ANNOUNCER SCRIPTS

Silence is not golden.

An announcer sometimes wears many hats at an AQHA event. He may be the timekeeper, scorekeeper and housekeeper. However, it's important to remember that an announcer also can be a key person in keeping the show running smoothly and on time, in addition to providing your message to exhibitors and spectators. Below are several suggestions to include in announcer scripts for a versatility ranch horse competition.

SAMPLE OPENING AND WELCOME STATEMENT

Good morning and welcome to the [event name]. The versatility ranch horse competition was developed by the American Quarter Horse Association along with several groups and organizations who wanted an event to showcase the talents of the working stock horse. The first event was held in January 2002 and since that time, more than 70 events have been held coast to coast. You'll find this competition exciting as the versatility of the working ranch horse is demonstrated in five categories – ranch riding, ranch trail, ranch cutting, working ranch horse and ranch conformation. Consistency is the name of the game as the overall winner is determined by the highest number of total credits earned in all five categories. AQHA points are distributed according to the existing point schedule in the AQHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations. If there is tie for the final placing, it will be broken by the highest placing horse in the working ranch horse class.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Class descriptions are key in letting the audience and exhibitors know what's coming up next. The fact sheet in the VRH marketing kit has a complete description of each class. Scoring can be explained plus other elements of the competition such as a list of the trail obstacles. Patterns for the working ranch horse category are available to show management and can be distributed along with the entry list and score sheet handout. Here are some things to remember about each class:

<u>Ranch Riding</u> – Horses will be shown at three gaits – walk, trot and lope – in each direction of the arena. Exhibitors will be asked to extend the trot and lope in at least one direction.

<u>Ranch Trail</u> – There is not a standard trail course design. It is show management's responsibility to provide the course design, which must include mandatory and optional obstacles.

<u>Ranch Cutting</u> – Herd holders must ride American Quarter Horses. Time limit is two and one-half minutes.

<u>Working Ranch Horse</u> – This is a three-phase class consisting of one of two reining patterns, working the cow and then roping the cow. The time limit is six minutes for all three phases.

<u>Ranch Conformation</u> – This should be the last class of the day. All sexes will be shown together. Exhibitors will need to wear their exhibitor numbers pinned to the back of their shirts.

FILLERS

There are many opportunities throughout the day to promote programs, inform spectators and exhibitors, and thank sponsors. Try to keep each announcement to 30 seconds, which is the standard length of radio spots. The next page includes scripts about AQHA programs.



SAMPLE AQHA SCRIPTS

AQHA Incentive Fund

Are you looking to make some easy money? Then the AQHA Incentive Fund is your opportunity to gain extra income and recognition by simply nominating and showing Incentive Fund horses.

Owners of horses enrolled in the AQHA Incentive Fund are eligible to receive money earned based on total versatility ranch horse points earned during the year. Sires of horses competing in the versatility ranch competition, which are Incentive Fund-nominated, also can earn yearly dividends for their owners.

The AQHA Incentive Fund awarded more than three-point-eight million dollars to participants this past year, with each point worth more than twenty-eight dollars.

Foals from this breeding year sired by Incentive Fund-nominated stallions are eligible to be nominated into the program, and the enrollment period for stallions ends November 30. Log on to aqha dot com for more information or check out the ad in *The American Quarter Horse Journal*.

AQHA Awards

There are plenty of awards waiting for exhibitors who compete in versatility ranch horse competitions.

AQHA year-end, high-point awards are awarded in both the open and youth divisions based on the number of points earned from January 1 to December 31 of each year.

The winners in each division receive an AQHA trophy and a Montana Silversmiths belt buckle for their achievements, plus a one-of-a-kind bronze specially created for the versatility ranch horse competition sponsored by the Fort Worth Livestock Show.

All points earned also appear on the horse's show record and the exhibitor and owner's records. Simply visit aqha dot com and go to the member section and you can print the show records.

The American Quarter Horse Journal

For the latest information about the American Quarter Horse industry, check out *The American Quarter Horse Journal*, the official publication of AQHA.

The Journal has been serving the American Quarter Horse industry since 1948, and each month you can find information about training, health care and upcoming events.

Call one, eight hundred, two-nine-one, seven-three-two-three to subscribe.