

SCORE SHEETS

- AHA has adapted the NRCHA score sheets which can be found on the AHA website at this link: <https://www.arabianhorses.org/judges-stewards/patterns/>
- Scoring system 60-80 points with average score 70; half-points may be used.
- 10-point penalty for Unnatural Appearance
- See AR215 for Appointments
- See AR105.6 for inhumane treatment and undue stress.

REINED COW HORSE

- Reined work (dry pattern) and fence work (cow work - boxing, fence turns and circling in that order)
- Post NRCHA patterns one hour prior to start of class, except for regionals & nationals which have their own timeline
- Each phase has equal bearing; total of both scores to determine placings.
- See AR234.2b and c for ties and for how competitions handle zero scores.

BOXING/LIMITED REINED COW HORSE

- Reined work and boxing phase only of cow work
- Judging begins when exhibitor enters the arena.
- No schooling permitted between phases; score of zero if violation
- Hold cow for 50 seconds
- Holding reins and romal in one hand (rein hand) while boxing the cow is permitted.
- Scored using limited cow work scoring guidelines

BOX-DRIVE

- Reined work and the required cow work in four parts, which is box, drive, box, drive, in that order.
- Scored with Box Drive scoring guidelines
- Judging begins when exhibitor enters the arena
- Time limit: 1 minute, 45 seconds; time begins when gate closes behind the cow after being let into the arena. Exhibitors are not required to use all the required time to complete the pattern.
- No schooling permitted between phases; score of zero if violation.

HERD WORK

- Judging begins at the time line, end at the whistle.
- Time limit: 2 ½ minutes

NRCHA New for 2025: If the contestant had incurred any major penalties before the cow leaving the arena, the penalties will carry over to the new cow.

New for 2025: The NRCHA has divided each herd & cow work into sets of maneuvers. It is the judge's responsibility to evaluate these maneuver groups individually and rate each maneuver group on the following scale:

- - Extremely Poor
- Very Poor
- ✓- Poor
- ✓ Correct
- ✓+ Good
- + Very Good
- ++ Excellent

DEFINITION OF FALL – AR109.10 & NRCHA are the same:

- When the horses shoulder and hip are on the ground and all four feet are facing in one direction.
- Rider is no longer astride the horse. Fall of rider receives a score of -0-.

REVIEW OF SCORES

- AR218.5. Major penalties must be reviewed in accordance with current NRHA rules for reining classes and current NRCHA rules for reined cow horse and cow horse classes.

EXCERPTS FROM NRCHA RULEBOOK

SCHOOLING: Schooling is defined as gaining an advantage by excessive pulling, turning, stopping or backing or failure to immediately pull up when a new cow is accepted. *NRCHA 19.3.6 Cow Work - Penalties*

6. BROKEN EQUIPMENT

If at any time during a performance a piece of equipment breaks, the rider may continue provided the broken equipment does not pose a hazard to the rider and/or is not cruel to the horse. If the rider is unable to continue because of the broken equipment, the rider will be excused with a score of zero.

18. SCORING

- Credit must always be given when applicable, even when there is a penalty involved. When the judge is in doubt, benefit always goes to the contestant.
- The scoring system is based on 60-80 points. Half-points may be used.
- The contestant is judged from the time that he/she enters the arena until he/she completes the pattern, unless otherwise specified.
- Horses are judged on performance only.
- The scoring system is based on a 60-80 point system. The lowest score possible is 60 points and the highest score possible is 80. The average score for a typical work is 70 points.
- A judge may blow his/her whistle at any time to terminate the work. A score of zero will be given if the work is not complete at that time.
- Horse must appear visibly sound at the beginning of the run. In the case of a multiple judged event the majority of the judges must agree on soundness prior to the horse beginning the pattern

or work. Obvious lameness will be cause for immediate disqualification.

19. JUDGING

19.1 Herd Work

- See 19.1 for Herd Work penalty points and definitions.

19.2 Reined Work

- Horses shall work individually. Judging begins the moment the horse enters the arena.
- There will be no schooling from the time the horse enters the arena.
- The judging ends when the rider indicates he/she is finished by coming to a complete stop.
- Praising or rewarding of the horse is only allowed after the reining pattern is complete and before the exhibitor calls for a cow.
- See NRCHA 19.2 for additional description of maneuvers and penalties.

19.3 Cow Work:

- See 19.3 for Cow Work penalty points and definitions.
- Judging begins when the contestant enters the arena.
- There shall be no schooling between the completion of the rein work and cow work when the cow work immediately follows the rein work; the penalty for this will be a zero.
- At the start of the work, each contestant, upon receiving a cow in the arena, shall hold that cow on the prescribed end of the arena for a sufficient time to demonstrate the ability of the horse to contain the cow at that end.

19.4 Boxing Class Cow Work

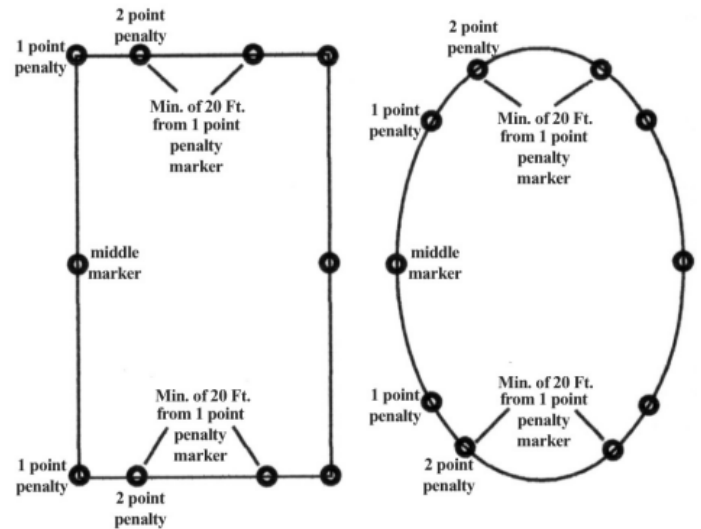
- See 19.4 for Boxing Cow Work penalty points and definitions.

19.6 Box Drive Class Cow Work

- See 19.6 for additional description of maneuvers and penalties.

20. Patterns

- Patterns are to be worked as stated, not as drawn. The drawn pattern is just to give the general idea of what the pattern will look like in the arena.
- Markers are mandatory for all patterns. Markers will be placed on the wall or fence of both sides of the arena to the approval of the judges with the following as a guideline: See 20.2 for guidelines.



21. Pattern Descriptions (Maneuvers)

See this section in NRCHA Rule Book for drawings of patterns & description of maneuvers.