

How did the sport of Cutting come about?

During the Open Range era, cattle from adjacent ranches would mingle together while grazing. A few times of year, the neighboring ranches would work together to sort out their branded cattle. To do this, ranchers would travel with a group of horses trained for different tasks, known as a remuda. Within the remuda was the cutting horse.



These horses are naturally “cowy” and instinctively know how to handle the cattle. By having a horse that can instantly watch the cattle and predict their next move made the job of sorting easier and fun. These horses were a blessing to have.

WHAT IS THE SPORT OF CUTTING AND THE CUTTING HORSE COMMUNITY?

The sport of cutting involves a horse, a rider, and a herd of cattle. Since cattle are herd animals, a cow's natural instinct is to return to its herd if it ever becomes separated. The idea behind cutting, comes from this knowledge. A team of a horse and rider will ride into a herd and “cut” one cow from its herd. While all the unselected cattle congregate behind the horse and rider, this team will prevent the selected cow from returning to the herd. Within the rules of cutting, the rider will “quit” the cow and allow it to return to the herd and cut another as long as there is time remaining.



To accomplish this, the horse is required to have incredible intelligence and physical ability. Once the team gets a cow separated, a rider puts their hands down and no longer uses their reins. Cutting horses have a natural drive to read and handle cattle. Once trained the horse is able to think on their own and have the ability to anticipate and react to the cow's movements. During a competition, there are many factors that are judged, including how well the horse anticipates and reacts, making this the only equine competition where the horse is required to think on its own.



West Virginia Cutting Horse Association



**Do you have the ambition to
become a cutter?**



Become a Member

By becoming a member of this family oriented, unique, and highly competitive sport for all levels of showing, you will have the opportunity to participate in WVCHA approve events, earn point/money towards end of year awards, and get spectacular insight to the Cutting world.



Projects

- Fundraisers
- Cutting Clinics
- Promotional Events
- Educational Awareness
- Scholarships Pending



Roy Bauer, President

2023 SHOW SCHEDULE

- May 20th - 21st
JMJ Farms, Lewisburg WV
- July 8th - 9th
Camp Pioneer, Beverly WV
- August 12th - 13th
Camp Pioneer, Beverly WV
- October 7th - 8th
JMJ Farms, Lewisburg, WV

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