
AQHA LEVEL I CHAMPIONSHIPS



2020 HANDBOOK

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2020 HANDBOOK FOR THE AQHA CENTRAL, AQHA WEST, NUTRENA EAST LEVEL 1 CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Effective Date and Repeal

These rules become effective January 1, 2020, for the conduct of the AQHA Central, AQHA West, and Nutrena East Level 1 Championships of 2020 (hereinafter known as “Level 1 Championships” unless otherwise stated).

The Level 1 Championships shall be governed by the rules and regulations of the AQHA Official Handbook, this Handbook, Oklahoma State Fair Rules and Regulations, South Point Rules and Regulations, and the World Equestrian Center Rules and Regulations. All participants and owners agree to abide by such rules and regulations, and all decisions made by show management will be final.

- AQHA Central Level 1 Championship – held April 8-11, 2020 at the State Fair Park in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (move-in Tuesday, April 7 at 8am)
 - Show Secretary: Heidi Lane, AQHA, 1600 Quarter Horse Dr, Amarillo, TX 79104
Email hlane@aqha.org, fax 806-349-6412 phone: 806-378-4338, cell: (719) 320-6355
- AQHA West Level 1 Championship – held April 15-19, 2020 at the South Point Arena & Equestrian Center in Las Vegas, Nevada (Barn B move-in Monday, April 13 at noon, Barn A move-in Tuesday, April 14 at 8 am)
 - Show Secretary: Heidi Lane, AQHA, 1600 Quarter Horse Dr, Amarillo, TX 79104
Email hlane@aqha.org, fax 806-349-6412 phone: 806-378-4338, cell: (719) 320-6355
- Nutrena East Level 1 Championship – held April 29-May 3, 2020 at the World Equestrian Center in Wilmington, Ohio (move-in Sponsors welcome Monday, April 27 at 4 pm, All others move-in Tuesday April 28 at 8 am,)
 - Show Secretary: Chris Cecil Darnell, 111 Sharon Copley Road, Wadsworth, OH 44281
Email: ccdarnell@aol.com, fax 330-666-1150 phone 330-697-6353
- AQHA Cattle Level 1 Championship – held June 23-28, 2020 at the Lazy E Arena in Guthrie, OK (move-in Sunday, June 21 at 8 am) Click here for more information
<https://www.aqha.com/disciplines/showing/shows/vrh-world>
 - Show Secretary: Heidi Lane, AQHA, 1600 Quarter Horse Dr, Amarillo, TX 79104
Email hlane@aqha.org, fax 806-349-6412 phone: 806-378-4338

HEALTH (CVI) /COGGINS (EIA)

- AQHA Central Level 1 Championship - April 8-11, 2020 at the State Fair Park in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 - Coggins dated within 12 months
 - Health papers dated within 30 days
- AQHA West Level 1 Championship - April 15-18, 2020 at the South Point Arena & Equestrian Center in Las Vegas,
 - Coggins dated within 6 months
 - Health papers dated within 30 days
- Nutrena East Level 1 Championship - April 29-May 3, 2020 at the World Equestrian Center in Wilmington, Ohio
 - Coggins dated within 12 months
 - Health papers dated within 30 days

No official AQHA points will be earned by participation in the Level 1 Championships; however, placing in the top ten, Reserve Level 1 Champions and Level 1 Champions will be recognized on the permanent record of the respective horse.

- **** New for 2020: AQHA Rookie eligibility will be based off the previous year's points and earnings, similar to Level 1 eligibility for these championship shows.**

WALK/TROT, ROOKIE AND LEVEL 1 COMPETITOR ELIGIBILITY

- Eligibility is determined on a class-by-class basis (i.e. you may be eligible for some classes but not others)
- Walk/Trot eligibility – Riders entered in a walk/trot class cannot show in the corresponding loping/cantering class. Exhibitor must be Level 1 eligible to enter walk/trot; eligibility is determined by class.
- Rookie eligibility is based on the exhibitor and horse's eligibility as of January 1, 2019
 - 2019 Rookie eligibility printouts for EXHIBITORS and HORSES are required.
<https://www.aqha.com/find-your-level>
- Level 1 eligibility is also based on the exhibitor's eligibility as of January 1, 2019
 - 2019 Level 1 eligibility print-out for EXHIBITORS is required. <https://www.aqha.com/find-your-level>

LEVEL 1 ELIGIBILITY (2019)

To be eligible for Level 1 competition, an individual may **NOT**:

- Have exceeded the point cap for that class
- Have earned a superior award in the past 10 years for that particular class in any equine organization with a membership of more than 7,500 members (including but not limited to AQHA, APHA, ApHC,).
- Have placed in the top three at any AQHA world show in that particular class.
- Have won a world, reserve world, national or reserve national championship title in that particular class (excluding Level 1 classes) in any equine organization with a membership of more than 7,500 members (including but not limited to AQHA, APHA, ApHC,).
- Have won an international or reserve international title for that particular class at the European Championships or German Championships regardless of whether the international class in question was an AQHA-approved class
- Have won a total of \$5,000 in cash and/or prizes with any equine organization by class
- Have been an accredited horse show judge or who has trained professionally

If a competitor won a Level 1 Championship, he/she cannot show in that same class at future Level 1 Championships. ([AQHA Rule SHW245.3](#))

- However, that exhibitor can continue to show in that class at AQHA shows (excluding the Level 1 Championships) until he/she meets the point level.
- The exhibitor being mentioned can also still show at the Level 1 Championship in any other class(es) for which he/she is still Level 1 eligible
- Eligibility is from January 1 – December 31. On January 1, 2019, if that exhibitor is Level 1 eligible, they are eligible to compete at the 2020 Level 1 Championship of their choice in the Level 1 classes for which they are eligible.

ROOKIE ELIGIBILITY (2019)

- Rookie eligibility is based on lifetime achievements (in open, amateur and/or youth Divisions) of exhibitor and horse; both of which must be eligible to enter a Rookie class.
- For an exhibitor to be Rookie eligible:
 - The exhibitor must have earned fewer than 10 lifetime points in that class in any division; open, amateur or youth.
 - The exhibitor may also not have won \$5,000 or more in any equine organization or association by class.
- For a horse to be Rookie eligible:
 - The horse must have earned fewer than 50 lifetime points in that class in any division; open, amateur or youth.

- The horse may also not have won \$1,000 or more in any equine organization or association by class.
- The point and earnings limit do not apply to horses in over fence classes.
- Rookie classes will be held as all-age amateur and all-age youth classes.
- Rookie classes will be held separately from Level 1 classes and, if the horse/exhibitor are eligible, may show in both.

OTHER INFORMATION

- It is not required that the exhibitor own the horse to show in either Rookie or Level 1; however, the horse must be a registered American Quarter Horse.
- Exhibitor must be current AQHA member (in good standings with AQHA) at the time of entry thru the end of the show. If a membership will expire prior to the Level 1 Championships, the membership can be renewed at the time of the show
- An exhibitor may show up to three horses in individual working events, so long as they are properly eligible.
- A horse/exhibitor may compete in a Level 1, Rookie, Walk Trot amateur or Level 1, Rookie, Walk Trot youth CLASS at only one Level 1 championship in a year. For example, if the horse and/or exhibitor competes in the 2020 AQHA Central Level 1 Championship in ranch riding, they cannot then compete in ranch riding at any other Level 1 Championships; however they may still show in any other class (showmanship, halter, reining, etc.) at a different Level 1 Championship.
- All horses are subject to drug testing under the provisions of Rule VIO253 of the 2020 AQHA Official Handbook.
- Because stallions are not allowed in Level 1, Rookie or Walk Trot classes, they will be prohibited from the show grounds.
- An entry number will be assigned to every horse by the show secretary.
- A horse cannot be shown in both halter and performance halter. The exhibitor/owner must choose between the two.
 - A horse is eligible to be shown in performance halter so long as that horse:
 - Has earned a Racing ROM;
 - Has earned a Performance ROM prior to January 2010;
 - Has earned a Performance ROM after January 2010 so long as their record reflects they have earned at least five or more AQHA performance points in riding classes (except in showmanship).

SUBSTITUTIONS

- Should a horse entered in a 2020 Level 1 Championship die, the exhibitor may substitute and participate with another. The appropriate show office must be notified by noon the day prior to the appropriate class and be provided a written statement reporting the death of the horse, along with the original registration certificate that can be marked to indicate the horse is deceased.
- If a horse becomes severely injured or disabled, a substitute will also be allowed so long as a written statement is provided with the entry(ies) by an AAEP-approved veterinarian stating the severity of the debilitating injury or illness, and lack of the probability of short-term recovery. The appropriate show office must be notified by noon the day prior to the particular class.

ATTIRE

- A hard hat and full harness are mandatory requirements at all times while jumping over fences anywhere on the grounds. PLEASE REFER TO RULE SHW320.2 of the 2020 AQHA Official Handbook, WHICH STATES: "It is mandatory for riders in all hunter, jumper and equitation over fence classes, including hunter hack, where jumping is required and when jumping anywhere on the competition ground to wear properly fastened protective headgear that meets ASTM/SEI standards or equivalent international standards for equestrian use. The helmet must also be properly fitted with harness secured. It is mandatory that all youth wear an ASTM/SEI approved hard hat with harness during all English classes including flat and over fence classes. It is recommended that Amateurs wear an ASTM/SEI approved hard hat with harness in all English classes."

- AQHA rules cover the required apparel for each class; however, this is a unique equine event that will most likely appeal to spectators; therefore, exhibitors are urged to be neat and clean at all times.

CANCELLATIONS/REFUNDS

- 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 be not be refunded.
- Illness, accidents or other incidents concerning people will not be eligible for refund.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK / INDEMNITY

Participants (and, if 17 years old or younger, participants' parents and/or legal guardians) agree that they understand the nature of Level 1 Championship Show participation and attendance activities ("Activities") and that the Activities include, but are not limited to, "inherent risks of equine activities" that may result in property damage and bodily injury, including, but not limited to, permanent disability, paralysis, and death (collectively "risks"); that such risks may be caused by participant's own action or inaction, the action or inaction of others participating in the activities, the condition of the premises at which the activities take place, and/or the negligence of the "releasees" named below.

Participants understand that "inherent risk of equine activities" means dangers or conditions that are an integral part of equine activities, including, but not limited to, any of the following: (a) the propensity of an equine to behave in ways that may result in injury or loss to persons on or around the equine; (b) the unpredictability of an equine's reaction to sounds, sudden movements, unfamiliar objects, persons, or other animals; (c) hazards, including, but not limited to, surface or subsurface conditions; (d) a collision with another equine, another animal, a person, or an object; and (e) the potential of an equine activity participant to act in a negligent manner that may contribute to injury or loss to the person of the participant or to other persons, including, but not limited to, failing to maintain control over an equine or failing to act within the ability of the participant.

A PARTICIPANT FULLY ACCEPTS AND ASSUMES ALL SUCH RISKS AND ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSSES, COSTS, AND DAMAGES PARTICIPANT INCURS AS A RESULT OF PARTICIPANT'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES. PARTICIPANT HEREBY RELEASES, DISCHARGES, AND COVENANTS NOT TO SUE AQHA, AQHA CORPORATE PARTNERS OR, THE OWNER AND LESSORS OF PREMISES ON WHICH THE ACTIVITIES TAKE PLACE OR THEIR RESPECTIVE ADMINISTRATORS, DIRECTORS, AGENTS, OFFICERS, MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND EMPLOYEES (EACH CONSIDERED ONE OF THE "RELEASEES" HEREIN) FROM ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, LOSSES, OR DAMAGES WHENEVER OR HOWEVER ARISING AS TO INJURY, DEATH AND/OR PROPERTY DAMAGE OCCURRING AS A RESULT OF PARTICIPANT'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES OR CAUSED OR ALLEGED TO BE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE.

A participant agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and defend releasees from any and all liability, whenever or however arising, from all third party claims, demands, causes of action, suits, judgments, liabilities, costs and expenses of any nature arising out of (i) participant's negligent act(s) or omissions during or related in any way to the activities; and/or (ii) participant's willful act(s) or omission(s) during or related in any way to the activities.

2020 AQHA LEVEL 1 CHAMPIONSHIPS CLASSES					
		AQHA West	AQHA Central	Nutrena East	Cattle Events
Level 1 youth (all-age classes)	Yearling mares	X	X	X	
	Yearling geldings	X	X	X	
	2-year-old mares	X	X	X	
	2-year-old geldings	X	X	X	
	3-year-old mares	X	X	X	
	3-year-old geldings	X	X	X	
	Aged mares	X	X	X	
	Aged geldings	X	X	X	
	Performance halter mares	X	X	X	
	Performance halter geldings	X	X	X	
	Working hunter	X	X	X	
	Equitation over fences	X	X	X	
	Hunter hack	X	X	X	
	Barrel racing	X	X	X	
	Pole bending	X	X	X	
	Stake race	X	X	X	
	Ranch riding	X	X	X	X
	Reining	X	X	X	
	Cutting				X
	Boxing				X
	Working cow horse				X
	Heading				X
	Heeling				X
	Tie-down roping				X
	Breakaway roping				X
	Level 1 (13-&under, 14-18)	Showmanship	X	X	X
Horsemanship		X	X	X	
Western Pleasure		X	X	X	
Hunt seat equitation		X	X	X	
Hunter under saddle		X	X	X	
Western riding		X	X	X	
Trail		X	X	X	
Level 1 amateur (all-age classes)	Yearling mares	X	X	X	
	Yearling geldings	X	X	X	
	2-year-old mares	X	X	X	
	2-year-old geldings	X	X	X	
	3-year-old mares	X	X	X	
	3-year-old geldings	X	X	X	
	Aged mares	X	X	X	
	Aged geldings	X	X	X	
	Performance halter mares	X	X	X	
	Performance halter geldings	X	X	X	
	Working hunter	X	X	X	
	Equitation over fences	X	X	X	
	Hunter hack	X	X	X	
	Barrel racing	X	X	X	
	Pole bending	X	X	X	
	Stake race	X	X	X	
	Reining	X	X	X	
	Cutting				X
	Boxing				X
	Working cow horse				X
Heading				X	
Heeling				X	
Tie-down roping				X	
Breakaway roping				X	
Level 1 (amateur, Select)	Showmanship	X	X	X	
	Horsemanship	X	X	X	
	Western Pleasure	X	X	X	
	Hunt seat equitation	X	X	X	
	Hunter under saddle	X	X	X	
	Western riding	X	X	X	
	Trail	X	X	X	
	Ranch riding	X	X	X	X
Rookie youth/amateur (all-age classes)	Showmanship	X	X	X	
	Western Pleasure	X	X	X	
	Horsemanship	X	X	X	
	Hunter Under Saddle	X	X	X	
	Hunt Seat Equitation	X	X	X	
	Trail	X	X	X	
	Western Riding	X	X	X	
	Ranch Riding	X	X	X	X
	Reining	X	X	X	
	Working hunter	X	X	X	
	Equitation over fences	X	X	X	
Hunter hack	X	X	X		
Walk/Trot youth/amateur (all-age classes)	Western Pleasure	X	X	X	
	Horsemanship	X	X	X	
	Hunter Under Saddle	X	X	X	
	Hunt Seat Equitation	X	X	X	
	Trail	X	X	X	

LATE FEE POLICY

- Entries received after deadline date (March 15, 2020) and up to April 1st:
 - \$150 flat late fee per horse/rider combination plus normal entry fees, drug and office charges
- Entries received from April 1st until the show's start date:
 - \$300 flat fee per horse/rider combination plus normal entry fees, drug and office charges
- Until noon the day prior to the class, only for horse/rider combinations already entered in the show:
 - Double the class entry fee (\$140 for Level 1 classes; \$120 for Rookie and Walk Trot classes)

ENTERING

- Entries must be received by March 15, 2020 to avoid late fees. If you have any questions, please contact the secretary for the show you wish to attend.
- The amount for entry fee, office fee, drug fee, obstacle/over fence fee and jackpot (optional) fees are the same at each of the Level 1 Championships.
- **Rookie and Walk/Trot fees (Youth and Amateur):**
 - Riders entered in a walk/trot class cannot show in the corresponding loping/cantering class
 - The entry fee for Rookie and Walk Trot classes will be **\$60** per class
 - **If entering any Level 1 class, you must also pay the Level 1 class fees**
 - Optional jackpot fee - \$50 per class (100% paid back, mailed after the show)
 - Drug Fee - \$35 per horse
 - Office fee - \$35 per horse/exhibitor
 - Trail obstacle fee - **\$15** per class
 - Over fence fee - **\$15** per class
- **Level 1 fees (Youth and Amateur):**
 - The entry fee for Level 1 classes will be **\$70** per class
 - **If entering any Rookie or Walk/Trot class, you must also pay the Rookie/Walk Trot class fees**
 - Optional jackpot - \$50 per class (100% paid back, mailed after the show)
 - Drug Fee - \$35 per horse
 - Office fee - \$35 per horse/exhibitor
 - Trail obstacle fee - **\$15** per class
 - Over fence fee - **\$15** per class
- **STALLING:**
 - **Level 1 Central**
 - Stall fee (whether horse or tack) - **\$140**
 - You may bring your own feed and bedding, or obtain it from the fairgrounds
 - OKC Feed & Bedding (405) 948-6786
 - Sawdust is prohibited as bedding, however, wood chips, and shavings are acceptable
 - [OKC Feed & Bedding Webpage and Advanced Bedding Order Form](#)
 - **Level 1 West**
 - Stall fee (whether horse or tack) - **\$234**
 - Stall fee at South Point will include 2 mats and 4 bags of shavings
 - Outside shavings are prohibited, but additional mats or shavings may be purchased on site
 - Timothy and alfalfa hay are also available at the South Point Feed Store
 - **Level 1 East**
 - Stall fee (whether horse or tack) - **\$165**
 - Stall Fee includes 5 bags of shavings

Awards - Please be aware awards are subject to change

<p>Class Awards – Level 1 Youth, Level 1 Amateur</p> <p><i>Champion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Gold Trophyo Arc Belt Buckleo Neck Wreatho Top ten patch <p><i>Reserve Champion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Silver Trophyo Justin Boot Certificateo Reserve Champion Ribbono Top ten patch <p><i>Bronze Champion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Bronze Trophyo Wrangler Jeans Certificateo Bronze Champion Ribbono Top ten patch <p><i>4th – 10th</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Ribbono Top ten patch <p><i>11th – 15th</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Medallion <p>Class Awards – Rooke Youth, Rookie Amateur, Walk/Trot Youth, Walk/Trot Amateur</p> <p><i>Champion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Acrylic Trophyo Arc Belt Buckleo Neck Wreatho Top ten patch <p><i>Reserve Champion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Acrylic Trophyo Reserve Champion Ribbono Top ten patch <p><i>Bronze Champion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Acrylic Trophyo Bronze Champion Ribbono Top ten patch <p><i>4th – 10th</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Ribbono Top ten patch <p><i>11th – 15th</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Medallion	<p>All Around Awards – Amateur, Select Amateur, Youth 13 & Under, Youth 14-18</p> <p><i>Champion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Trophyo Arc Belt Buckleo Showtime Saddle Pad <p><i>Reserve All Around</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Trophyo Arc Belt Buckleo Showtime Saddle Pad <p><i>Bronze All Around</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Trophy <p>Halter Awards – Youth and Amateur</p> <p><i>Champion of Champions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Trophyo Neck Ribbon <p><i>Reserve Champion of Champions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Trophyo Neck Ribbon <p>High Point Awards</p> <p>Western – Amateur, Select Amateur, Youth 13 & Under, Youth 14-18</p> <p><i>Champion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o TBD <p>English – Amateur, Select Amateur, Youth 13 & Under, Youth 14-18</p> <p><i>Champion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o TBD <p>Rookie 13 & Under, Rookie 14-18, Rookie Amateur, Rookie Select Amateur</p> <p><i>Champion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o TBD
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AWARDS

ALL-AROUND AWARDS (Champion, Reserve, 3rd Place Awards)

- All-Around honors will be presented to a Level 1 Amateur, Level 1 Select Amateur, Level 1 Youth 13 & Under and Level 1 Youth 14-18.
 - To be eligible for all-around honors, a horse/exhibitor combination must compete in at least three total classes in three or more different categories.
 - Category I – Halter/Performance Halter
 - Category II – Reining, Western Riding, Trail, Ranch Riding, Working Cow Horse, Boxing
 - Category III – Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Stake Race, Team Penning, Ranch Sorting
 - Category IV – Working Hunter, Hunter Hack
 - Category V – Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle
 - Category VI – Tie-Down Roping, Breakaway Roping, Heading, Heeling, Cutting
 - Category VII – Showmanship, Horsemanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Equitation over Fences
 - Scoring for all-around honors shall be on a nine-point system as follows:
 - Example: In a class of nine or more horses, the first-place horse receives nine credits, second gets eight credits, and so on down through ninth place.
 - In a class of less than nine, credits will be awarded based on the number in the class.
 - No credits will be awarded to a disqualified horse, regardless of the number in the class.
 - In case a tie occurs in the All-Around calculations, the horse in the Level 1 Amateur, Level 1 Select Amateur, Level 1 Youth 13 & under, and Level 1 Youth 14-18 will be the one who:
 1. Earned credits in the greatest number of events
 2. The horse/contestant winning over the greatest number of horses
 3. Earned the most credits in performance events
 - Halter is not required; however, points earned will count towards All-Around awards.
 - Walk/Trot classes do not count towards All-Around awards.

HIGH POINT ROOKIE AWARDS (Champion Awards only)

- The high point rookie awards will be given to the highest scoring Rookie Youth exhibitor and the highest scoring Rookie Amateur exhibitor.
 - To be eligible, the horse/exhibitor combination must compete in at least three Rookie classes at the show and be Rookie eligible.
 - Walk/Trot classes do not count towards High-Point awards.

ENGLISH AND WESTERN HIGH-POINT AWARDS (Champion Award only)

- The English and western high-point awards will be given to the highest-scoring Youth 13-&-under, Youth 14-18, Amateur and Select amateur who did not place in the top three in the all-around competition and who competed in at least three of the classes listed below:
 - High-Point Western: halter; trail; horsemanship; reining; ranch riding; showmanship; western riding; western pleasure; barrel racing; pole bending; stake race
 - High-Point English: halter; hunter hack; hunter under saddle; hunt seat equitation; equitation over fences; showmanship; working hunter
- Walk/Trot classes do not count towards High-Point awards.

HALTER CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS (Champion and Reserve Awards)

- A Level 1 Youth and Level 1 Amateur Halter Champion of Champions and Reserve Halter Champion of Champions will be named.
 - In youth, the winners of each halter class (ten classes – yearling geldings, 2-yr-old geldings, 3-yr-old geldings, aged geldings and performance halter geldings; yearling fillies, 2-yr-old fillies, 3-yr-old fillies, aged mares and performance halter mares) will be brought back to be judged in one class, where the judges will name the Champion of Champions in Level 1 Youth.
 - In amateur, the winners of each halter class (ten classes – yearling geldings, 2-yr-old geldings, 3-yr-old geldings, aged geldings and performance halter geldings; yearling fillies, 2-yr-old fillies, 3-yr-old fillies, aged mares and performance halter mares) will be brought back to be judged in one class, where the judges will name the Champion of Champions in Level 1 Amateur.

GENERAL JUDGING/MONITORING PROCEDURES

- All AQHA events will be judged according to the rules listed in the AQHA Official Handbook. No other publication will supersede the rules of the AQHA Official Handbook, or the Level 1 Championships Handbook, including the show program.
- Judges are to inspect each horse in all classes for possible lameness.
 - In both performance and halter classes, a horse shall automatically be disqualified if two or more judges call the horse lame during the class.
 - If it is determined that an entry does not fit the criteria of Rule SHW325 of the AQHA Official Handbook of being obviously lame, the horse will not be excused and will remain in the arena.
 - Judges rulings regarding lameness are official and are not subject to review.
- There will be three judges for all classes, and their placings will be combined.
- Judges will score each class independently and will place through 15 places.
- In placed classes, judges' individual score/placing cards will be given to show management for tabulation.
- Ties:
 - Placed events:
 - If the ties cannot be broken by totaling judges' placings, it will be done by using a tie-breaker judge. Judge no. 1 is the first tie-breaker; if judge no. 1 did not use any of the tied horses, then judge no. 2 becomes the tie-breaker judge; if judge no. 2 did not use any of the tied horses, then judge no. 3 becomes the tie breaker; until the judge is found that used at least one of the tied horses. This judge's placing will be used to break the tie. This method, and only this method, will be used to break all ties in placed events.
 - Please refer to the chart below for numerical scores in placed classes only:

1. 120	6. 55	11. 15
2. 105	7. 45	12. 10
3. 91	8. 36	13. 6
4. 78	9. 28	14. 3
5. 66	10. 21	15. 1
 - Timed Events
 - Any horse receiving no time on its first run is eliminated.
 - If there is a tie for the Level 1 Championship, the tie will be run off until there is a winner.
 - Scored events:
 - If the ties cannot be broken by totaling judges' placings, it will be done by using a tie-breaker judge. Judge no. 1 is the first tie-breaker; if judge no. 1 did not use any of the tied horses, then judge no. 2 becomes the tie-breaker judge; if judge no. 2 did not use any of the tied horses, then judge no. 3 becomes the tie breaker; until the judge is found that used at least one of the tied horses. This judge's placing will be used to break the tie. This method, and only this method, will be used to break all ties in scored events.

- If there is a tie for the Level 1 Championship, the tie will be worked off.
 - All ties will be broken by totaling the judges' scores.
- A monitoring system involving penalty reviews will be implemented not only as an aid to assist the judges, but also to provide the exhibitors with a fair and accurate score or time. A run will not be reviewed if, after giving back the penalty points in question, the exhibitor's score would not be enough to place in the top ten.
 - The monitor system will be used
 - to review any lack of concurrence in scores or times when major penalties, disqualifications, zero scores, OP's (off patterns), "no times" are involved (hereafter "Major Penalties; see specific classes), or 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. The judge may only add or subtract the penalty value to the score.
 - All penalty reviews will take place during the next drag, break, 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 or times 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.
- Movement of horses in any class will be at the discretion of the judge; however, horses will not be pulled out or lined up in placing order by any judge at any time, except as directed by show management.
- Any clear evidence of fresh blood on the horse, including, but not limited to, the nose, chin, mouth, tongue or gums, regardless of cause, shall be cause for disqualification.
- A contestant will be disqualified and immediately excused for abuse of a horse.

RULES FOR SPECIFIC CLASSES

- **BARREL RACING/POLE BENDING/STAKE RACE**
 - In all barrel and poles classes, the following disqualifications will be monitored:
 - Failure to follow pattern.
 - Excessive use of whip, rope, crop, bat or reins anywhere on the horse.
 - In the case of electric timer malfunction, re-runs may be required as directed by show management and their decision shall be final.
- **HALTER/PERFORMANCE HALTER**
 - In all halter classes, horses will walk to the three judges one at a time. As the horse approaches, the judges will step to their right to enable the horse to trot straight to a cone placed 50 feet away. At the cone, the horse will continue trotting, turn to the left and trot toward the left wall of the arena. After trotting, the horses will line up per the ring steward's instructions.
 - Please refer to halter equipment rules SHW355.
 - Mares and geldings 1 year of age and older may be shown with a safety lead or lip cord in open, amateur, and youth divisions; lip chains of any other type are prohibited; all other leads that do not meet the definition of an allowed safety lead or lip cord are prohibited.
 - The following horses may not be allowed to be shown with a safety lead or lip cord:
 - 355.3.1 weanlings
 - 355.3.2 any horses shown in a performance halter class
 - 355.3.3 any horse shown in a ranch horse conformation class
 - Manners of horses:
 - A well-mannered horse is defined as a horse that is under control by the exhibitor while tracking and standing for inspection such that it may be exhibited safely and viewed safely by the judge. The horse should stand reasonably still and flat-footed. At

their discretion, the judge may fault a horse that is poorly mannered (including, but not limited to, biting, rearing, striking or bucking) but does not disrupt or endanger other horses or exhibitors around them, and is able to be inspected by the judge. A horse that is excessively unruly or poor mannered (see Rule SHW362 of AQHA's Official Handbook), not clearly under the control of the exhibitor, and/or disruptive to the point that the safety of other horses or exhibitors or the judge is jeopardized, should be disqualified and excused from the class. Any clear evidence of fresh blood on the horse, including, but not limited to, the nose, chin, mouth, tongue, or gums, regardless of cause, shall be cause for disqualification.

- Any horse that becomes detached from its handler and is no longer under control by the handler will automatically be disqualified and excused.
- If a particular horse exhibits poor mannerisms (i.e. rearing, kicking, backing or falling into others, etc.) causes other exhibitor(s) to lose their horse(s), only the initiating horse will be disqualified and excused.
 - The decision of the judge(s) and/or ring steward(s) will be final.
- Any horse that has fallen will automatically be disqualified and excused.
 - A horse is considered having fallen when on his or her side with four feet extended in the same direction.

➤ **HUNT SEAT EQUITATION**

- Zero (0) scores, five (5) point, ten (10) point penalties, and DQ's may be monitored.

➤ **HUNTER HACK**

- Each judge will score the pattern work from 1-100 during the pattern or fence work.
 - The top 15 scoring exhibitors, including ties, will be invited back to perform on the rail.
 - All exhibitors invited back to work on the rail will work in one heat, no matter the number returning. There will be no splits or cuts for rail work.

➤ **HUNTER UNDER SADDLE**

- An exhibitor who fails to take the prescribed gait when called may be penalized at the judges' discretion.
- Judges may ask horses to hand gallop.

➤ **RANCH RIDING**

- Three (3) point, five (5) point, ten (10) point penalties, and OP (Off Pattern) penalties may be monitored.

➤ **REINING**

- Zero (0) scores, no scores, two (2) point penalties, (with the exception of marker penalties) and five (5) point penalties may be monitored.

➤ **SHOWMANSHIP**

- Showmanship is a **placed** class.
 - Zero (0) scores, five (5) point, ten (10) point penalties, and DQ's may be monitored.

➤ **TRAIL**

- Trail is a scored class.
- Zero (0) scores, three (3) point and five (5) point penalties will be monitored.
- Only two refusals are permitted at any obstacle in the trail class.
 - After two refusals, the contestant must go to the next obstacle.

➤ **WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP**

- Zero (0) scores, five (5) point, ten (10) point penalties, and DQ's may be monitored.

➤ **WESTERN PLEASURE**

- An exhibitor who fails to take the prescribed gait when called may be penalized at the judges' discretion.
- At the option of the judge, horses may be asked to lengthen their stride at the walk or the lope.

➤ **WESTERN RIDING**

- Zero (0) scores, three (3) point and five (5) point penalties will be monitored.

➤ **WORKING HUNTER**

- In all working hunter classes, the following will be monitored:
 - A total of three disobediences, which can include any of the following: refusal, stop, run out or extra circle.
 - Jumping an obstacle before it is reset.
 - Bolting from the arena.
 - Off course.
 - Deliberately addressing an obstacle.
 - Failure to trot a small circle on a loose rein for soundness.

ANIMAL WELFARE GUIDELINES

- Please refer to the rulebook (<https://www.aqha.com/aqha-rulebook>) to familiarize your self with these rules. Rule VIO100 thru VIO240. Inhumane treatment of any horse or any other animal on show grounds is strictly prohibited. Treatment of any horse will be considered inhumane if a person, educated or experienced in accepted equine training techniques, would perceive the conduct of an individual to be inhumane.
- Prohibited devices may be not be used anywhere on the grounds.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY OF THE LEVEL 1 CHAMPIONSHIPS

AQHA may film and/or photograph all owners, trainers and exhibitors, together with all horses participating in the various events of the championships, to compile AQHA publicity footage, instructional films, a telecast or live Webcast of the event, etc., as it determines. Furthermore, from time to time, AQHA receives requests from various sources for permission to film and/or photograph the championships to be used in the development of instructional and promotional materials. This includes class performances. The majority of this material is developed by university extension programs as judging materials and is used for comparative purposes. By participating, owners, trainers and exhibitors agree that no compensation shall be due from AQHA, Nutrena or any other party for the publication and/or broadcast of their likeness, picture, name, etc. Please refer to Rule GEN111 of the AQHA Official Handbook.

Exhibitor understands, agrees and acknowledges that official AQHA Level 1 Championships videographers and photographers and mass media approved by AQHA have full access to the AQHA Central Level 1 Championship, AQHA West Level 1 Championship, the Nutrena AQHA East Level 1 Championship and the AQHA Cattle Level 1 Championship at any time. This includes the use of lights, flashes and other photo and video equipment. All exhibitors understand, agree and acknowledge that they should be prepared for the possibility of official photographers, videographers and/or approved mass media taping and/or taking pictures of warm-ups, competition, etc.

AQHA PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY POLICY

AQHA prohibits competitors, spectators and visitors at the Association's Championship Shows from taking photography or videography footage intended for commercial distribution and use through publications, websites, social networking sites, or any other similar media. **Any such prohibited use is expressly forbidden without prior written consent from show management.** For purposes of the AQHA Photography and Videography policy, "photography or videography footage" includes footage of subjects on Championship Show grounds, including but not limited to, footage taken in competition arenas, warm-up pens, barns or stalls. Unless approved in writing by show management, professional photography equipment, cameras with

lenses longer than four 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. The Championship 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 credentialed official sources, who provides or intends to use photos or video footage in violation of the AQHA Photography and Videography Policy, can be ejected from the event and/or indefinitely banned from Championship Shows and AQHA-approved shows.** Read the entire AQHA Photography and Videography Policy at www.aqha.com.

Level 1 Championships Official Photographer

Shane Rux Photography
 835 Keene Rd., B, Clearwater, FL 33755
 (877) 226-8122
shaneruxphotography@gmail.com
www.shaneruxphoto.com

Level 1 Championships Official Videographer

TBD

JACKPOT PAYOUT

- Payouts for the jackpot portion of classes will be figured by the number of horses which have entered the optional jackpot. All monies will be paid according to the class placings of only the horses that entered the jackpot.
- Upon AQHA's receiving drug testing results, if a horse had won money at the show, that owner will be required to return said money to AQHA without protest.
- The following chart illustrates the percentages paid for the jackpot.

Class Payout

# of Entries	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
1-2	100.0%									
3-5	60.0%	40.0%								
6-9	50.0%	30.0%	20.0%							
10-13	40.0%	30.0%	20.0%	10.0%						
14-17	32.0%	25.0%	19.0%	13.0%	11.0%					
18-22	29.0%	23.0%	18.0%	12.0%	10.0%	8.0%				
23-27	28.0%	22.0%	17.0%	11.0%	9.0%	7.0%	6.0%			
28-32	27.0%	21.0%	16.0%	10.0%	9.0%	7.0%	6.0%	4.0%		
33-38	26.0%	20.0%	14.5%	10.0%	8.5%	6.5%	5.5%	3.5%	3.0%	2.5%
39-44	25.0%	18.0%	13.0%	10.0%	8.5%	7.0%	6.0%	5.0%	4.0%	3.5%
45+	20.0%	16.0%	14.0%	11.0%	9.0%	8.0%	7.0%	6.0%	5.0%	4.0%

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Thank you for your interest in sponsoring the AQHA Level 1 Championship Shows.

This is truly our associations foundation and future and your support is truly appreciated!

The following sponsorships are available:

<i>Class Sponsorship</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Division Sponsorship</i>	<i>\$800</i>
<i>Program Ad</i>	<i>\$650</i>

New this year we are offering a 6 x 9 color Program ad. The new program will go to all three Level 1 Championship Shows as well as be in a digital form!

The Division Sponsorship – Pick a division then pick an Age Group or Level
You will be sponsoring 4-6 classes!!

Discipline:

Western Division-Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Trail, Showmanship
English Division -Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Equitation over Fences, Hunter Hack, Working Hunter,
Performance Division-Reining, Ranch Riding, Performance Halter Mares, Performance Halter Geldings
Halter Division- Yearlings, Two year olds, Three year olds, Aged-- Mares or Geldings

Division:

Youth: 13 and under, 14-18 Youth or Rookie Amateur
Amateur: Amateur, Select Amateur or Rookie Amateur

Sponsorship Amenities

- **Logo or name inclusion of draw sheets***
- **Logo or name on the AQHA Level 1 Championships results web page***
- **Announcer read promotional script***
- **Priority stalling***
- **Opportunity to present awards***
- **Early arrive- East***

Once you pick a level of sponsorship, we will pick a class or division that works best for you and you will be sent you a confirmation email with all the information you need including deadlines.

Contact Tamra Kyle (903) 814-0506 aqhakyle@gmail.com

Look forward to working with you.