

**BLUE MOUNTAIN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION CUTTING
HORSE CONTEST RULE BOOK
EXPLANATION OF CLASSES AND POINT SYSTEM
REVISED FEB 2009**

The Blue Mountain Quarter Horse Association- Cutting Division (BMCC)-was organized to promote the sport of cutting and the cutting horse events. In our events we provide a safe environment to increase cutting knowledge and awareness, to include improving horsemanship skills. We are a grassroots organization, and as such encourage and assist cutters of all ability levels.

The rules of our organization are patterned after the National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA). Our shows are judged using NCHA "Rules for Judging Cutting Horse Contests". Exceptions are the "1st year rider 1st year horse, \$300 Novice-Novice and the \$500 Novice, which are discussed in detail later.

CLASSES

OPEN – Any horse/any rider – no dollar limit on either.

NON PRO- No dollar limit on horse or rider, but must own horse.

\$10,000 LIMIT RIDER – Any horse. Rider with less then \$10,000 in earnings.

\$5,000 NOVICE – Any rider/\$5,000 limit on horse.

\$2,000 LIMIT RIDER – Any horse. Rider with less the \$2,000 in earnings

\$1,000 NOVICE – Any rider/\$1,000 limit on horse

YOUTH – Any horse. No dollar limit. Youth does not have to own horse. Youth must be 18 Years or younger at January 1 of the current cutting season.

\$500 NOVICE – Any rider/\$500 limit on horse

\$500 LIMIT RIDER – Any horse. Rider with less the \$500.00 in earnings..

-300 NOVICE NOVICE - \$300 limit on horse and rider earnings.

1ST YEAR RIDER 1ST YEAR HORSE – Horse or rider never shown before.

NOTE: BMCC works off of the "HONOR SYSTEM". If any rider or horse is in an inappropriate class, all points will be forfeited in that class. Horses are not required to graduate from the OPEN, NON PRO, or YOUTH classes.

In the NON PRO, \$10,000LT RIDER, \$2,000LT RIDER, \$500LT RIDER, 1ST YEAR RIDER 1ST YEAR HORSE, and the Youth classes, the points are credited to the rider.

Year-end awards in all classes will be given to 3-5 places, depending on the number of entries in that given class.

BMCC GOVERNING BODY OFFICERS/BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Below is the detailed outline of all Officer and Board of Directors duties and responsibilities. The 2005 board put a lot of thought and detail into the structure of the governing body. It was submitted at the 2005 general membership and passed.

Each board member will be responsible for putting together committees needed and recruiting help to carry out their assigned responsibilities.

A minimum of five out of the seven of the governing council will be required to vote on any issue or motion that requires a vote.

President Term: 2 yrs Voting privileges: No, but will have tie breaking vote

The president will oversee all other officers, board members, appointees, follow up and keep track of committees, making sure they are all meeting their objectives, call and conduct all general membership and board meetings. The president would also be responsible for securing insurance for all club activities and making sure the by-laws are kept up to date. The president will also be responsible for setting dates and locations for all upcoming shows with approval from the board. Will also be available at all shows to mediate and help settle any disputes.

The president will move into the position from the office of Vice President. If the Vice President is unable to fulfill this, then the position would open first to the board members. If no board member will step into the position, then the nomination would go out to the general membership.

Vice President Term: 2 yr Voting privileges: Yes

The Vice President would be elected from the general membership, with the intention of moving into the office of the president at the end of his/her term and serve as overall show manager, recruiting and overseeing individual show managers, grounds and equipment set up and be available at the shows to mediate or settle any disputes. The Vice President would also take over Presidential duties if or when the President is unable to do so.

Secretary/Treasurer Term: 1 year Voting privileges: Yes

The Secretary/Treasurer would be an elected position and be responsible for taking and submitting minutes from all meetings, taking entries, class draws, relaying entry information to person in charge of cattle, pre-draws or prepare entry paper work for show office manager.

Will also be responsible for all banking transactions compiling treasurer reports, reconciling entry monies, paying bills. Re-appointment would be on a yearly basis to reaffirm both the commitment of the office holder and the club's support of the office holder. Also responsible that the Check Book be Present at all shows.

Board position #1 Term: 3 Yrs Voting privileges: Yes
Primary responsibility:Cattle

This position would be in charge of procuring cattle for all shows, practices, clinics, etc. and negotiating terms and contract for the cattle, transportation, handling fees, etc., and would be responsible for recruiting any help needed for managing the cattle at the show.

Board position #2 Term: 3 Yrs Voting privileges: Yes
Primary responsibility:Judges

This board position would be in charge of hiring judges for all shows, making arrangements for judge/clinician contracts and accommodations and travel arrangements.

Board position #3 Term: 3 yrs Voting privileges: Yes
Primary responsibility>Show Office Manager

This board position would be in charge of making sure the show office is manned either by themselves and/or with someone to take entry fees, including the draw if done at the show, and keeping the judge supplied with all he/she needs, making any necessary changes in entry paperwork, recruiting timers and announcers, posting results etc. Also in obtaining and handing out payments from the treasurer to the judges, facility, and cattle.

Board position #4 Term: 3 yrs Voting privileges: Yes
Primary responsibility:Concessions, year end banquet, and year end awards.

This board position would be in charge of lining up concessions, at shows, clinics and any other activities and making arrangements for the year end banquet and getting that information to the newsletter person. This position would be in charge of setting up and chairing an awards committee.

Board position #5 Term: 3 yr Voting privileges: Yes
Primary Responsibility: Newsletter

This position would be in charge of writing the newsletter. To include proper BMCC heading and primary club information. Listing of all officer/board members' names, Phone numbers and terms. Next show information including entry info, class info etc. as well as listing the upcoming show schedule. Receiving the points in a timely matter to be included in the newsletter. Adding any newsworthy information about the club, or members adding classified if need be.

Point's keeper Term: Appointed Voting privileges: No
Responsibility:
 Compile and submit show results and submit in a timely manor to person writing the newsletter.

Outgoing President Term: 2 yr, advisory Voting privileges: NO
Primary Responsibility: Ex Officio/Advisory

To be available to the president in an advisory capacity. Also to act as a floater for all board positions if needed.

ASSOCIATION SHOW RULES

Section A.:

A-1. An individual must be a member of the Blue Mountain Cutters in order to compete at any show. Owners of horses being shown by others must also be current members of the Blue Mountain Cutters.

A-2. A show that is approved by the BMC will be judged by the rules of the National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA), and the current rules of the Blue Mountain Cutters.

A-3. NCHA rules dictate that the judges have no contact with contestants, trainers, owners or agents before or during the show. In addition, a judge shall not discuss scores, events, or related happenings for a period of 30 days after a show. During their time on the show grounds, judges, on other the ordinary greetings are to speak with no one, other then show management personnel. Because our organization is "grassroots" It is an educational as well competitive forum. Judges by their nature are well-informed and can be an asset from a teaching standpoint. As a result, contestants at BMC shows may converse with the judge regarding their runs AFTER THEY HAVE FINNISHED FOR THE DAY, and only between classes, at lunch, or after the show. This option is at the judges discretion, and if he or she chooses not to discuss runs with contestants, it is his/hers prerogative. AT NO TIME WILL ANYONE SPEAK TO A JUDGE DURING A RUN.

- A-4. The show management, without exception, has the right to disqualify or refuse entry to any contestant for any actions of misconduct towards the judge, the management or the employees.
- A-5. Horses are to be judged on performance only, regardless of conformation, sex Age, color, appearance, previous performance, or breed.
- A-6. All riders are required to wear a western hat and western attire anytime they are in the arena. This applies whether or not you are on foot or horseback.
- A-7. Members of the Association may help at any show and are strongly encouraged to do so.
- A-8. Any comments about the performance of the horse working must not be made within hearing distance to the judge.
- A-9. A contestant shall not be allowed to abuse or mistreat his horse in any manner in the arena or on the show grounds.
- A-10. No Training devices are allowed while classifying or showing. This rule does not prohibit any of the four "helping" horses from being ridden with training devices such as a running martingale. If it is determined that a rider used illegal equipment while showing, he/she will be disqualified from the class.
- A-11. Prior to each cutting an ARENA DIRECTOR will be appointed. It is his/her responsibility to address any problems which might arise. The BMC Cutting Committee or directors, if there is no Cutting Committee, may be utilized to settle any problems or complaints.

A-12, if a contestant(s) or a judge has a complaint with the show or management, he/she must submit said complaint to the BMCC Board at the time of the incident, or within one week of the show date. Any complaints will be reviewed by the board and a decision rendered prior to the next scheduled show. The board may enforce such penalties as it sees fit, based on fairness to all parties involved.

A-13, an exhibitor may enter an unlimited amount of horses in any class, with the exception of the Youth and the 1st Year Rider 1st Year Horse classes. The points will be determined in the horse classes on the horse. In rider classes the points will be tallied as a "unit". Ex. Same rider same horse. Points will not be combined in a rider class if rider rides several horses.

A-14, once a horse in the draw, no money will be refunded if the horse is scratched. Only in the case of injury to horse or rider will a refund be considered. If a horse is unable to show, the rider may substitute another horse, as long as it qualifies for the class.

A-15. All shows will begin with the OPEN class, and work down through the class order as listed on page 1. All shows will start promptly at 9am, unless otherwise posted.

A-16. AGE OF YOUTH. 18 is the age break. If a youth is 18 or younger on January 1 of the current show year, he/she may show in the youth class through the year. The show manager may divide the youth into two age groups if there are a large number of entries.

A-17. There will be no drinking of alcoholic beverages in public during the contest and no person may show in BMC cuttings while intoxicated. Infractions of this rule will result in disqualification.

A-18. All dogs must be on al leash while in the arena. An exception will be made for the owner of the arena where the show is being held.

POINTS

B-1. Points for the year –end awards are computed for all classes as follows. One point for each horse or rider in the class. Depending if it is a horse or rider class. For example, in a class of 15- 15 points will be awarded to the winner, 14 points for 2nd place, ECT.

B-2. A horse must be shown in at least 50% of the total shows for the year, in each class, to qualify for that class's year-end awards.

B-3. A Horse or rider has officially graduated from a class at the end of the year when lifetime total earnings exceed the class allowance. Each contestant and/or owner is responsible for checking current dollar amounts or point for class placement. We operate on the "honor system". *An exception is the \$300Novice Novice, the \$500LR. In which the winning rider for the year is automatically graduated from the class permanently. The 1st year rider 1st year horse would also advance to a higher level at year end regardless of class placement.*

B-4. Horses or riders graduated from any class in the NWCHA, OCHA, WCHA or any other association are also graduated from the same class in the BMCC shows.

B-5. NOVICE HORSE CLASSES: Open to any HORSE with lifetime earnings of less than provided by class limits. Horse may be ridden by a combination of riders in different shows. However, all riders and owners must be BMCC members for points to count on the horse for year-end awards.

LIMIT RIDER CLASSES: No Limit on horse earnings. Open to any RIDER with lifetime earnings of less than the class limits. Rider does not have to own the horse. For year-end awards, points count on the rider. The owner of the horse must be member of BMCC.

B-6. In the event of a tie, points are combined for the places tied and divided equally among the horses involved. Correct terminology would be that 2 horses/riders split 1st place. Ex. 2 horses tie for 1st place and we have 10 entries. 1st place receives 10 points and 2nd receives 9 points, points are combined at 19 points then divided, giving 9.5 points awarded to each. Then the points default down to 3rd place or 8 points. In the event of a tie for year end it would be handled the same. An award would be given for 2 in first place, no award for 2nd place (because of the split) then the next award would default down to 3rd place, and so on.

B-7. Horses may stay in classes for which they are eligible the entire year, regardless of the number of points or dollars earned.

B-8. In the Youth class to riders may exhibit the same horse. Each rider may be awarded points on the same horse. The class is open to any horse. The owner must also be a member of BMCC.

B-9. Entering classes for which the horse or rider is ineligible will not be allowed, and any points would be forfeited.

SPECIAL CLASSES

SECTION C:

C-1. For the purpose of this club, a person who has taken remuneration for any kind of horse training is considered to be a professional trainer.

C-2. An amateur or non pro is a person who has never taken money or consideration for the training or showing of any horse.

C-3. 1ST YEAR RIDER 1ST YEAR HORSE. The class is for green riders and green horses. Neither horse nor rider can ever been shown in any type of cutting horse class before. *A rider can use 1 or 2 hands. No reining points will be assessed.* The horse may or may not be beginning to rate a cow. It should show little interest in the cow and require reining or cueing with each move. *A horse may have had been started with minimal training by a professional trainer only.* At the end of the point year both rider and horse must advance on to other classes.

C-4. \$300 NOVICE NOVICE: This class is for the beginning amateur cutters and horse who have won less than \$300 or been awarded fewer than 300 points in type of cutting horse competition. *This class is for horses that can be ridden one-handed or two-handed. No Reining points will be assessed if the rider checks or reins the horse with 1 or 2 hands* Horses that have received 1 year or less professional training during a horse's lifetime are eligible. Those horses that have received over 1 year of professional cutting horse training may *not* be entered in this class.

C-5. \$500 NOVICE: This class is open to any rider with a green horse that is progressing from the two-handed stage and may need an occasional stop or rein. The horse's earnings must be less the \$500 or 500 points in any type of cutting horse competition. *No penalties will be assessed for reining or checking with one or two hands.* Credit will be given with a rider does not check the horse.

NCHA JUDGES AND JUDGING RULES

(We need to put a duplicate of an up-to-date judging card here)

SECTION E: In the 1ST YEAR RIDER 1ST YEAR HORSE class, all NCHA judging rules apply, with the exception of the reining penalties. **NO PENALTY POINTS WILL BE ASSESSED FOR REINING WITH 1 OR 2 HANDS.**

\$300 NOVICE NOVICE class, all NCHA judging rules will apply, with the exception of reining penalties. **NO PENALTY POINTS WILL BE ASSESSED FOR REINING WITH 1 OR 2 HANDS.**

\$500 NOVICE class, all NCHA judging rules will apply. With the exception of reining or stopping. **NO PENALTY POINTS WILL BE ASSESSED FOR REINING WITH 1 HAND OR 2.**

Credit will be given when the rider does not check the horse.

FUTURITY WORK CLASS

SECTION F: All Futurity-age-horse works will be done separate from the cutting. Make arrangements for your helpers prior to working. Each work will be for a 4 minute time period, with a limit of two works per trainer. Each work will be timed. The futurity age horse work is not a practice class for other than futurity-age horses. If a rider wishes to work in front of cows for additional time, they need to enter a regular class for which they are eligible. Entering classes for which the horse/rider is ineligible will not be allowed. All futurity works will be done with used cattle, unless adequate fresh cattle are available. You may sign up with the show secretary to work at the end of an existing class, or if there are enough colts, and the riders wish, they may have a class of their own.

FEEES

SECTION G: Membership: Single - \$20.00 Family - \$25.00 Youth - \$5.00
ENTRY FEES: \$55.00/Class Youth Class \$27.50
Futurity Horse - \$35.00 if at end of class, and \$45.00, if special class