

# BREAKING TIES FOR SCORED CLASSES

All ties must be broken for Dressage, Western Dressage, and Sport Horse In-Hand. Ties must be broken for Breeding and Gelding In-Hand and Performance Halter classes when the Arabian scoring system is used. Ties must be broken for specific placings in Working Western Championship classes including Western and English Trail, Trail In-Hand, Reining, Working Cow, Reined Cow, Cutting, Herd Work, Ranch Riding, and Western Riding. Please use the following rules from the USEF Handbook and the AHA Handbook.

## **DRESSAGE/WESTERN DRESSAGE**

### **USEF AR173. Dressage Classes Breaking Ties.**

1. In the event two or more competitors have equal points (a tie), the tie shall be broken pursuant to DR123 except when after a review of the scores for Collective Marks/General Impression there remains a tie, the tie must be broken as follows:
  - a. The competitor with the highest Collective Mark scores by the judge sitting at C shall be declared the winner of the tie; and
  - b. In the event there remains a tie with the judge's (sitting at C) Collective Mark scores, the winner of the tie shall be determined by that judge's scores as follows:
    1. The competitor with the highest free walk score (Intro through Second level) or highest extended walk score (Third through Grand Prix) shall be determined the winner;
    2. In the event there is a tie on the free walk/extended walk score, the competitor with the highest sum of scores with coefficients greater than one shall be determined the winner;
    3. In the event there is a tie based upon the sum of the scores with coefficients greater than one, the competitor with the first highest Collective Mark score shall be determined the winner. (Start at the top of the Collective Mark scores and work down until the tie is broken); and
    4. In the event that the Collective Marks are identical, the competitor with the first highest movement score shall be determined the winner. (Start at the top of the movement scores and work down until the tie is broken). If a tie still remains, the judge(s) must break the tie.

## **WORKING WESTERN – Western and English Trail, In-Hand Trail, Reining, Working Cow, Reined Cow, Cutting, Herd Work, Western Riding and Ranch Horse Riding**

### **USEF AR209. General Scoring.**

4. Ties for first place, Champion, Reserve Champion, fifth in a Top Five and tenth in a Top Ten class will be worked off using the same pattern, order of go and scoring technique as was used in the event; however, there will not be more than one work off.
  - a. Tied exhibitors can choose to forego a work-off and be named co-champions but must determine the winner of the awards by consensus or by a flip of a coin. If they do not agree, the exhibitor(s) who does not want to work-off will forfeit first place to the other. Prize money (if any) for the tied placing(s) involved will be added together and equally split between the respective exhibitors.
  - b. Exhibitors disqualified in a work-off cannot be placed any lower than the lowest consecutive placing which results from breaking the tie.
  - c. Ties for second place in a non-championship class will stand tied and all involved exhibitors will qualify for AHA Regional competition; prize money (if any) for the placings involved will be added together and equally split between the respective exhibitors. All other ties are not worked off and will involve as many places as there are horses tied.

- d. Prize money (if any) for any tied placings involved will be added together and equally split between the respective exhibitors.
- e. Ties for sixth in a Top Five and 11th in a Top Ten will be broken by a flip of a coin by the steward in the presence of the riders involved.

### **WORKING WESTERN – Additional Western and English Trail Rule**

#### **USEF AR229. Scoring Procedures.**

- 6. For method of breaking ties in Trail classes see AR209. In the event of a further tie, refer to the order of the judges cards (i.e. #1, #2, #3)

### **WORKING WESTERN – Additional Cutting Rule**

#### **AHA COMP 807. Cutting Scoring/Judging.**

- 4. Ties In Cutting Horse classes for Champion, Reserve Champion, or the last place of the placings shall be resolved as follows:
  - a. Go to Number One Judge's total scores for that class.
  - b. If tie persists, go to Number One Judge's scores in the Final go-round for that class.
  - c. If tie continues, use a work-off.
  - d. Repeat if necessary.

### **ARABIAN SCORING SYSTEM – Breeding and Gelding In-Hand (including Performance Halter)**

#### **AHA COMP 607. Arabian Scoring System. (Res. 11-06)**

Ties for Arabian breeding classes will be broken first by the highest total Arabian Type Score, second by the highest total score for Movement, third by the highest total Conformation score, and finally by call judges card. Ties for Arabian gelding classes will be broken first by the highest total Conformation score, second by the highest total score for Movement, and finally by call judges card. Ties for Half-Arabians/Anglo-Arabians will be broken first by the highest total Conformation score, second by the highest total score for Movement, and finally by call judges card. In a multiple judge system the same tiebreakers will be used. If a tie still remains the call judge's card shall break the tie.

### **SPORT HORSE IN-HAND**

#### **USEF AR177. Sport Horse Scoring In-Hand Procedures.**

- 5. Tied scores for Sport Horse In-Hand shall be broken first by referring to movement, then confirmation, then over-all balance and finally manners. If the horses are still tied, the judge (or call judge In a multiple judge system), will make a final tie-breaking decision.

***Note: Results must be submitted to the AHA with ties broken. There is a very rare occasion when a tie cannot be broken – in this case, the reason why the tie has not been broken must be sent along with the results.***