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## CHAPTER 14: REGIONAL & NATIONAL SHOW QUALIFICATIONS

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#### **QUAL 101. GENERAL RULES AND ELIGIBILITY (BOD 9/21 point 1 through 13.c)**

1. The qualification period is composed of:
  - a. The current year up to the final close of entries.
  - b. The previous 14 months (past year of 2023 plus November and December of 2022).
2. Compete in any qualifying AHA Recognized show in any region (which includes Concurrent, Pre-Show, Value Show).
3. An Amateur must qualify the horse to participate in an Amateur or Amateur Owner class. A Walk/Trot/Jog rider must qualify the horse (in Walk/Trot/Jog) to participate in a Walk/Trot/Jog class. (**Note:** The 10 & Under and 11 & Over Walk/Trot/Jog are separate sections, and qualifications must be earned in that section to qualify, a 10 & Under W/T/J qualification cannot be used for an 11 & Over W/T/J rider and vice versa).
4. Compete in a recognized section, i.e., HA/AA Western Pleasure, Arabian Country English Pleasure, Arabian Hunter Pleasure, etc.
5. Compete in any recognized class within that section (**Note:** for Dressage, each level is considered its own section).
6. Participate in that one recognized class in that section now qualifies you to compete in as many classes within that section at any one Regional Championship Show of your choice. See QUAL 119 for category requirements.
  - a. Example: Participate at a qualifying show in HA/AA Western Pleasure ATR qualifies for any and as many classes in HA/AA Western Pleasure if you meet the definition for an Amateur, Amateur Owner, Leveling, Jr. Horse, etc. The qualification could have been earned in Region 8 but was used for the Region 6 Championship Show.
7. Participate in two (2) AHA Qualifying Shows and compete at any and as many Regional Championships in that section. See QUAL 119 for category requirements.
8. Equitation is based on the rider and the rider must participate in their qualifying section. **Medal classes may be used to qualify for Regional Championships.**
  - a. Youth - National Championship Show, a rider must obtain:
    - i. A Medal, in a class of three or more entries; or

- ii. a participation qualification in AHA Medal classes (see current chart); or
- iii. a Top Five or better from corresponding classes in Regional Championship Shows, East Coast Championship or Pacific Slope Championship, or a Top Six or better from corresponding classes in Eastern or Western Canadian Breeders Championship Classes.

- b. Adult - National Championship Show, a rider must obtain:
  - i. a participation qualification in classes requiring a pattern; or
  - ii. a Top Five or better from corresponding classes in Regional Championship Shows, East Coast Championship or Pacific Slope Championship, or a Top Six or better from corresponding classes in Eastern or Western Canadian Breeders Championship Classes.
9. Participation can also be used to qualify in Specialty classes and can be obtained through Open Shows (and placings for Working Western/Dressage/Western Dressage).
10. A National Show Commission has the right to place restrictions on cross entry into classes.
11. The USEF/EC family definition and two distinct non-family owner definition must be adhered to.
12. East Coast and Pacific Slope (Top Five), Eastern and Western Canadian Breeders (Top Six) all count as Regional Placings.
13. Participation definition:
  - a. In a class where horses compete together, participated means a horse/rider/driver/handler must have been entered, shown, and judged (must attempt to perform at all required gaits both ways of the ring and remain in the ring until excused by the judge). In other words, finishing the class.
  - b. In a class where horses compete individually, participated means a horse/rider must have completed the individual requirements of the class and be eligible to receive a score.
  - c. Horses which are excused/disqualified/eliminated/received a "no score" are not considered "adjudicated" and would not receive credit for participation.
  - d. Cutting, Herd Work, Working Cow Horse and Reined Cow Horse classes require participation. Participation is defined as entered, shown and scored in that class. A zero is considered a 0 score and a NS or no score is not considered a score. (BOD 11/17) Refer to QUAL 119.4 for waived qualifications on cow classes.
14. Only classes listed in the AHA Class List will be used to qualify for Regional and National Classes.
15. Arabian, Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Championship classes, a horse must:
  - a. Be issued a Certificate of Registration from the Arabian Horse Association, the Canadian Arabian Horse Registry, or the Canadian Partbred Arabian Register.
  - b. For Regional/National Shows, be qualified in an AHA Recognized Show/Section that was held within the preceding calendar year and that period of the current year prior to the closing date of entries of the show in which the Regional/National Championship class is held.
16. It is the responsibility of the person(s) signing the Official Entry Form to verify that the horse is eligible to be entered and compete in the Regional/National Championship Class. **Exhibitors are responsible for their qualifications.**
17. When a horse is already qualified and the qualifications are increased, the horse must then earn the additional required qualifications needed to enter that Regional or National Show.
18. Qualifications for new classes added or any class change to the National Championship Shows will become effective **November 1**, unless otherwise specified.
19. When a horse's ownership changes, the horse's Regional and/or National qualifications go with that horse.
20. All classes that have no qualifications or whose qualifications have been waived for Nationals shall also have qualifications waived for Regionals. (BOD 8/11)

21. Participation of horse and rider/driver/handler will be recorded and may be used multiple times to qualify a horse and/or rider for Regionals and/or Nationals up until the expiration of the qualification period. "Multiple times" are defined as shows and not classes within a particular show, i.e., participation qualification may be used for a Western Pleasure class at both Youth/Mid-Summer Nationals (JO) and U.S. Nationals (AO). The same qualification can also be used for a Western Pleasure JT and JO at Youth/Mid-Summer Nationals.
22. In accordance with historical precedence, the East Coast Championships, Pacific Slope Championships, Eastern and Western Canadian Breeders Championships Shows are entitled to:
  - a. Retain their specific qualification requirements.
  - b. Retain their respective schedule of classes being fewer than the requirements for Regional Championship Shows.
23. **Canada's National Arabian Championship qualifications are waived and will be revisited in the future.**

#### **QUAL 102. CLASSES THAT DO NOT COUNT FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

1. Classes will not count unless they use an AHA Approved Scoring System or successfully apply for and receive dispensation (Refer to COMP 510 – DISPENSATION) (Res. 20-13).
2. Classes which do not have a corresponding AHA class code will not count. (CAC 5/13) Also, Top Five placings in Regional Championship classes that do not correspond with classes and/or sections offered at the National Shows will not qualify for any National Championship class. (Refer to AHA Class List and Sections)
3. Mixed sex in Breeding and In-Hand classes will not qualify for Regional and National classes, **Exceptions:**
  - a. Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian colts (One Year & Under) which can be shown in yearling or weanling gelding classes and in Junior Gelding Horse Championships. (Note: Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Colts One Year & Under are not eligible to advance to further Championships. For more information refer to USEF Rules).
  - b. For horses competing in Ranch Conformation, horses in each division may be shown together as one class or divided into Purebred, Half-Arabian, Stallions, Mares, Geldings, Open, Amateur, Youth, or in any combination deemed appropriate by show management. (Res. 15-20)
4. Local Futurities.
5. Any class added to an AHA Recognized Show or Section that is not in compliance with AHA rules.
6. A National Top Ten or a Top Ten from any other show does not qualify for future Regionals or Nationals.
7. The following do not qualify a horse for Regional Championship classes:
  - a. Top Five, Champion or Reserve Champion from Regional, East Coast or Pacific Slope Championship classes.
  - b. Top Six, Champion or Reserve Champion from the Eastern or Western Canadian Breeders Championship classes.

#### **QUAL 103. NATIONAL RULES**

1. To compete in National Championship classes:
  - a. Horses must be one year of age or older for Breeding/In-Hand classes at U.S., **CNAC**, and Sport Horse Nationals. **For Performance Halter and Ranch Horse Conformation, horses must be three years of age or older.**
  - b. Be three years of age or older for Breeding/In-Hand, **Performance Halter, and Ranch Horse Conformation** classes at Youth/Mid-Summer.
  - c. Be three years of age or older for performance classes (**includes Showmanship and In-Hand Trail**) at U.S., **CNAC**, Sport Horse, and Youth/Mid-Summer Nationals. (BOD 2/11)
  - d. Yearlings and 2 Year Old's may only compete in the age specific National class (**excludes any riding or driving classes**); cross entry into Open, ATR/H or AOTR/H is not permitted.
2. Horses must be properly entered in the National Championship class prior to the final deadline of entries on the appropriate entry form found in the Omnibus or the AHA web site (**exception: see Canada's National Arabian Championship website arabiannationals.com for entry information**). If not qualified at the time

the Official Entry Form is submitted or AHA cannot verify qualifications when acknowledgements are sent, the owner/agent must provide a completed Verification of Qualification Form prior to receiving an exhibitor number with the date, show or event and class. For online entries see AHA Omnibus.

3. For Nationals, the closing date of entries will be determined by that National Show Commission. (Res. 50-12)

#### **QUAL 104. OPEN QUALIFYING**

Cutting, Working Cow Horse, Reining, Reined Cow Horse, Ranch Horse, Working Hunters, Jumpers, Hunter Hack, Dressage, Eventing, Combined Driving and Carriage Pleasure Driving, Sport Horse In-Hand may qualify in an Open Qualifying USEF/EC Competition (participation). Exhibitors must fulfill all requirements according to the Chapter 15 "AHA Open Qualifying Competitions". (BOD 8/02) (BOD 5/07)

#### **QUAL 105. QUALIFICATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY PROTEST PROCEDURES – NATIONAL CLASSES**

1. Any deficiency in a horse's qualifications or eligibility for any National Championship class must be protested, if at all, pursuant to the USEF/EC rules for protests within 48 hours after the conclusion of the National Show involved. If the person protesting was aware of, or should have been aware of, the horse's deficient qualifications or eligibility prior to the expiration of that 48-hour period. In appropriate and clear cases brought before it no later than 48 hours after the conclusion of the show, the National Show Commission for the National Show involved may, upon 12 hours' notice of an opportunity to be heard, bar from competition, or remove and redistribute any titles and associated prizes won at that show, by any horse determined to be ineligible or unqualified for the class or classes involved.
2. Any deficiency in a horse's qualifications or eligibility for any National Championship class that is discovered by the protester later than 48 hours after the conclusion of the National Show, and could not have been discovered sooner, may be the subject of a protest to the Executive Committee. Any such protest must be made in writing no later than 12 months after the conclusion of the National Show for which the horse's qualifications or eligibility are alleged to have been deficient. In appropriate cases, the Executive Committee may, upon 7 days' notice of an opportunity to be heard, remove, and redistribute any titles and associated prizes won at a National Show by any horse determined to have been ineligible or unqualified for the class or classes involved.
3. No protest of any deficiency in a horse's qualifications or eligibility for any National Championship class brought later than 12 months after the conclusion of the National Show involved will be considered, except as part of a complaint which has been forwarded to the Ethical Practice Review Board alleging an ethical violation.
4. **No protest of any deficiency in a horse's qualifications or eligibility for any Canada's National Arabian Championship class can be filed due to the waiving of qualifications.**

#### **QUAL 106. ARABIAN BREEDERS SWEEPSTAKES – REGIONAL AND NATIONAL CLASSES**

##### **GENERAL**

1. Refer to the Chapter 18, Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes for complete program rules and enrollment fees.

##### **REGIONAL**

2. Regional Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian yearlings that have won a 1<sup>st</sup> place in a Sweepstakes Class in one Regional Show cannot compete in the same class in any other Regional Show.

##### **NATIONAL**

3. Sweepstakes Yearlings must qualify for U.S. Nationals by earning a Top Ten ribbon in the Regional Yearling Sweepstakes class. For Sport Horse Nationals, no qualifications are required other than the yearlings must be Breeding Entries.
4. No qualifications are required for the ABS Dressage Prospect Incentive, ABS \$15,000 Green Working Hunter Derby Championship, ABS Performance Halter and ABS Amateur Owner Jackpot classes. All participants must be entered into the Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Program as Breeding/Original Entries. Refer to SWP 116.

## QUAL 107. AMATEUR AND AMATEUR OWNER QUALIFICATIONS FOR CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

It is the responsibility of the Amateur / Amateur Owner to abide by this rule.

### AMATEUR

1. All horses entering any Regional or National Amateur/Amateur Owner (AT/AO, AAT/AAO, JT/JO and Select/Choice/Elite Amateur/Amateur Owner) must have been qualified by an Amateur/Amateur Owner. Amateurs can be of any age.

### AMATEUR OWNERS

2. To compete in an Amateur Owner Championship class, the rider/driver/handler must be an Amateur Owner or fulfill the family definition for owner or co-owner rule under USEF.

## QUAL 108. BREEDING AND IN-HAND QUALIFICATIONS

1. In Breeding classes, stallions must earn Breeding qualifications in Stallion Breeding classes, mares must earn Breeding qualifications in Mare Breeding classes and geldings must earn In-Hand qualifications in Gelding In-Hand classes.
2. Qualifications earned as a stallion will be carried forth with the horse as a gelding if the horse is castrated.

## QUAL 109. EQUITATION QUALIFICATIONS

1. A rider need not use the horse on which the rider qualified. However, the horse used must be a registered Arabian, Half-Arabian, or an Anglo-Arabian, and riders must use the same horse throughout all phases of the competition unless the show veterinarian certifies that the horse used at the beginning is unsound and the required forms are filed at the horse Show Office.
2. Refer to QUAL 113 for qualifications pertaining to the age of rider. The age of the rider determines the corresponding National Championship age group class entry.

**Example:** Providing the required qualifications have been met (within the equitation qualification time frame), a 13-year-old rider can advance to the 14-18 age group without re-qualifying.

3. In the Equitation Division riders must qualify in the section/class in which they are entered. Equitation sections are Saddle Seat, Reining/Western Seat, Hunter Seat Over Obstacles, Hunter Seat Not to Jump, Western Horsemanship, Dressage Seat. (BOD 5/06)

## QUAL 110. NATIONAL FUTURITIES

1. For information regarding qualifications for the National Breeding and In-Hand Futurity, refer to Chapter 19 on the National Halter Futurity for program rules and enrollment fees.
2. For information regarding qualifications for the National Performance Futurity and Maturity, refer to Chapter 20 on the National Performance Futurity and Maturity for program rules and enrollment fees.

## ~~QUAL 111. JACKPOT QUALIFICATIONS FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES~~

### ~~THE AHA CANADIAN NATIONAL ARABIAN GELDING, FILLY & COLT 2-YEAR-OLD JACKPOT CLASSES (BOD 11/05)~~

1. ~~Must qualify using the required participation from the AHA Recognized Class list in the appropriate qualifying section, Regional Top Five or an Eastern/Western Canadian Breeders Top Six. (BOD 11/12)~~

## QUAL 112. LEAD LINE QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGIONAL AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

The Lead Line Class exhibitors shall be at least two years of age and have not reached their 7th birthday (USEF/EC rules). The class requires no Regional or National qualifications.

## QUAL 113. NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FROM NATIONAL SHOWS

Beginning in the year 2020, AHA Recognized National Champions are qualified for two additional years and may re-enter that National Championship class. "That" class is defined as an AT/AAT/JT going to an AT/AAT/JT or an AO/AAO/JO going to an AO/AAO/JO or an Open going to an Open within the same section. Reserve National Champions are qualified for an additional year to re-enter that National

Championship class (BOD 8/19). Previous 2019 and earlier AHA Recognized National Champions are qualified for life and may re-enter that National Championship class. Previous Lifetime qualifications earned may be used at any National Championship Show (if the class is offered). (BOD 3/12) ~~Championships and Reserve Championships earned at Canada's National Arabian Championship cannot be used as qualifications for any other National Show.~~

### **Exceptions:**

1. UPHA Equitation riders must re-qualify each year. (Refer to UPHA for complete rules and age of rider)
2. An Equitation rider qualified in 18 & under is not affected by a change in the age of the rider. Breed can be either Arabian or Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian as the qualification goes to the rider/handler.
3. An Amateur Owner qualified horse is not affected by a change in the age of the Amateur Owner Rider (AAO or JO).
4. An Amateur qualified horse is not affected by a change in the age of the Amateur Rider (AAT or JT).
5. A National Championship earned in a Junior Horse Performance class will qualify that horse in that Junior Horse Performance class for as long as that horse is deemed a Junior Horse.
6. Beginning in year 2020, a National Champion in Dressage in an Arabian/Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian National Championship class is qualified for two additional years in that class including split Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian classes. A National Championship in Dressage in an Arabian or Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian class is qualified for two additional years in that class including combined Arabian/Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian classes. (BOD 3/12) See above for 2019 and earlier Lifetime Champions. (BOD 8/19)
7. A National Champion or Reserve National Champion in Sport Horse in an Arabian or Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian National Championship class may use this qualification for either Dressage Type or Hunter Type (but not both) when classes are split by type. (BOD 3/14)
8. The U.S. National Champion Arabian Open Senior Stallion or Arabian Open Senior Mare is no longer allowed to participate at the U.S. Nationals in their respective divisions after achieving said title. (BOD 11/15)
9. ~~The Canadian National Champion Arabian Open Senior Stallion or Arabian Open Senior Mare is no longer allowed to participate at the Canadian Nationals in their respective divisions after achieving said title. (BOD 11/15)~~
10. In Performance Halter, a horse does not obtain National qualifications from previous National Champion and Reserve Champion titles. To qualify, you must follow the rules outlined in REQ 112.

## QUAL 114. PERFORMANCE HALTER QUALIFICATIONS

Must qualify using the criteria outlined in REQ 112.

## QUAL 115. REINING QUALIFICATIONS

Placings in the Non-Pro Divisions do not affect eligibility in the Open Divisions. Refer to USEF/EC Working Western Section, Reining Horse Class Specifications for Open and Non-Pro criteria. (Res. 42-10)

## QUAL 116. REINED COW HORSE QUALIFICATIONS

### GENERAL

1. **Limited Reined Cow/Boxing classes** - Open to any qualified rider that has not taken a cow down the fence 3 actual runs in any judged class or event (classes in which a rider "goes down the fence" include Working Cow and Reined Cow Horse classes. A rider does not "go down the fence" in a Limited Reined Cow Horse/Boxing class or in Box-Drive-Box class). Being entered in a class that includes fence work will be counted as going down the fence REGARDLESS if the rider boxed the cow and pulled up before the run was completed. (Res. 35-10)
2. Non-Pro Limited/Boxing Competitors (50 years of age and older) – this class is open to approved Non-Pro Limited/Boxing riders who comply with all eligibility rules (see NRCHA Non-Pro eligibility rules/USEF Amateur rules). (Res. 16-15)
  - a. May not go down the fence again in any judged class(es) or event(s) except for horse sales.
  - b. May fall back into the Non-Pro Limited Reined Cow Horse/Boxing division/class only once.

## QUAL 117. UPHA ARABIAN BREEDS CHALLENGE CUP QUALIFICATIONS FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

UPHA Equitation riders must re-qualify each year on either a registered Arabian, Half-Arabian, or Anglo-Arabian. Refer to the United Professional Horseman's Association for program rules and qualifications. Phone (859) 231-5070.

## QUAL 118. 10 & UNDER WALK-TROT/JOG QUALIFICATIONS FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

The Walk-Trot/Jog Pleasure and Equitation classes for Arabians, Half-Arabians, and Anglo-Arabians are for exhibitors aged 10 and under. A rider must never have been judged in a class at a Recognized or Licensed Competition that required a canter or lope (**Exception:** Short Stirrup Reining Riders and Cross Rail 10 & Under Riders – see USEF/EC). (Res. 13-15)

1. A combined Walk-Trot/Jog Equitation/Pleasure class or a Walk-Trot/Jog class that does not specify whether it is a pleasure or equitation class will not be recorded.
2. Dressage 10 & under Walk-Trot classes may qualify using the USDF Intro to Dressage (Walk-Trot) tests.

## QUAL 119. QUALIFICATION CATEGORIES (BOD 9/21)

Refer to the complete qualification chart on the AHA website <https://www.arabianhorses.org/competition/aha-recognized/qualifications/>

**Note: Canada's National Arabian Championship qualifications are waived and will be revisited in the future.**

1. Category I – Main Ring (Including Equitation/Horsemanship>Showmanship. See Category II for Youth Dressage Seat and Hunter Seat Over Obstacles Equitation) See QUAL 101.8.a for all further Equitation qualifications. **Note:** If you class is not specifically named in any of the other categories, it falls into Category I.

- a. Regional Qualifications:
  - i. Participate at one (1) AHA Qualifying Show to compete at one Regional Championship of your choice
  - ii. Participate at two (2) AHA Qualifying Shows to compete at any and as many Regional Championships

- b. National Qualifications:
  - i. Regional Top 5 or better or participate at three (3) AHA Approved Shows (one of which may be a participation from a Regional Championship)

2. Category II – Main Ring Exceptions/Sport Horse/Working Western (cannot receive a "no score")

- AAOOTH Purebred Yearling Gelding - (Regional Yearling Sweepstakes classes do not count as a qualifying class for Nationals either as a Top Five or participation)
- Country Pleasure Driving
- Dressage Seat Equitation – Youth only (see QUAL 101.8.a for Youth Medal Classes)
- Junior Horses (unless affected by another category below)
- Park Horse
- Pleasure Driving
- Walk Trot - 10 and Under/11 & Over (Pleasure, Equitation, Ranch and other)
- Cutting
- Half-Arabian Yearling – Non-Sweepstakes (Regional Yearling Sweepstakes classes do not count as a qualifying class for Nationals either as a Top Five or participation)
- Hunter Seat Over Obstacles Equitation – Youth only (see QUAL 101.8.a for Youth Medal Classes)
- Ranch Cutting
- Ranch Rail
- Ranch Reining
- Ranch Riding
- Ranch Trail
- Versatility Ranch Riding

- Reining
- Trail
- Sport Horse In-Hand
- Sport Horse Under Saddle
- Sport Horse Show Hack

\*\*See Category IV for Youth cattle classes\*\*

- a. Regional Qualifications:
  - i. Participate at one (1) AHA Qualifying Show to compete at any and as many Regional Championships
- b. National Qualifications:
  - i. Regional Top 5 or better or participate at two (2) AHA Approved Shows or "Open Qualifying Shows" (for Working Western) (one of which may be a participation from a Regional Championship)
3. Category III – Program Enrollment
  - ABS Yearling Classes (Arabian Filly/Colt/Gelding) – Breeding Entry only and received a Top 10 from Regional ABS Yearling class (HA/AA Filly/Gelding offered at Regional only)
  - ABS Sport Horse Yearling Classes – Breeding Entry only
  - **ABS Canadian Yearling Classes – Breeding Entry only**
  - ABS AAOTR Jackpots (Arabian and HA/AA Western PI, County PI, Hunter PI, English PI, Reining) – Breeding or Original Entry
  - ABS AAO Performance Halter – Breeding Entry or Original Entry – must be adjudicated at Nationals in a Performance Class
  - ABS Sport Horse Under Saddle AO Jackpot – Breeding or Original Entry
  - ABS Dressage Prospect Incentive – Breeding or Original Entry
  - ABS Green Working Hunter Derby – Breeding or Original Entry
  - Performance Futurity/Maturity/Derby – program enrollment
  - Breeding/In-Hand Futurity – program enrollment
  - Sport Horse 3-Year-Old In-Hand Jackpot – pay to play
4. Category IV – Other - Regional and Nationals - No Qualifications
  - Carriage Driving (all)
  - Combined Training (all)
  - Dressage Seat Equitation – Adults only
  - Green Working Hunter
  - Herd Work (waived for competition years 2025 & 2026)
  - Hunter Hack (all)
  - Hunter Seat Equitation Over Fences – Adults only
  - Hunter Seat Over Obstacles ATR (waived for competition years 2025 & 2026)
  - **In-Hand Trail (English & Western) waived for competition years 2025 & 2026**
  - Jumpers
  - Limited Reined Cow Horse/Boxing (waived for competition years 2025 & 2026)
  - Prospect Performance Halter (2 years of age and under)
  - Reined Cow Horse
  - **Sport Horse Showmanship (waived for competition years 2025 & 2026)**
  - Versatility Ranch Horse Cow Work (waived for competition years 2025 & 2026)
  - Versatility Ranch Working Cow (waived for competition years 2025 & 2026)
  - Western Dressage Hack (waived for competition years 2025 & 2026)
  - Western Dressage Suitability (waived for competition years 2025 & 2026)
  - Working Cow Horse
  - Working Hunter
  - Youth Herd Work
  - Youth Reined Cow Horse and Limited Reined Cow Horse/Boxing
5. Category V – Dressage/Western Dressage - Horse/Rider must not be eliminated

- a. Regional Qualifications:
  - i. Participate at one (1) AHA Qualifying Show or "Open Qualifying Show" to compete at any and as many Regional Championships
- b. National Qualifications:
  - i. Regional Top 5 or better or participate at two (2) AHA Approved Shows or "Open Qualifying Shows" (for Working Western) (one of which may be a participation from a Regional Championship)
  - ii. For FEI - Regional Top 5 or better or participate at one (1) AHA Approved Shows or "Open Qualifying Show".
- c. Freestyle – Must have a Minimum Score of 63% in Fourth Level and below, and 60% for FEI Levels, in highest test in level or higher level.
- d. See Category IV for Western Dressage Hack and Suitability qualifications. (BOD 11/24)

**Note:** To qualify for:

- **Performance Halter**, the horse must have been entered and shown in a USEF/EC recognized or AHA recognized performance class (Under Saddle and/or Driving) at the same show as the one in which the performance halter class is being held or have completed an AHA sanctioned Endurance ride or a Competitive Trail Ride recognized by AHA or sanctioned by an AHA recognized Competitive Trail riding organization in the past 90 days.
- **Ranch Horse Conformation**, the horse must be shown in at least one riding class in that division at the same show.

#### QUAL 120. CLASS EXTENSIONS AND DEFINITIONS

1. **Governing Bodies and Rule Books** - AHA, USEF, USDF, NRHA, NRCHA, RSNC, ADS, NCHA, USTPA. Any show may hold any class that is governed by any of the Rule books or Association rules that AHA recognizes.
2. **Standard Definitions** - Breeding/In Hand - based on Horse Ages (May include specialty classes like Jackpot). All Ages, 2 & Over, 2 & Under, 1 & Under, or any age over and/or under. Yearling, 2 yrs, 3 yrs, 4 yrs, or any combination of years (2 & 3 yrs, 3 & 4 yrs, etc.). Sport Horse may or may not be divided according to type - Dressage or Hunter.
3. **Divisions Based on Horse** - May be restricted by specific age or open to all. Open / Mares / Stallions / Geldings / Maiden / Novice / Limit Horse / Ladies / Gentleman / Junior Horse. Sport Horse Under Saddle may or may not be divided according to type - Dressage or Hunter.
4. **Divisions Based on Rider/Driver/Handler Status** - Amateur Owner / Amateur / Amateur Owner Trained & Shown / Select / Choice / Elite / Primetime / Maiden Rider / Novice Rider / Limit Rider. May be restricted by sex (Ladies, Gents) age groups or open to all. Note: Some descriptions above are only available to Rider's.
5. **Cutting** – Open, Non-Pro, Novice, Rookie.
6. **Performance Based on Seats** – All Seats may be run together, separate or a combination of types, i.e., Western, English, Country English, and Hunter.
7. **Carriage Pleasure Driving** - Divisions / Extensions can be based on Horse (HS), Driver (RS).
  - a. Pleasure (CD & PD) - Turnout, Working, Park, Reinsmanship, Freestyle Reinsmanship, Super Reinsmanship.
  - b. Combination (CD & COMB) - Drive & Ride, Hunter, Sport Tandem.
  - c. Obstacle (CD & OBST)
    - 1) Specialty Time Comp - Scurry, Town & Country, Double Jeopardy, Reverse Psychology, Pick Your Route, Your Route/My Route.
    - 2) High-Point Comp - Fault and out, Progressive, Gambler's Choice.
    - 3) Fault Competitions - Cross Country, Fault Obstacle.
  - d. Driven Dressage (DD) - Training, Preliminary, Intermediate, Arena Driving Trial.
8. **Combined Driving (DC)** USEF – Based on level, Intermediate, Preliminary, Training.
9. **Working Western** - All Horse / Rider Status classes plus Limited, Bitted / Bosal - Hackamore. May also include Freestyle.
10. **Working Hunter** – Provides the maximum fence height (Res. 8-15)

- Working Hunter Warm Up – 2' – 2'6"/Spread Max 2'6"
- Working Hunter – Open, JTR, ATR, AATR - 2'
- Combined Working Hunter - 2'3" and 2' 6" (Classes may be combined or run as separate classes – unrated class)
- Modified Working Hunter - Open – 2'9"
- Regular Working Hunter - Open – 3'0"
- Working Hunter Classic – Open
- Working Hunter Derby
- Green Working Hunter Open – 2'6" – See USEF for eligibility requirements
- Green Working Hunter Open - 2'9" - See USEF for eligibility requirements
- 14.2 HH and Under Working Hunter - Open – 2'6"
- 14.2 HH and Under Working Hunter JTR/AATR/ATR – 2'3"
- 14.2 HH and Under Green Hunter - Open – 2'3"
- Modified Working Hunter, JTR/ATR/AATR – 2'3"
- Junior/Amateur Working Hunter JTR/ATR/AATR – 2'6"
- Junior/Amateur Owner Working Hunter - JOTR/ACOTR/AAOTR – 2'9"
- Cross Rails not to exceed 18"
- 11. **Jumper** - Based on Fence Heights
  - Open - .8m, .9m, 1m, 1.1m
  - AO / AT (All ages) - .8m, .9m, 1m, 1.1m
  - Novice - .7m, .8m, .9m
- 12. **Eventing** – Based on level, Novice, Training, Preliminary or above, Combined.
- 13. **Western Dressage** – Based on levels = Intro, Basic, Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4, Level 5. Plus, may be based on Horse and/or Rider divisions.
- 14. **Ranch Sorting** – Based on rating system. See RSNC for rating definitions.

#### QUAL 121. AHA CLASS/SECTION LIST

See class list and sections on the AHA website under Competitions/Resources/Qualifications/Recognized Sections