



## 2019 QUALIFYING HANDBOOK

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

These rules become effective January 1, 2019, for the conduct of the AQHA Level 1 Cattle Events Championships.

The AQHA Level 1 Cattle Events Championships shall be governed by the rules and regulations of the AQHA Official Handbook and the AQHA Level 1 Cattle Events Championships Qualifying Handbook. All participants and owners agree to abide by such rules and regulations.

Exhibitors, owners and those in attendance with them, accept and agree to abide by AQHA's Official Handbook and any decisions made by show management will be final.

The AQHA Level 1 Cattle Events Championships will be at the Lazy E Ranch in Guthrie, Oklahoma on June 18 - 23, 2019.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible to compete in the 2019 Level 1 Cattle Championships, an exhibitor must:

- Be Level 1 eligible in the class you wish to enter as of January 1, 2018
- Be Rookie eligible in the class you wish to enter as of January 1, 2019
- Be an AQHA member at the time of entry and at the time of the 2019 Level 1 Championships
- Not enter a class which you won at a previous Level 1 Championship. You cannot show in that same class at future Level 1 Championships, including the 2019 Level 1 Championship Shows. However, you can still show in that class at AQHA shows (excluding the Level 1 Championships) until you meet the point level. You can still show at the Level 1 Championship in any other class(es) for which you are still Level 1-eligible.

If you graduated out of a Level 1 class in the 2018 show season, you are still invited to enter classes in which you were Level 1-eligible as of January 1, 2018.

Eligibility is determined on the class-by-class basis (i.e. you may be eligible for some classes but not others).

Visit [www.aqha.com/leveling](http://www.aqha.com/leveling) for more information regarding AQHA's leveling program.

### **INFORMATION**

- You can enter the AQHA Level 1 Cattle Events Championships simply by downloading and printing off the entry and stall forms from <https://www.aqha.com/cattle>. Complete the entry form and return it, along with all fees, to Heidi Lane no later than May 10, 2019.
- Exhibitors may show at both a Level 1 championship and an AQHA world championship show in the same year.
- A horse can be shown only once in the same class in each division, (youth/amateur).

- Should any horse entered in the 2019 Level 1 championships die, the exhibitor may substitute and participate with another horse. The appropriate show office must be notified, and provided with a statement from an American Association of Equine Practitioners-approved veterinarian verifying the entered horse's death.
- For the Level 1 championships only, if a horse becomes severely injured or disabled, a substitute will be allowed for the injured/disabled horse. In order to replace a debilitated horse, written statements from two AAEP-approved veterinarians stating the severity of the debilitating injury or illness, and lack of probability of short-term recovery, must be submitted to AQHA or the show office at the event and the appropriate show office is notified at least one hour prior to the particular class. [Please note that due to Level 1 rules, the competitor does not have to own the horse that he or she shows at the Level 1 championships.]
- No class entries will be taken on-site; however, exhibitors have the ability to scratch from classes at the show.
- Any exhibitor or owner receiving disciplinary action by the AQHA Executive Committee for show rule violations at this year's AQHA Level 1 Cattle Events Championships will be prohibited from participating in the next year's AQHA Level 1 Cattle Events Championships. This rule excludes anyone receiving a first time administration penalty for an overage of therapeutic medication.
- No horse may be shown under an AQHA judge if that judge has been the owner, trainer, agent in any capacity or conditioner of that horse within the previous three months; and a judge may not judge a horse which is owned or exhibited by anyone from whom he has received a salary, whether or not a horse is concerned in the transaction, has been in the employ or has represented such individual in any capacity for remuneration within three months from the date of the show.
- Exhibitors may show up to three horses in each class.
- Qualifiers in any class may substitute a deceased horse with another horse so long as show management is notified at least an hour prior to the class.
- A full refund will only be given if requested prior to the entry deadline. A partial refund may be considered if a horse becomes severely injured, disabled or deceased, but only if requested a minimum of two weeks prior to the start of competition. Documentation from an AAEP-approved veterinarian stating the severity of the debilitating injury or illness is required. Stall, drug, obstacle and entry fees will be refunded; however, office fees and cattle charges will not be refunded. Illness, accidents or other incidents concerning people will not be eligible for refund.
- All entries are subject to examination or drug testing under the provisions of Rule VIO400 of the 2019 AQHA Official Handbook.
- Every horse entered for competition shall be under the control of Show Management, but AQHA, the Lazy E Ranch, their agents, servants or employees, will not be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur.
- Upon entry, every exhibitor and owner and all other participants accept the facility and grounds, including, but not limited to, the arenas, stalls and alleyways, where the show is being conducted on an as is basis, agreeing to be solely responsible for property damage or personal injury caused by third parties to the exhibitor, participant, owner, his property or staff, or caused by himself, his participant horses, exhibitors, representatives, agents and employees occurring in conjunction with this show; and further agree to indemnify and hold AQHA and the Lazy E Ranch harmless from any and all such liability, whenever or however arising, not caused by AQHA's own negligence or that of AQHA's representatives, agents or employees.

## HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

- All horses must have a current, original health certificate dated within **7 days**.
- A negative Coggins paper that contains the horse's markings issued within the last 12 months is required on those horses with the health certificate; however, if instead of a health certificate, you have an equine passport, a negative Coggins paper contains the horse's markings issued within the last six months is required.
- All health papers and Coggins results should indicate the horse's registered name.
- All horses must have AQHA Horse Health Check-In sheet to present to **stall office**.
- All horses not officially entered in the show used as helping horses must be registered American Quarter Horses.

## JUDGING OF THE SHOW

A minimum of three (3) judges will judge all classes. Judges will score each class independently and will place all the entries in the class. Their individual score or placing cards will be given to the World Show management for tabulation. Final placings will be determined by combining the three (3) scores or placings earned in each segment of competition. **ALL JUDGING RULES WILL BE TAKEN FROM THE 2019 AQHA RULEBOOK.**

## TIE PROCEDURES

- In each class, specific maneuvers will be designated by the judges to be tie-breakers. The tie-breaker maneuvers will be made prior to the start of the class and so noted on score sheets. These maneuvers will be ranked as first tie-breaker, second tie-breaker, and so on.
- Exhibitors competing for the All-Around Versatility Ranch Horse shall have their class placings credits entered into the all-around tabulation. Credits from each class shall be added together for the overall placing for the event. Ties for the all-around versatile ranch horse are broken first using the highest placing in the ranch cow work class, or the limited ranch cow work class, whichever is applicable to the division. If this does not break the tie, other classes will be used in the following order: ranch cutting, ranch reining, ranch trail, ranch riding and ranch conformation.

## MONITORING PROCEDURES

A monitoring system involving penalty reviews will be implemented in all classes. The monitoring system is implemented not only as an aid to assist the judges, but also in an effort to provide the exhibitors with a fair and accurate score or placing. The monitor system will automatically be used (1) to review any lack of concurrence in scores or placings when major penalties, disqualifications, zero scores or "re-rides", are involved (hereafter "Major Penalties; see below) or (2) when a judge requests a review. Lack of concurrence concerning lameness or non Major Penalties will not be reviewed. A penalty review will not have any impact on the run content except to add or subtract the penalty value to the score. All penalty reviews will take place during the next drag, break, cattle change or at the end of the class. It is possible that a public announcement may not be made that an exhibitor's performance is being reviewed. Regardless of whether a public announcement is made, no scores are official until penalty reviews are completed.

No judge shall be required to change his/her score following a video replay. Each judge's decision is an individual call and based on the individual decision from a video replay.

## **CLASS ROUTINE**

Exhibitors must have their horses in place 15 minutes before the class in which they are entered is called. Announcement regarding the progress of the preceding class will be given over the PA system.

Show management shall exclude horses from competition should there be any unnecessary delay on the part of the exhibitor in bringing the horse into the ring.

In the event a horse is excluded from competition, all entry fees and charges will be forfeited without liability to the AQHA Level 1 Cattle Events Championships. Working orders will be posted for all classes, and all exhibitors must enter the arena at the direction of show officials in the drawn order.

No one, other than contestants in the class and show officials, will be allowed in the arena or in alleyway during the judging.

All judges are to inspect each horse for possible lameness at all times while being judged. Any time a judge calls a horse lame, he is to tell his ring steward the entry number of the horse. The ring steward will in turn communicate to show management that his or her judge has called an entry lame. If the majority of the judges (two or more) call the horse lame as outlined in Rule SHW325 of the AQHA Official Handbook, it will be excused from that segment of the competition. No announcement will be made over the public address system that a horse is being excused. Judges rulings regarding lameness are official and are not subject to review.

When an exhibitor or horse is disqualified from showing by the management or by officials of the AQHA Level 1 Cattle Events Championships, the decision is final.

The American Quarter Horse Association Management reserves the right to change the order and/or published time of classes before or during the show. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to be aware of changes and check the show office or announcer's stand for the most current information.

## **Special Rules and Regulations**

Each exhibitor will be assigned two numbers. During the classes, one number should be placed on each side of the saddle or saddle pad.

Unless otherwise noted in this booklet, the rules printed in the 2019 AQHA Official Handbook shall govern. Any rules and regulations not covered by the 2019 AQHA Official Handbook or by rules and regulations of the 2019 AQHA Level 1 Cattle Events Championships qualifying handbook, will be handled by Show Management, and their decision will be final without recourse of any nature.

Any exhibitor or rider who refuses to obey the requests of the judge, ringmaster or a Show official is automatically barred from further competition and forfeits all previous winnings, together with entry fees and other charges. At the discretion of the show management and/or the World Show Committee, the offending individual and his entire exhibit may be removed from the grounds.

All horses are subject to drug and tail testing under the provisions of Rule VIO330 and VIO400 which state, "For the purpose of this rule, normal tail functions defined as "being able to raise the tail to or above the horizontal plane." A horse's inability to raise its tail to or above the horizontal plane in response to a tail test conducted on site by an AQHA-approved veterinarian shall be considered a violation of this rule."

## **AQHA PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY POLICY**

AQHA prohibits the use of any still photography and/or video cameras for commercial use or distribution through websites, social networking sites or any other media by competitors, spectators and visitors at the Association's championship shows. Any commercial or mass distribution of photography and/or video, or advertisement thereof, taken of subjects within the show ring without prior written consent from show management, is expressly forbidden.

Professional photography equipment, cameras with lenses longer than 4 inches and camera support pods or video cameras of any size mounted on a tripod are NOT permitted under any circumstances except by credentialed media. **No photography or video footage will be allowed of subjects within the competition arena, unless prior written consent is given by show management.**

The show's official photographer, videographer and *The American Quarter Horse Journal* are the only parties permitted to provide others with competition photos or videos. **Anyone, other than official sources, who provides or intends to provide photos or video from the competition arena to a third party, whether for free or for purchase, can be ejected from the event or banned from these events (including showing at AQHA-approved shows) indefinitely.**

As reciprocal assistance to AQHA for privilege of membership, participation in approved events and ownership of an American Quarter Horse, AQHA may use, without payment of any fee whatsoever, any photograph or other forms of likeness reproductions of a member, event participant, horse owner, their horses and registered equine names, to promote AQHA's objectives and activities including, but not limited to, use by third parties with authorization from AQHA.

Media representatives are issued credentials prior to the show upon the completion of an application process. To view the AQHA Photography and Videography Policy and credential request application, visit the show's media resources section on AQHA's website.

## **ATTIRE/LOGOS**

- AQHA rules cover the required apparel for each class; however, this is a world class event that will receive media coverage. Therefore, exhibitors are urged to be neat and clean at all times.
- With the exception of Amateurs, contestants and anyone assisting the contestants in the arena, are allowed to display up to four sponsor logos (any company) on their equipment and apparel, etc., provided they meet the following size restrictions;
  - o 1) logos on any attire or equipment – maximum size of 2”X3”, or 6 square inches
  - o 2) pocket emblems and apparel manufacturer logos on clothing for sale “off the rack” may not exceed 1”X2”, or 2 square inches
  - o 3) contestant endorsements by current AQHA Corporate Partners will be exempt from the size requirements
  - o 4) contestants violating these guidelines may be disqualified from the competition and/or fined to a maximum of \$500.
- The contestant may not cover a logo of a non AQHA corporate partner/sponsor with any sort of tape, cloth, etc. If the logo is of a company that is not an AQHA corporate partner, and is larger than the specs listed above, the contestant simply cannot wear that item of clothing during competition.

## **General Information and Services**

### **No Liability**

Every possible protection and courtesy will be extended to exhibitors at the AQHA Level 1 Cattle Events Championships, but AQHA and Lazy E Ranch, their respective officers, directors, employees and representatives, do not assume or accept duty or responsibility for safety at this Show in regard to participants or for other third parties or for the horses or property thereof. As an express condition of the privilege to participate, each owner of an American Quarter Horse, exhibitor, trainer and their employees or representatives, and all other participants, by participating in the Show, assume risk of participation and do hereby release and discharge the above parties from any and all liability, whenever or however arising, as to personal injury or property damage occurring as a result of participation in an event conducted at the Show, or on Show grounds.

### **World Show Participation Guidelines for Executive Committee and Their Immediate Family Members:**

1. For purposes of these guidelines, the following definitions apply:
  - a. "Immediate Family Member" shall mean an Executive Committee member and his/her spouse, parent, grandparents, stepparent, sibling, half-sibling, step-sibling's spouse, half sibling's spouse.
  - b. "World Shows" shall mean AQHA World Championship Show, AQHYA World Championship Show, Select World Show or the Versatility Ranch Horse World Show [including AQHA's Cowboy Mounted Shooting World Championships] (the "World Shows").
2. Immediate Family Members may not exhibit a horse at the World Shows.
3. Regardless of who the exhibitor is, the following horses are ineligible to compete at a World Show:
  - a. Horses registered in the individual name of an Immediate Family Member;
  - b. Horses registered in joint name of an Immediate Family Member and any other party; or
  - c. Horses registered in the name of an entity (including, but not limited to, corporations, partnerships, trusts, estates and syndicates) in which an Immediate Family Member has an ownership interest in.
4. An Immediate Family Member's trainer may exhibit any horse at a World Show so long as such horse is not ineligible to compete pursuant to Rule 3 above.
5. As AQHA World Show representatives, Executive Committee members should avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest associated with the World Shows and be sensitive to relationships which might be construed as inappropriate.

**No one, including exhibitors,** may sell products from their stall area.

### **Payout Information**

Please be advised that if you earn money premiums, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service regulations require we have a W9 form on file before we pay. The W9 must be completed using the OWNER's name and social security or tax number. Please utilize the form contained in your qualifiers' packet or awards envelope and turn in to AQHA personnel at the show, or to Heidi Lane at [hlane@aqha.org](mailto:hlane@aqha.org) or fax to (806) 349-6412 by June 26, 2019.

Payout checks will be mailed to the owner by the American Quarter Horse Association following the report of all drug and tail test results.

**Zoetis AQHA Level 1 Championships Payout Chart**

No. Paid	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>
1 place	100%									
2 places	60%	40%								
3 places	50%	30%	20%							
4 places	40%	30%	20%	10%						
5 places	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%					
6 places	30%	24%	18%	12%	9%	7%				
7 places	28%	23%	16%	12%	9%	7%	5%			
8 places	25%	20%	15%	12%	10%	8%	6%	4%		
9 places	23%	18%	15%	11%	9%	8%	7%	5%	4%	
10 places	20%	16%	14%	11%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%