

BMC 2026 SHOW RULES

Section A General Show Rules

A-1 An individual must be a member in good standing of Blue Mountain Cutters in order to compete at any BMC show. Owners of horses being shown by others must also be a member in good standing of BMC. A member in good standing must have completed a membership application & paid appropriate membership dues. This obligation must be met prior to being horseback on the show grounds. Entry fees must be paid in advance of entering the working area on horseback.

A-2 Shows approved by BMC will be judged in accordance with the Judging Rules and Casebook of the current *Official Handbook National Cutting Horse Association's Rules and Regulations* and the current rules of BMC. A current NCHA Official Judges Card will be used for all BMC classes. With regard to Specialty Classes for which NCHA rules are not in existence, BMC rules apply as set forth in Section C Specialty Classes.

A-3 NCHA rules dictate that the judges not have contact with contestants, trainers, owners or agents before or during the show. Immediately prior to and during the show judges, other than ordinary greetings, are not to speak with anyone other than show management with the following exception; as a *grassroots* organization, BMC is an educational as well as competitive environment. Therefore, at the discretion of the judge, an educational discussion with the contestant is allowable only Classes. y after the contestant is finished showing for the day. These allowable judge/contestant conversations are to be conducted between classes or after the show. At no time will a contestant attempt to enter into such a conversation before, during or immediately after a run. y after the contestant is finished showing for the day. These allowable judge/contestant conversations are to be conducted between classes or after the show. At no time will a contestant attempt to enter into such a conversation before, during or immediately after a run.

A-4 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 show personnel or any other member. Judge or show manager have the authority to whistle a rider out of the show pen if it has been determined that rider has crossed the time line with unapproved training devices designated as "illegal" as stated in Rule A-10.

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 or helmet and appropriate western attire in accordance with **Judging Rule 16 b.** of the *Official Handbook National Cutting Horse Association's Rules and Regulations*. This dress rule has been recently expanded by NCHA to include pull over knit shirts other than sweaters. This rule applies to any person horseback both inside and outside the working area of the arena. **Judging Rule**

16 b. 1. prohibits the use of cell phones in the working and warm up areas if on horseback.

A-7 Members of the association are encouraged to help at any show.

A-8 Any comments about the performance of the horse working must not be made within hearing distance of the judge.

A-9 A contestant shall not be allowed to abuse or mistreat a horse in any manner in the arena or anywhere on the show grounds in accordance with the NCHA *Zero Tolerance Policy **Standing Rule 35*** of the *Official Handbook National Cutting Horse Association's Rules and Regulations*. Any member can report such abuse to show management.

A-10 No training devices are allowed while showing as referenced in **Standing Rule 16** of the *Official Handbook National Cutting Horse Association's Rules and Regulations*. For the purposes of BMC, this rule does not prohibit any of the four *helping* horses in the working area from being ridden with training devices such as a running martingale. If it is determined that a contestant used illegal equipment while showing, that run will be disqualified from the class.

A-11 Cutters are to be considerate in the warm up area and use common sense. All horses are to travel in the same direction with slower moving traffic to the inside. Merge into traffic when entering the warm up area and never stop in traffic. Try not to stand still anywhere in traffic. Always ask if you wish to change direction. Do not pony horses in the warm up arena unless there is sufficient room to not interfere with traffic. Limit the number of horses tied to fence in any loping area as horses warming up have priority. Limit foot traffic in warm up areas as horses have right-of-way. Avoid lounging horses in the vicinity of the in/out arena access area. Complete loping pen etiquette can be found on pages 45-47 of the *Official Handbook National Cutting Horse Association's Rules and Regulations*.

A-12 If a contestant or judge has a complaint with the show or show management, the complaint is to be submitted to the Show Manager for resolution. If the resolution is unacceptable to the complainant, a written & signed complaint can be submitted to the BMC Board of Directors at the time of the incident or within 1 week after the show. Duly submitted complaints will be reviewed by the Board of Directors and a determination made prior to the next scheduled show. The Board of Directors may apply such penalties as it sees fit based on fairness to all parties involved. The Board of Directors shall advise the complainant of their determination in writing. The decision of the Board of Directors shall be final.

A-13 A contestant may show an unlimited number of horses within any class with the exception of the Youth Class. For points allocation in rider classes (Non-Pro & Limited Rider classes) where points are assigned to the rider, see Sections B-5 and B-6.

A-14 Once a class had been drawn, the cattle charge portion of the entry fee may not be refunded unless approved by show management. If a horse is unable to be shown, the rider may substitute another horse subject to the qualification limits of that class. A rider who is a no show at the gate when called to work will receive a score of zero and will be included for points calculation purposes. The “no-show” rider will be liable for the cattle charge portion of the entry fee.

A-15 All shows will begin with the \$600 NH class and work down through the class order as listed in Section D List of Classes. All shows will begin promptly at the advertised start time and under no circumstances start earlier than advertised.

A-16 A Youth rider is considered to be 18 years of age or younger at the start of the points year and may show in the Youth class throughout that year.

A-17 There will be no consumption of alcoholic beverages in public during the show and no person will be allowed to show while intoxicated. Infractions of this rule will result in disqualification.

A-18 No dogs are allowed anywhere in or around the arenas the only exception being for the owner of the facility. Dogs must be restrained at owner's vehicle.

A-19 The minimum number of riders per class to qualify as a class is 3.

A-20 For the purposes of BMC, any person who takes or has taken remuneration, whether directly or indirectly, for any type of cow horse training is considered to be a professional trainer therefore ineligible to compete in Non-Pro classes.

A-21 Class Draw

1. The draw will be done by the judge, show manager or secretary at the show manager's discretion.
2. The final draw can be amended for late entries or entries omitted due to a clerical error and in such situations, must be announced.
3. If the class has been drawn & posted, late entries will go to the bottom of the draw.
4. If an entrant is omitted from draw by clerical error, that entrant will be drawn into class regardless if working order has been posted or not.

A-22 Late Entries are those made online, by telephone or left on voice mail after the posted date & time by which entries close. Every attempt will be made to include late entries, however, the show secretary is not responsible for entries made after the posted date & time. Late entries are subject to going at the end of the draw and may or

may not have fresh cattle due to the limitations of the cattle available.

Section B Points & Class Limitations

B-1 Points for year-end awards are computed and awarded for all classes based on the number of horses in the class & the subsequent placing when the class is concluded. The 1st place horse/rider will be awarded the number of points as the number of entries in the class. This method of point allocation will be carried down to last place until points are awarded to all entries. Example; class with 10 entries will award 10 points to 1st place, 9 points to 2nd place, 8 points to 3rd place, etc. down through last place. Places resulting in a tie will combine the total points for places tied and divide the total points by the total number tied. Example; class of 10 entries in which there is a 3 way tie for 2nd place will take the points for 2nd, 3rd & 4th place for a total of 24 points & divide those points by 3 resulting in 8 points being awarded to those tied. Rider leaving the working area before time expires will receive a -0- and no points will be awarded.

B-2 Entrant must show in a minimum of 50% of the total shows (if total shows offered for year is an odd number or 60% of the total shows offered for year is an even number) in the appropriate class to be eligible for year-end awards and the class must be held at least 60% of the time offered in the show schedule.

B-3 A horse and/or rider graduates from a BMC class at the end of the year when NCHA eligibility earnings exceed the class allowance. Horses and/or riders graduated from any NCHA class are also graduated from the same BMC class. Contestants and/or owners are responsible for verifying NCHA earnings available through the NCHA web site www.nchacutting.com. BMC operates on the *honor system*. The exception to eligibility earnings or **lifetime** earnings where applicable, is the 600 NH, 550 NH/NP, 750 NH & 500 LR classes wherein the year-end 1st & 2nd place finishers must graduate up to the next appropriate class or into any other class in which they are eligible to show for the next show year.

B-4 Novice Horse classes are open to any horse with NCHA **Lifetime** earnings less than the class limit. Points are accrued on the horse.

B-5 Limited Rider classes are open to any rider with NCHA earnings less than the class limit. Rider does not have to own the horse in the 4000 LR nor 500 LR classes or Youth. A Limited Rider may show more than 1 horse and points are accrued on the rider therefore combining the points earned. However, the rider may not show more than 1 horse per class per show for the purpose of points combination.

B-6 Non-Pro class is open to any Non-Professional rider as defined by the NCHA. A Non-Pro may show more than 1 horse and points are accrued on the rider therefore combining the points earned. However, the rider may not show more than 1 horse per class per show for the purpose of points combination.

Proof of Ownership - All horses shown in Non-Pro classes must be owned by the non-pro rider. Proof of ownership must be produced IF requested by show management. This proof may consist of:

1. Copy of breed association registration certificate.
2. Copy of bill of sale for grade horses or if grade horse was raised from birth by owner, bill of sale for mare.

In the event of installment purchase, notarized copy of seller's contract and proof of at least 1 payment in the form of a canceled check or duly signed receipt can be requested from seller by Show Management in the event of a dispute.

B-7 Open class is open to any rider and any horse. Points are accrued on the horse.

B-8 Horse eligibility for \$600 Novice Horse class, \$550 Novice Horse/Non-Pro & \$750 Novice Horse class are to be based on **Lifetime** earnings rather than NCHA Eligibility earnings.

B-9 Two riders may show the same horse in the Youth class. The Youth is a *rider class* therefore awarding points to each entry regardless of the horse shown.

B-10 Entering classes for which the horse and/or the rider are ineligible is not allowed and any points earned by violating eligibility will be forfeited.

Section C Specialty Classes

C-1 Specialty Classes are those classes unique to BMC which, for the purposes of judging, deviate from typical NCHA classes. Specialty classes are 600 NH, 550 NNP, 750 NH, 500 LR, Bridleless & Boxing classes.

C-2 The 600 NH class is open to any horse with NCHA **Lifetime** earnings less than \$600/any rider. Non-Pro's must own horse. Relative to judging, no penalty points are assessed for using 2 hands and reining or stopping the horse. At the discretion of the judge, credit can be given for not helping the horse.

C-3 The \$750 NH class is open to any horse with NCHA **Lifetime** earnings less than \$750/any rider. Non-Pro's must own horse. Relative to judging, no penalty points are assessed for reining or stopping the horse, however, the **horse must shown one-handed**. At the discretion of the judge, credit can be given for not helping the horse.

C-4 The 550 NH/NP class is open to any horse with NCHA **Lifetime** earnings less than \$550 owned & shown by the Non-Pro. Relative to judging, no penalty points are assessed for using 2 hands and reining or stopping the horse. At the discretion of the judge, credit can be given for not helping the horse.

C-5 Bridleless class is considered to be Specialty classes. This class is subject to NCHA judging criteria wherein all reining penalties will be assessed. This classes is held once annually at designated shows.

Section D List of Classes

Open - Any horse/any rider regardless of earnings. Non-Pro riders in this class must own the horse.

Non-Pro - Any Non-Pro rider, any horse owned by rider.

\$2,500 Novice Horse – Any horse with NCHA **Lifetime** earnings of less than \$1,500/Any rider. Non-Pro riders in this class must own horse.

\$4,000 Limited Rider - Any rider with less than \$2,000 NCHA earnings/any horse.

\$500 Limited Rider – Any rider with less than \$500 NCHA earnings/any horse.

\$600 Novice Horse -Any horse with NCHA **Lifetime** earnings of less than \$600/any rider. Any Non-Pro riders in this class must own horse.

\$750 Novice Horse – Any horse with NCHA **Lifetime** earnings of less than \$750?any rider.

\$550 Novice Horse/Non-Pro - Any horse with NCHA **Lifetime** earnings of less than \$550 owned by the Non-Pro rider.

Youth - Any youth 18 years of age or younger at January 1st of the current show season/any horse.

Boxing Open & Boxing NP Open to all riders. Non-Pro's must own their own horse. Rider demonstrates ability to hold cow on the wall. Run is 90 seconds. If the judge determines that the cow is such that the rider cannot, thru no fault of their own, sufficiently demonstrate the horses ability, he may pause the run by whistling for a new cow.

Section F Fees

Annual Membership Fees: Single - \$40 Family - \$50 Youth Only - \$20

Entry Fee: \$115 per class

 \$140 Open (jackpot)

 \$90 Youth

 \$85 Boxing (used cattle)

 \$90 Futurity Work – fresh cattle, 2 per cutter, 4 minutes

