



Australian Cutting Horse Group
RULES & REGULATIONS AS AT 1st February 2023

Please note:

The ACHG Directors & ACHG Affiliates, have the right to refuse entries at their discretion at any given time.

***** SNAFFLE BIT RULES AS FOLLOWS *****

If any horse competes in a one-handed event on the day, the horse is not eligible to compete in any snaffle bit event.

All snaffle bit events require the use of a snaffle bit. The Ed Duffurena snaffle bit may also be used. Any twisted wire bit used will result in disqualification from the event and entry fee will be forfeited.

When quitting the cow in competition you must remove your hand from the reins and place on the horse's neck, failure to do so will incur a 1-point penalty. Loose reins are required; reins that are drawn too tight and excessive pulling on the horse's mouth will incur a 1-point penalty on each occasion.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL Snaffle bit classes are TWO-HANDED classes only.

Please Note: **ONLY** up to 2 horses can be shown per Snaffle bit event at each show. This includes youth classes.

Encouragement Snaffle Bit Rider

Contestants can show no more than TWO HORSES in this class

If you have won or placed in any one-handed cutting horse or snaffle bit event you are **not eligible** for this event, all snaffle bit rules apply – this includes the Ed Duffurrena snaffle bit. Class will be run with (re-run cattle.) Once a rider reaches \$1000 prizemoney in earnings, rider is not eligible to ride in this event the following year. This is a two handed class only.

Please Note: An encouragement snaffle bit rider may compete in the One-Handed \$2500 Non Pro Rider on the day of nomination, you may not compete in any other One-Handed event on the day.

Open Snaffle Bit Horse

Contestants can show up to THREE HORSES in this class

All snaffle bit rules apply – this includes the Ed Duffurrena snaffle bit.

All snaffle bit horses are eligible for this class. This is a two handed class only.

\$3,000 Novice Snafflebit Horse

Contestants can show up to THREE HORSES in this class

If the horse has earnings in excess of \$3,000 in snaffle bit or one handed classes, the horse is not eligible for this event.

\$1000 Snafflebit Maiden Horse

Contestants can show up to THREE HORSES in this class

If the horse has earnings in excess of \$1000 in snaffle bit or one handed classes, the horse is not eligible for this event.

15-18 Years Youth

Contestants can show no more than TWO HORSES in this class

All youth are to work from a herd. Youth can compete one-handed or two-handed at the rider's discretion. If a competitor starts one-handed the competitor must finish the run one-handed or will be disqualified. If a competitor starts two-handed the competitor must finish the run two-handed or will be disqualified.

NOTE: 15-18 Years youth may wear a cowboy hat or helmet at rider's discretion.

8-14 Years Youth

Contestants can show no more than TWO HORSES in this class

8-14 years youth will work one cow boxed against the back wall of the arena. Youth can compete one-handed or two-handed at the rider's discretion. If a competitor starts one-handed the competitor must finish the run one-handed or will be disqualified. If a competitor starts two-handed the competitor must finish the run two-handed or will be disqualified. Ribbons awarded only no prizemoney, buckle to the yearly winner at National Finals.

8-14 Years youth must wear a helmet at all times in and out of the arena while attending to their horse.

ONE HANDED RULES

If the horse starts one handed on the day, the horse in question must only compete in one hand classes on the day of competition.

\$1000 Maiden Horse- One handed

(Don Tanner Memorial Class)

Contestants can show up to THREE HORSES in this class

This class is for horses that have won less than \$1000 in prize-money in LTE (Life Time Earnings) from one-handed cutting horse events. **Please Note:** All money won by the horse in Non Pro Aged events, Open aged events, Open & Novice classes all count in this event. Snaffle bit Earnings do not count in this event. There will be no (1) point penalty for cueing, reigning or positioning a maiden horse.

Senior Rider 60+ yrs- One handed

Contestants can show TWO HORSES in this class

This class is for Open and Non-Professional riders that are 60yrs and over.

\$2500 Non Pro Rider

Contestants can only show ONE HORSE in this class.

Open to all Non Pro riders having lifetime earnings of \$2500 or less. ACHG Non Professional cutting horse classes must comply with all Non Professional rules.

Open Non Pro Rider

Contestants can only show ONE HORSE in this class

Open to all Non Professional riders. ACHG Non Professional cutting horse classes must comply with all Non Professional rules.

\$3000 Novice Horse

Contestants can show up to THREE HORSES in this class

Open to all horses having lifetime earnings of \$3000 or less.

\$15000 Novice Horse

Contestants can show up to THREE horses in this class

Open to all horses having lifetime earnings of \$15000 or less.

Open Horse

Contestants can show up to THREE HORSES in this class

Open to any horse, regardless of breed, age, sex, colour, conformation, appearance, or previous performance. Horses are to be judged on performance only. A Non Professional may exhibit a horse in the Open Class provided the horse is owned by the Non Professional, the Non-Professional's Spouse, father, Mother, Son, Daughter or minor sibling.

BOXING CLASS

This is an entry level class for riders that have never won or placed in any cow horse event, one head will be let into the arena and the contestant has 1 minute to demonstrate the control of the cow and the horse's ability to work a cow to the judge whilst working the beast along the back fence of the arena.

1. One head (re-run cattle will be used)
2. Time limit 1 minute
3. One run per contestant
4. Horse can be shown in a bridle or snaffle bit
5. Can show one-handed or two handed
6. Riders that have never won or placed in any cow horse event. This includes cutting, snaffle bit cutting, reined cow horse, ranch event, team penning or team sorting. This includes all Affiliate and Non-Affiliate events.
7. If the Judge deems the beast unsuitable for the competitor, it will be removed from the arena and another beast will be let in.
8. This event will be judged as per ACHG rules & regulations.
9. Turn-back riders will be allowed to help where needed.

The above classes are run under ACHG rules. These rules can be viewed via the ACHG website www.cowponies1969.com.

To compete in the above classes you must be a member of the ACHG. Membership forms are available to download off the ACHG website. All forms to be sent via email or can be obtained from the show office. Annual household membership cost is \$50.00. This includes the major membership holder, his/her spouse and minor youth aged under 18 years and still living in the same household. Membership is current from 1st January to 31st December.

Note: Cutting saddles, stock saddles & fender saddles are acceptable for all events listed above. Chaps, Chinks & jeans are considered acceptable, long sleeve shirts & hats/helmets are a requirement to be worn in the competition arena. Youth 8-14 years must wear a helmet at all times in and out of the arena while handling horses on the grounds. Youth 15-18 years can wear a western cowboy hat or wear a helmet at their own/parent's discretion. Caps are not to be worn in the competition or warm up arena.

Payment & Points of Events.

Placings paid and Points awarded to 6th place according to how many horses are in the class. Ribbons awarded to 4 places.

<u>Number of Horses</u>	<u>Place</u>	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
1 or 2 horses	Points	2	1				
3 horses		3	2	1			
4 horses		4	3	2	1		
5 horses		5	4	3	2	1	
6 horses		6	5	4	3	2	1

Points will be recorded by ACHG for annual awards, points year is from 1st February to December National Finals.

To be eligible to compete in the National Finals at the end of each Calendar year, a competitor must have competed in at least 4 ACHG shows.

ZERO TOLERANCE

ACHG strives to provide a family friendly sport and as such will not tolerate crass language, verbal abuse, physical abuse or bullying in any way, shape or form directed towards any animal, ACHG staff, fellow competitors, volunteers, children or family members.

ANIMAL ABUSE

Animal abuse refers to any hitting, slapping, whipping, jerking or spurring an animal with brute force. RSPCA will be notified of any animal abuse committed at any ACHG show or training day.

Anyone found guilty of breaching the above rules by an ACHG executive will be asked to remove him or herself from the event. All entries will be forfeited and no refund given. If failing to leave on the request of an ACHG executive, law enforcement will be sort. The matter will be dealt with and penalties applied at the discretion of an ACHG executive.

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

No alcohol is permitted inside the arena or in the warm up area while the show is in progress

WAIVERS & HORSE DECLARATIONS

ALL competitors **MUST** fill in Waivers & Horse Health Declarations prior to competing in any event. This includes, competitors, handlers, lopers, and groomers. Forms are available for download at www.cowponies1969.com and can be emailed to cowponies1969@gmail.com. Forms also available at the show office.

ALL ADULT COMPETITORS TO PAY A GROUND LEVY OF \$30.00

****Please note this does not include Camping or Stabling****

Both camping and stabling is charged by the showground administration and for different venues this charge varies. These fees will be collected from the showground staff.

CANCELLATION OF ENTRY/ENTRIES

Once an Entry has been submitted and the draw has been posted **NO Refunds** will be given on **ANY ENTRIES**

Under special circumstances where a Veterinary Certificate OR Medical Certificate is supplied within 24 hours of scratching, 40% of entries will be refunded within 14 days following the date of the show. 100% of entry fee will be refunded in the event that a show is cancelled by the ACHG executive only.

ELIGIBILITY

All competitors, riders and owners are responsible for determining class eligibility for themselves and all horses they own or exhibit as determined by the combined records of all cutting horse and breed associations. ALL earnings must be combined to determine eligibility.

Upon determining that a horse or rider has won money in a class for which the horse or rider is ineligible, the ACHG records will be adjusted to remove the ineligible horse or rider, with the ineligible earnings to be reallocated by the ACHG among the remaining class participants to establish the correct class standings. The rider must return all ineligible earnings and prizes. All entry fees will be forfeited. In addition, any competitor in violation of this rule shall also be subject to discipline at the discretion of the ACHG executive.

NON PRO RULE

ACHG considers any person who has **received direct or indirect remuneration** for the showing or preparation of horses under the following circumstances to be deemed ineligible for competition as a Non Professional.

- Showing/competing cow horses in any cow horse event
- Training cow horses on cattle and including mechanical cow
- Preparation of horses for any working cow horse event
- Preparing sale horses involving working cattle and mechanical cow
- Coaching people to work cattle and including mechanical cow for any cow horse event

****Cow horse events include but not limited to****

- Cutting
- Campdrafting
- Team Penning
- Ranch/Team sorting
- Ranch Versatility
- Working Cow Horse
- Working Equitation

Any person not involved in the above circumstances will be eligible to compete as a Non Professional at any ACHG event.

ACHG/ACHA thanks all our competitors for their ongoing support of Cutting and what it has to offer, a fabulous sport, family friendly, just one big family enjoying what we love.