed private by the MNSCHA Board of Directors where no member may be allowed to maintain the MNSCHA members’ privacy.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors will consist of seven (7) Directors each of whom shall be an active member of the MNSCHA. The Board shall conduct business with a minimum of five (5) Directors.

## Requirements and Responsibilities

An elected Director of the MNSCHA is to participate in 50% or more of the club’s functions and activities (these may include meetings, or other club activities), be at five MNSCHA shows (the person does not need to ride but must be in attendance) during each year of their term. Each Director will be held accountable for participation at this level.

Any Director who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the MNSCHA Board of Directors may automatically be removed and the vacancy shall be declared. The MNSCHA Board of Directors shall nominate a Director which will be voted on at the next member meeting. The new Director will hold position the remainder of the previous Directors term.

If after the first year in office a Director is unable to uphold this level of commitment, then at that time they may be asked by the rest of the MNSCHA Board of Directors to step down and the vacancy shall be declared. The MNSCHA Board of Directors shall nominate a Director which will be voted on at the next member meeting. The new Director will then hold position the remainder of the previous Directors term.

### Term and Vacancies

1. All Directors offices shall be elected for a term of (3) years.
2. All Directors shall take office at the first member meeting following Finals show and shall hold office until their successors have been elected and qualified.
3. If one or more of the Directors positions becomes vacant due to death, resignation, or otherwise within the MNSCHA Board of Directors, this will be announced to the membership and open for nominations.
	* 1. Nominees must be made to the MNSCHA Board within 14 days of announcement
		2. Nominees will be voted on at the next member meeting
		3. The new Director will hold position the remainder of the previous Directors term.

### Elections

1. No more than three (3) new Directors shall be elected at one time.
2. Official elections shall be done by secret ballet at the first meeting of members following the Finals show.

### Qualifications and Nominations

1. Only current members who have actively served on at least one committee and/or attended 30% of club functions and activities (these may include meetings, or other club activities), and/or be at five MNSCHA sanctioned shows (the person does not need to ride but must be in attendance) during the year prior to nomination may be elected to hold office.
2. Directors shall be elected from the general membership, who is in good standing.
3. Nominations for Directors shall be made by a MNSCHA member and must be seconded by a MNSCHA Board of Director at the elections meeting.
4. The current MNSCHA Board of Directors will have the right to refuse the nomination of any member whom they do not feel has met expectations of a potential Board member for any reason.
5. The MNSCHA Board of Directors has the right to remove anyone’s name from the ballot that is not a member in good standing or is currently suspended for any reason.
6. Once nominees are posted they may be voted on by secret ballot by each representative voter
7. A majority (50%) of the members of the MNSCHA Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of MNSCHA business.

# OFFICERS AND POSITIONS

## Officers of the MNSCHA

The officers of the MNSCHA shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

### Requirements and Responsibilities

1. Upon completion of elections all passwords and logins will be transferred over to the new officers and changed.
2. A meeting will be setup for (or the necessary forms handed over) transferring the bank records and post office box ownership.
3. Transfer of all information important to the running of the MNSCHA shall be prepared prior to the elections and ready for transfer at the first member meeting following the Finals show upon completion of elections.

### Term and Vacancies

1. The positions of officers will be re-elected each year at the first member meeting following the Finals show.
2. The Board shall appoint an officer to fill any vacancy until the next election.

### Elections

1. Officers will be selected from the MNSCHA Board of Directors.
2. Elections shall be done by secret ballot and shall be held at the first member meeting following the Finals show.
3. All officers shall take office at the first member meeting following the Finals show and shall hold office until their successors have been elected and qualified.

## Roles and Responsibilities

### President

1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the MNSCHA.
2. The President shall be aware of all accounts to ensure two party oversight.
3. The President shall help oversee and coordinate committees as are authorized by the Board but is not required to chair them.
4. The President will write an agenda and send it to all Board members one week prior to the meeting.
5. The President shall cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie.
6. In the case of the President’s inability to act, the Vice President shall be the immediate successor.

### Vice-President

1. The Vice-President during the absence or temporary incapacity of the President shall perform the duties and have the powers of the President and shall help with Public Relations.
2. Upon permanent absence of the President, the Vice President shall assume the duties of President for the duration of his term, declare the Vice President office vacant, and call for election to fill the Vice President’s office.

### Secretary

1. The Secretary shall keep all MNSCHA records, including minutes of regular membership and MNSCHA Board of Directors meetings, roster of members, lists of committees and their members.
2. Receive applications for membership and conduct secretarial functions of the office required by the MNSCHA Board of Directors.
3. The Secretary shall forward all pertinent information on to the Website managers and double check that changes have been made and are correct.
4. The Secretary shall keep all passwords needed for the Internet to ensure two party oversights.
5. The Secretary shall keep a hard copy of all show results and Lifetime Earnings on all the MNSCHA Members.
6. The Secretary will ensure that the President has gotten the agenda out (5) five days prior to the meeting and that it is posted for the membership.
7. The Secretary will bring the current year’s meeting minutes and lists of committee members to all meetings.
8. The Secretary shall be responsible for coordination of all producer show planning in the show management software.
9. The Secretary will ensure the Treasurer receives the Final Show Summary from the show management software.

### Treasurer

1. The Treasure shall keep all the financial records of the MNSCHA and have charge of its funds.
2. The Treasure shall keep the MNSCHA funds in a depository approved by the MNSCHA Board of Directors and in the name of the Minnesota Sorting Cow Horse Association.
3. The Treasurer shall disburse such funds of the MNSCHA under the direction of the MNSCHA Board of Directors. Withdrawals shall be made by Treasurer and President in conjunction by having both signatures on each MNSCHA check. If 2 signatures are not obtainable, 1 signature is sufficient, but must have documented approval.
4. A Treasurer’s report shall be prepared and read at the regular meetings and financial statements shall be prepared at each General Meetings. The Treasurers Report and the actual monthly bank statement will be given to the Secretary for a permanent record after each month’s meeting.
5. The Treasure will ensure the President has all passwords needed to monitor accounts.
6. Treasurer shall ensure that the MNSCHA checkbook is present at all MNSCHA produced shows.
7. An annual audit shall be made at the end of each financial year and shown to the general membership at the next meeting.
8. No debt may be accrued without the MNSCHA Board of Directors approval.
9. No credit or debit cards shall be placed in the MNSCHA or the Minnesota Sorting Cow Horse Association name.
10. No loans or liens shall be placed against the MNSCHA nor the Minnesota Sorting Cow Horse Association.

### social media & marketing

1. The web person shall be responsible for updating the Webpage and Facebook page within 15 days of receipt of information. This will include but not be limited to show results, horse and participant earnings, agenda’s, show dates, and newsletters. This position does not have to be a MNSCHA Board of Directors position and can be held by any member or non-member.

# MEMBERS AND MEMBERSHIP

## Qualifications for Membership

1. Membership of the MNSCHA shall consist of active members. Active membership is available to all sorting enthusiasts who have met the qualifications for membership; paid their membership dues; and new or renewing members will be reviewed and shall be in good standing with MNSCHA and all representatives of MNSCHA. All individuals who are included in the membership shall be governed by MNSCHA rules and are entitled to participate in and benefit from the activities of MNSCHA.
2. Membership shall run with each show season that coincides with the Finals show. Members shall be considered inactive members until they pay their membership dues. Anyone may renew their membership at any time with the purchase of a membership renewal; however, their membership will expire after the first meeting of members following the Finals show of each season unless the MNSCHA Board of Directors revokes or extends membership for any reason. Anyone who lets his or her membership lapse for over one MNSCHA membership year will have to become a new member.
3. MNSCHA Board of Directors/Officers will provide evidence of membership in the MNSCHA after a person has been admitted as a member and paid fees and dues.

## Day Passes

A $10-day pass is available for participants to participate in up to a single show each competition year. A day pass will not give the participant access to any privileges of a MNSCHA member. They will appear in the results but their earnings and those of their horses will not be tracked nor appear on any standings. A participant with a day pass cannot register a horse with the MNSCHA. A day that a participant rides with a day pass will not count toward ride requirements for exclusive shows. With the purchase of the MNSCHA day pass each person under the day pass states that they will uphold to the rules of the MNSCHA while participating.

## Uphold the Rules Of MNSCHA

With the purchase of the MNSCHA membership, each person under the membership states that they will uphold to the rules of the MNSCHA.

## Dues

Membership dues shall be determined by MNSCHA Board of Directors. A family membership includes the spouse and any children living at home who are younger than twenty-one (21).

## Voting Rights

1. All voters must be over the age of eighteen (18) to vote. Each Family Membership is entitled to up to two (2) representative votes. If only one person in a Family Membership is over eighteen (18) years of age, only one vote shall be allowed. Each Individual Membership is entitled to one (1) representative vote. Individual Membership is available to members under eighteen (18) years of age with parental consent but will come without voting rights.
2. A day pass participant will not have the right to vote.

## Cessation of Membership

When a membership ceases for any cause whatever, all rights and interests revert to the MNSCHA.

## Suspension or Termination

1. Members who are found to be in default of their obligation to pay fees to producers or the MNSCHA or having committed a material and serious violation of the bylaws, rules, or law may be suspended or have their membership terminated.
2. A suspended or terminated member may request a hearing for reconsideration. Upon receipt of a request for a hearing for reconsideration, the Board of Directors shall set a hearing date no later than 45 days from the date of notice. The member shall have the right to be present or represented during the hearing.

### Reinstatement

The Board of Directors may reinstate membership on any reasonable terms that the Board of Directors deems appropriate.

# RIDER RATINGS

## New Member Ratings

1. Each new member will estimate the amount of lifetime earnings of money that they have previously earned in any other cow horse events such as team penning, working cow horse, reined cow horse, ranch horse, team penning, ranch rodeo, sorting, or cutting events. They will be rated based on these estimated earnings on MNSCHA’s rating scale.
2. All new members will be initially rated as they estimate their earnings on the MNSCHA ratings scale.

## MNSCHA Member Ratings Review

1. A first year MNSCHA member’s rating will be evaluated upon attaining three (3) total checks received at any MNSCHA sanctioned show(s).
2. Upon completion of three shows in a year and/or after the MNSCHA Finals, all member ratings will be reviewed. The MNSCHA Board will review participant win/loss ratio percentages every 90 days. If a rider’s win/loss ratio is under 25%, the MNSCHA Board has the option to move the participant down a rating. If a member’s win/loss ratio is over 85%, the MNSCHA Board has the option to move the participant up a rating. Member ratings will not be changed less than 60 days prior to the MNSCHA Finals show. MNSCHA lifetime earnings will be considered during the annual review of member ratings. A member may request a review of their ratings at any time after riding five (5) shows.
3. Any new or renewing MNSCHA member who is over 21 years old as of January 1st of the current year and has earned more than $1,500 in cash or exchange for training horses in any discipline will initially be rated a minimum of a number three (3). This member rating will subsequently be reviewed using established rating standards of MNSCHA. Trainers of events not previously listed may petition the Board for a lower rating.
4. Any member reaching the age of 60 years old as of January 1st of the current year will drop a rating and ride one rating below your earnings unless the participant exceeds the 85% win/loss ratio.

## Disciplinary Actions for Non-Disclosure

1. If any member is proven to have earned considerably more than they have estimated and are then found by the MNSCHA Board as intentionally falsifying their records with the purpose of defrauding fellow MNSCHA members, the MNSCHA Board may proceed with disciplinary action.
2. Disciplinary actions may include raising the participant rating to the appropriate rating, forfeiture of participant’s earnings, forfeiture of qualifying shows, suspension, and/or fining the participant.

# ANNUAL SHOWS

## Finals Show

The MNSCHA will hold an annual Finals if financially feasible according to the Board of Directors. The MNSCHA Finals committee shall be responsible for the planning and success of the show.

1. At the annual member meeting, the MNSCHA members and Board will determine qualification requirements for the upcoming Finals show. These qualifications will be posted on the MNSCHA web site. All MNSCHA members in good standing and who have achieved the qualification requirements will be qualified to ride at the MNSCHA finals show.
2. The MNSCHA Finals is hosted by the MNSCHA. Prizes and added money will be given out as the MNSCHA Board of Directors deems appropriate and financially feasible.
3. Prizes will be awarded off a point system as posted on web site.
4. The funds raised at the MNSCHA Finals will be paid back out as added money for the next year’s weekend shows if financially feasible according to the Board of Directors. To qualify for the added money from the MNSCHA Finals, a producer must have produced a show during the year prior to that MNSCHA Final.
5. The profit of each year will be paid out at the MNSCHA Finals as Added Money.
6. The only money to be held back by the MNSCHA will be the money budgeted for the next year to successfully run the MNSCHA throughout the next year.

# PRODUCERS AND SHOW HOSTS

## Producer Agreements and Responsibilities

1. To qualify as a MNSCHA show, it takes offering a minimum of one MNSCHA approved class. It is recommended that a Youth class is offered at each show.
2. Producer agrees to make every effort to ensure that all livestock used or participating at all MNSCHA events will be treated in a humane and ethical manner and that the MNSCHA will not be responsible or liable for such matters.
3. Producer agrees to uphold and adhere to all MNSCHA rules and regulations.
4. All teams entered will participate in the first go. MNSCHA shows will be setup with recommendations for short and final go teams and pay outs. These may be changed at the producer’s discretion.
5. During the event, Producer agrees to display promotional material for the MNSCHA.
6. The producer shall extend every effort to satisfy the comfort of the horses, exhibitors, spectators, and officials. He or she shall be held responsible for maintaining clean, orderly, and family friendly conditions throughout the show.
7. The MNSCHA recommends that a producer or representative support and/or attend at least 2 days of the annual Finals show.
8. The event producer shall redirect complaints from exhibitors, trainers, owners, show participants, and other MNSCHA members of incidents of cruel, abusive, or inhumane treatment of livestock on show grounds to the MNSCHA for possible disciplinary action under the MNSCHA’s rules pertaining to unsportsmanlike conduct.
9. *Enforcement of fines are at Board member discretion.*

## Show Cancellation

1. Producer agrees that show dates are binding and may not be canceled for any reason other than a verified medical emergency and/or severe weather.
2. Any show that is canceled after it has been scheduled and does not meet the above conditions will incur a $150 cancellation fee.

## Show Staffing

1. The producer must have appropriate staff to efficiently produce a show.
	1. *There must be at least three people (The Judge, the Show Secretary, and the Backup timer/flag-person) running each class that are not participating in that class. Also, it is highly recommended that there be a gate person and cattle changer.*
	2. *If these three positions are not filled, a $200 fine for that show will be assessed. If MNSCHA must supply the help, an additional one dollar per run will be assessed per position for insufficient staff.*
2. In the event an emergency arises, and the producer is unable to fulfill their duties, he or she may appoint an acting event producer over the age of 18 in their absence. The acting event producer must also remain on the show grounds for the duration of the show.

## Authority and Decision Making

1. The event producer shall have authority and responsibility to enforce all rules pertaining to the show.
2. The event producer may excuse any horse or exhibitor from the show prior to or during the competition for any infraction of rules or misconduct.
3. He or she shall enforce the arrival and departure times as shown in the show bill or as advertised.

## Post Show Agreements

1. Producer agrees to provide MNSCHA with all the contestant information such as participant rating and Membership form to be completed and signed by contestant/member and approved by MNSCHA Directors.
2. The event producer shall have jurisdiction over preparing and mailing all entry sheets, result lists, participants’ lists, and earnings.
3. Producer will provide the MNSCHA with all show and class results and collect and forward to the MNSCHA a fee of $3.00 per contestant per ride ($6 per team). Producers also agree to be responsible for collecting membership fees and forwarding to the MNSCHA with membership application within two (2) weeks of show date.

# PARTICIPANT RULES AND CONDUCT

1. It is the participant’s responsibility to ensure that they are in the correct classes and are showing under the correct rating.
2. It is the participant’s responsibility to make sure that they have not entered any class more than 6 times.
3. One draw will be entered into the draw for each rider that is participating in that class however, it is the participant’s responsibility to ensure that their name was placed in the draw for at least one of their rides in every class and that any problems with the class or the results are reported by the end of the show.
4. It is the participant’s responsibility that entries are filled out completely and clearly so that they may be processed as easily as possible.
5. Any problem that may arise from an incorrectly filled out sheet is the participant’s responsibility and may result in forfeiture of that team on the sheet.
6. No entries will be accepted after a class is officially closed.
7. No substitutions of participants will be allowed, except in an emergency and at the Judge’s discretion.
8. If one member cannot complete a run, the remaining team member may elect to finish the run by him or herself. All participants must be on their horses at the end of the run to get a qualified run. No rider-less horses may be used in place of another rider.
9. Western apparel is required, including a cowboy hat, helmet, or no hat, (no ball caps are allowed) long sleeved or short sleeved western full button-down shirts, (no sleeveless or cut off shirts) and western jeans and boots. Any member who is in violation of the dress code rule will be given a warning the 1st time and disqualification and/or a “no time” will occur after that.
	1. *A Judge may waive the attire rule according to excessive weather conditions, such as extreme heat, wind or cold.*
10. If a team has a dispute about a run, a protest to a Judge must be lodged before the team leaves the pen. The Judges and Arena Director must confer and agree on a decision. If the dispute is sustained, the team will be given a re-ride.
	1. *All re-rides will be ridden on the same herd of cattle as they were previously drawn to ride.*
11. Participant earnings will be recorded via the software or system used to conduct the MNSCHA show.
12. It is the participant’s responsibility to conduct themselves in a clean and orderly, family appropriate manner.
13. A member may be expelled from the MNSCHA for total disregard of the welfare of the club, members, and/or public; for blatant disregard of safety, good horsemanship, good sportsmanship, and/or multiple suspensions. The Board of Directors will have up to 1 week to call such a meeting to review the incident for possible suspension. The member will be given notice of the meeting date but need not be at the meeting unless the member requests it and the Board of Directors grants them permission.
14. At any time, an event producer/show host or show Judge may excuse anyone causing a disturbance and the incident will be reported to the MNSCHA for review by the MNSCHA Board for possible disciplinary actions.

# STANDARD MNSCHA CLASSES AND RULES

## Standard MNSCHA Rules

All MNSCHA classes will follow standard rules that are detailed in the class rules documents.

## MNSCHA Classes and Rules

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Class** | **Rules** |
| Open Sorting | * Open to any level participant.
* Participant may enter class up to a total of six (6) times including their mandatory draw.
* One draw must be entered per participant
* A draw ride is optional for Senior Youth participants
 |
| #2 Sorting#3 Sorting#4 Sorting#5 Sorting#6 Sorting#7 Sorting#8 Sorting#9 Sorting#10 Sorting#11 Sorting#12 Sorting | * The combined rating of the participants must not exceed the number of the class.
* Participant may enter class up to a total of six (6) times including their mandatory draw.
* One draw must be entered per participant
* Junior Youth participants cannot enter draw rides and are not given a draw ride
* A draw ride is optional for Senior Youth participants
 |
| Ranch Hand(1 Cap on Sorter) | * The person in the herd cannot exceed a number one (1) rating.
* Participants can never switch places at the gate even if they are evenly rated.
* Gate horse participant is open to any level rider.
* Gate horse participant cannot make any offensive move toward the cattle or the team will be disqualified.
* A person may ride (5) times per class and must change at least one person on the team.
* There is NO Draw in this class.
* Two participants must not ride together more than once per class.
 |
| Ranch Hand (2 Cap on Sorter) | * The person in the herd cannot exceed a number one (2) rating.
* Participants can never switch places at the gate even if they are evenly rated.
* Gate horse participant is open to any level rider.
* Gate horse participant cannot make any offensive move toward the cattle or the team will be disqualified.
* A person may ride (5) times per class and must change at least one person on the team.
* There is NO Draw in this class.
* Two participants must not ride together more than once per class.
 |
| Junior or SeniorYouth DrawPoints class only  | * Youth class only
* This is a point class only.
* This is a draw class only.
* Points of each youth class will be split between senior youth and junior youth categories
* Junior Youth is 12 and under and Senior Youth is 13-18 as of January 1st
* All youth will ride together and may have mixed category teams
* If the draw results in an extra participant, they will be refunded that ride fee
* Participant cannot exceed more than six (6) entries per class
 |
| Round Robin | * Each participant must ride with every other participant once to make the teams for the class.
* Open to any level participant (though it is recommended to have the youth ride a separate round robin if there are enough participants).
* Participants cannot sign up for the same round robin more than once.
* Participants can ride more than one horse in a round robin and participants are responsible for submitting horse earnings if they choose
* Must have 5-10 participants to hold a round robin
* The winner is the participant with the most total cattle in the least time.
 |
| 3 Man 2 Gate SortingAll DrawAny numbered class as noted above | * In a numbered pick/draw class, the combined rating of the participants must not exceed the number of the class.
* In a numbered pick/draw class, participants may enter class up to a total of six (6) times including their mandatory draw.
* In an ALL Draw class, a participant can enter up to 12 times in increments of 3 rides, e.g. must ride either 3, 6, 9 or 12 rides.
 |
| 3 Man 2 Gate SortingYouth Only – All Draw | * Same rules as above except # of rides
* Adults can sub if not enough youth to ride but must be in gate and youth must sort
* Participant may enter class up to a total of six (6) rides.
 |

## Spotting of Cattle

1. In all classes (except Youth classes) and at all shows, coaching and cheering shall be encouraged. However obvious spotting of cattle while in the active sorting pen will be punishable by dismissal of the team in the pen and/or the person or persons doing said spotting.
2. In the MNSCHA youth class spotting is encouraged.

## Number of Teams

1. Classes must have a minimum of 7 teams to run.
2. If the draw results in an extra participant, they will be refunded that ride fee.
3. Two participants must not ride together more than once per class unless drawn together.

# AMENDMENTS

1. These By-Laws shall be reviewed at the first meeting after every MNSCHA Finals.
2. MNSCHA Board of Directors will present their ideas for changes for the members to review and vote on. Members may suggest changes to the MNSCHA Board of Directors for their review, but the actual wording is up to the MNSCHA Board of Directors and will be voted on by the members.
3. Any amendments will go into effect that following year.
4. Amendment of either the articles of incorporation or the Bylaws shall be by a majority vote of the members at the above stated meeting.
5. Changes to the bylaws that affect the number of Directors, increasing or extending the terms of Directors, increasing or decreasing quorum for the member meetings, repealing, restricting, creating, expending, or otherwise changing the rights of the members must be made by the majority of all the active members who vote in the annual election of Board of Directors.
6. These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed and new Bylaws may be adopted by the vote of a majority of the number of Directors in office.

# DISSOLUTION

The MNSCHA can be dissolved by majority vote of the members or by default in the event of continued vacancies (less than 5 active members) in the positions of the officers and/or the Board of Directors. In the event of Dissolution, the last seated officers will close out the accounts and donate the funds to a non-profit that was decided upon.

1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)