

## WCHA Ranch Horse Challenge

- The goal of the ranch horse challenge is to promote interest in the ranch horse classes, by creating a venue for ranch horse enthusiasts to compete for money in both open and nonpro divisions. The ranch horse challenge will consist of a riding pattern as well as a halter class, where the combined scores will determine the placing.
- The ranch riding portion of the challenge will count for 60% of the total score. The halter portion of the challenge will count for 40% of the total score.
- A point system will be used to determine the class score based on entries in the class. If there are 22 entries in a class, first place will win 22 points, second will earn 21 points, third will earn 20 points, all the way through 22 place will earn 1 point.
- The ranch horse challenge will be open to all breeds. As a bonus, AQHA exhibitors will be able to earn points in the halter. There is a separate Aqha halter special event running at the show.
- The entry fee for the ranch horse challenge is \$300 which includes the OPEN division entry, the stall, and the WCHA membership. To add a nonpro rider the additional fee is \$100.
- The WCHA will retain \$150 of each entry fee for costs associated with event, the remaining monies will be applied to the purse for each division.
- The purse will be divided 75% among the top 10 challenge competitors in each division, open and non-pro. The remaining purse 25% will be paid to top 10 placing open and non pro exhibitors in ranch riding portion of the challenge.
- There will also be a special award for the top three nonpro placing competitors in the open division of the challenge competition. In addition the top ten placings in each portion of the challenge; halter and ranch riding, will receive awards. Every entry will receive a participation goodie bag when checking in.
- The prize list will include a trophy saddle, trophy halters, trophy tack in addition to purse winnings.

Monday May 18, 2015

- Ranch horse challenge exhibitors will present their horses in both events in working tack. Silver is discouraged. Hoof polish and tail extensions are not permitted. Mane braiding and banding is not permitted. For the halter portion of the event exhibitors are encouraged to show in a rope halter and plain lead. Plain leather halters are permitted. Working attire is encouraged for all exhibitors as well.
- Exhibitors may present their horse in any legal style/type of bridle/hackamore. However snaffle bits and bosals are to be presented two handed, with no restriction as to age of horse. Curb bits are to be presented one handed. The use of 'two rein' bit and bosal combination is acceptable. However, Only one hand may be used on the reins and hands must not be changed. Any number of fingers between reins will be permitted.
- Four judges will be used for the ranch horse challenge. The low score will be dropped from each exhibitor. The remaining three scores from the ranch riding portion as well as all three scores from the halter portion will be used to determine final placing.
- The ranch riding portion of the challenge will utilize elements from existing ranch horse patterns that highlight the agility of the ranch horse. Natural obstacles will also be incorporated to demonstrate the challenges presented to ranch horses in navigating outside the arena in an open setting.