



FAQs NYRCHA



1) Do I need to be an NRCHA member to enter/show in the special events?

No, you do not need to be an NRCHA member to show in the unsanctioned derby, futurity, or spectaculars. You will, however, need to become a member of our club (New York Reined Cow Horse Association), which can be done in the office when you arrive.

2) If I enter any of the special events, and I automatically entered into the horse show classes?

No – you must also separately enter each horse show class in addition to your entry for the special event. If you are cross entering into an NRCHA class, you must be an NRCHA member even though the special event only is unsanctioned.

3) Since the special events are unsanctioned, what equipment rules will apply?

We will still be following NRCHA equipment and rules of conduct regardless of the unsanctioned status of the special events. There will be bit/equipment checks for every horse/rider combo after their ride and we will have a “bit check” station just outside the in/out gate for this. Please refer to the NRCHA rule book for specific equipment requirements.

4) I'm new to cowhorse but I've shown in other organizations; what club classes am I eligible to show in?

We have our full rules for our club classes posted on our website, however, here is a short reference to them:

Green Rider I:

This is an entry level class designed for riders that do not have any cow horse or reining experience.

Qualifications: The rider must meet and sign the NYRCHA Green Rider declaration. A rider is no longer eligible if he or she has won NYRCHA year-end highpoint for Green Rider I OR II **once**, regardless of the horse. As of the beginning of the show year (November 16th, 2021) the rider cannot have previously entered into any NRCHA classes and cannot have earnings or points in nationally recognized Cow Horse, Cutting, Reining or Ranch Horse events. Riders cannot have gone down the fence in any cow horse class.

Equipment: Horses may be ridden in any NRCHA or AQHA approved western bridle, hackamore or snaffle regardless of horses' age. Rider may use two hands or one. Rider who chooses to start ride one-handed may go to two hands; however, the rider must return to one hand after the correction is made.

Reined Work: Same as NRCHA classes with the following exceptions: Rider may perform simple lead changes as specified by AQHA with no penalty. Rider does one or one and a half spins instead of number specified in the posted pattern.

Cow Work: Same as NRCHA Limited (boxing) classes with the following exception: If the horse and rider lose the cow more than two times the three-point penalty will continue to apply instead of the contestant receiving a no score.

Green Rider II:

Qualifications: The rider must meet and sign the NYRCHA Green Rider declaration. A rider is no longer eligible if he or she has won NYRCHA year-end highpoint for Green Rider II **twice**, regardless of the horse. As of the beginning of the show year (November 16th, 2021) the rider cannot have earned over \$250 in NRCHA, AQHA or ARHA cow horse or reining classes, nor can they have gone down the fence in **any** judged cow horse class.

Equipment: Horses six years and older must be shown one handed in NRCHA or AQHA age-appropriate headgear; however, rider may go two handed, but must return to one hand after the correction is made. Horses five years and younger may be shown two handed in a snaffle bit or hackamore.

Reined Work: Same as NRCHA classes with the following exceptions: Rider does two or two and a half spins instead of number specified in the posted pattern.

Cow Work: Same as NRCHA Limited (boxing) classes with the following exception: If the horse and rider lose the cow more than two times the three-point penalty will continue to apply instead of the contestant receiving a no score.