

**Ranching Committee Agenda  
2018 Convention  
Jacksonville, Florida**

1. Welcome by Chair
2. Committee guidelines
3. Meeting protocol
4. Member review of and comments on agenda items
5. Review of agenda items by subcommittees
6. Nominations for Committee Chair (Saturday)

**RANCHING HERITAGE SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Agenda items eligible for Membership & Board of Directors Consideration:**

7. Add new rule – add an additional venue for Ranching Heritage Breeders to add recognition for their breeding program and help to market their horses. – (member)
8. Add new rule – Ranch Cutting as a new class to Ranching Heritage Challenges adopting SHW565 VRH Ranch Cutting rules. – (member)
9. Add new rule – add an Open 6 & over or 7 and Up Working Ranch Horse Class in Ranch Heritage Challenges. – (member)
10. Amend rule SHW550 – VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE DIVISION AND ~~RANCHING HERITAGE CHALLENGES.~~

Add new rule - add new section in the Official Handbook of Rules & Regulations for Ranching Heritage Challenge rules. – (member)

**Agenda items for discussion only:**

11. Nomination fees.
12. Format of additional Challenges.
13. Identifying Ranching Heritage Bred horses at other major events. (i.e. NCHA)
14. Ranching Heritage Internships.

## RANCHING PERFORMANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

### Agenda items eligible for Membership & Board of Directors Consideration:

15. Amend rule EQUIPMENT. SHW300.5 The use of earplugs or cotton in the horse's ears is acceptable except in Ranch Riding, all VRH classes and all RHC classes. – (staff)
16. Amend rule CLASS PARTICIPATION SHW556.2 No hoof polish, or the use of earplugs or cotton in the horse's ears is acceptable. – (member)
17. Amend rule WESTERN EQUIPMENT SHW305.6 During reining, the use of the free hand while holding the romal to alter the tension or length of the reins from the bridle to the reining hand is considered to be the use of two hands and a score of 0 will be applied, with the exception of any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during a pattern. In all other classes, including the reined portion of working cow horse, VRH Ranch Reining, VRH Ranch Cow Work, VRH Limited Ranch Cow Work and all RHC Working Ranch Horse classes, the free hand may be used to adjust the rider's length of rein. – (member)
18. Amend rule SHW305.7 WESTERN EQUIPMENT Junior horses competing in western pleasure, western horsemanship, reining, working cow horse, boxing, ranch riding, western riding, trail, and versatility ranch horse classes that are shown with a hackamore or snaffle bit may be ridden with one or two hands on the reins. The tails of the reins must be crossed on the opposite side of the neck when riding with two hands on split reins except in working cow horse, boxing, reining, and versatility ranch horse classes. Closed reins (example mecate) may not be used with a snaffle bit, except in versatility ranch horse classes, boxing, ranch riding, working cow horse and reining, where a mecate is permitted. A leather, or other woven material, chin strap of any width is to be used and should be attached to the bit below the reins. No iron, chain or other material is allowed. The chin strap is allowed to include metal buckles and/or keepers on snaffle bits only. – (member)
19. Amend rule SHW305.8.1 WESTERN EQUIPMENT. The use of two-rein equipment is allowed in working cow horse, boxing, ~~versatility ranch horse ranch cow work, VRH limited ranch cow work, versatility ranch reining~~ Ranch Riding, all VRH classes and all RHC classes. ~~and boxing classes only.~~ – (member)
20. Amend rule SHW509.1.6 TWO-REIN EQUIPMENT. The use of 'two rein equipment' is allowed as recognized by our NRCHA alliance in AQHA working cow horse, boxing, ~~and VRH cow work~~ Ranch Riding, all VRH classes and all RHC classes. The purpose of the two rein option is the transition between the hackamore and bridle and can be used on any aged horse in the youth, amateur, junior, senior or all age working cow horse class, amateur or youth boxing, or ~~open, cowboy, amateur, youth VRH ranch reining and ranch cow work or limited ranch~~

~~cow work~~ Ranch Riding, all VRH classes and all RHC classes for one year only.

21. Amend SHW556.11 CLASS PARTICIPATION. The use of two-rein equipment is only allowed in VRH and RHC ~~Ranch Reining, Ranch Cow Work and Limited Ranch Cow Work~~ Ranch Riding, all VRH classes and all RHC classes. – (3 members)
22. Amend rules SHW416. RANCH RIDING AND SHW560 VRH RANCH RIDING. – make AQHA Ranch Riding, VRH Ranch Riding and RHC Ranch Riding credits and penalties the same. – (member)
23. Add new rule SHW418. Ranch Riding Apparel and Equipment **SHW418.7 When exhibiting in a snaffle bit or hackamore, an exhibitor may go from two hands on the reins to one hand on the reins, when holding the saddle horn or when working an obstacle, without be penalized.**
24. Amend rule SHW556.7. Holding the saddle horn with either hand will not be penalized in any class. **When exhibiting in a snaffle bit or hackamore, an exhibitor may go from two hands on the reins to one hand on the reins, when holding the saddle horn or when working an obstacle, without be penalized.** – (member)
25. Amend rule SHW419.1 One (1) point penalties in Ranch Riding by adding and then consider making all or some of these penalties ½ point penalties to lesser the penalty deduction of the error.

Too slow (per gait)

Over-bridled (per maneuver)

Out of frame (per maneuver)

Break of gait at walk or trot for 2 strides or less

**Wrong lead or out of lead for 2 strides or less**

**When changing leads, out of lead or cross-cantering for more than 1 stride up to 2 strides**

**Trotting in lope departures in circles or when exiting a rollback for 2 strides or less**

**Gaping mouth**

**Delayed change of lead by one stride where the lead change is required by the pattern description**

Amend rule SHW 419.2 - Three (3) point penalties in Ranch Riding by adding and then consider making all or some of these penalties 2 point penalties to lesser the penalty deduction of the error.

Break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 strides

Break of gait at lope

Wrong lead or out of lead

Draped reins (per maneuver)

Out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides when changing leads  
Trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change  
Severe disturbance of any obstacle

**Wrong lead or out of lead for more than 2 strides**

**Trotting in lope departures in circles or when exiting a rollback for more than 2 strides** – (member)

26. Amend rule Ranch Riding Penalties SHW419.6 Zero (0) score **use of two hands (exception in junior and level 1 horses shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore)**. – (member)
27. Add new rule SHW550 VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE DIVISION AND RANCHING HERITAGE CHALLENGES **AQHA Versatility Ranch Horse Champion in all divisions**. – (member)
28. Add new rule SHW552.DIVISIONS. ~~Four~~ **Three** divisions will be offered: open, ~~cowboy~~, amateur, and youth. **Within these divisions there will be the following sub-divisions: open and cowboy; amateur, limited amateur and novice amateur; youth, limited youth and novice youth.** (18 and under).
29. Add new rule SHW252 ROOKIE LEVEL. Add rookie level to VRH amateur and youth divisions. – (member)
30. Add new rule VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE DIVISION AND RANCHING HERITAGE CHALLENGES SHW552.DIVISIONS. Add level 1 to open VRH classes. – (member)
31. Clarification of rule SHW552.DIVISIONS. Clarifications of divisions. – (member)
32. Add new rule VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE DIVISION AND RANCHING HERITAGE CHALLENGES SHW554. Points will be awarded in each individual class according to the placing received and based on the total number of horses competing in that particular class. Points earned in the ranch horse show competitions **will** only count toward any award or qualification for the ranch division and do not count toward any other **AQHA** awards or qualification for any other approved AQHA class or AQHA show award. – (member)
33. Amend rule SHW555 ALL-AROUND VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE. Horses going for the all-around versatility ranch horse will be placed against each other in addition to their class placing. The first place horse in each class that is eligible for the all-around will receive ~~9~~ **?** credits no matter the number of other horses entered or eligible. – (member)
34. Amend rule 556.10 CLASS PARTICIPATION. Clarification of ground tie. –

(member)

35. Amend rule SHW556.3 CLASS PARTICIPATION. No braided or banded manes/tails or tail extensions, **in any VRH or RHC class where roping is involved, the horse's mane may be braided for a distance of 12'-16" in front of the saddle pad. No ribbons or other kind of ornamentation will be allowed.**

–(member)

36. Amend rule SHW557 - Scoring System. Rule SHW 557.3 There is NO rule for schooling for VRH and RHC, seems it should be clearly listed as Disqualification since it is handled that way in the rest of the rulebook. – (member)

37. Amend rule SHW557.2 SCORING SYSTEM. In the case of a horse/rider team being off-pattern (OP), ~~leaving working area before pattern is complete~~, repeated blatant disobedience, the horse/rider cannot place above other horse/rider teams who have completed the pattern correctly. – (member)

38. Amend rule SHW557.3 No horse/rider team shall be disqualified except for lameness, abuse, illegal equipment, disrespect or misconduct, improper western attire and or fall of horse/rider **or leaving working area before pattern is complete.** – (member)

39. Amend SHW 560.3 One (1) point penalties in VRH Ranch Riding by adding and then consider making all or some of these penalties ½ point penalties to lesser the penalty deduction of the error.

Over-bridled (per maneuver)

out of frame (per maneuver)

too slow

gapping mouth

break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less

**Wrong lead or out of lead for 2 strides or less**

**When changing leads, out of lead or cross-cantering for more than 1 stride up to 2 strides**

**Trotting in lope departures in circles or when exiting a rollback for 2 strides or less**

Three (3) point penalties. Add and then consider making all or some of these penalties 2 point penalties to lesser the penalty deduction of the error.

Wrong lead or out of lead

draped reins

break of gait at lope

break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides

Wrong lead or out of lead **for more than 2 strides**

**Trotting in lope departures in circles or when exiting a rollback for more than 2 strides** – (member)

40. Amend rule SHW 561.10 One (1) point penalties in VRH Trail by adding and then consider making all or some of these penalties ½ point penalties to lesser the penalty deduction of the error.

over-bridled (per maneuver)

out of frame (per maneuver)

Each hit, bite or stepping on a log, cone plant or any component of the obstacle

incorrect or break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less

both front or hind feet in a single-stride slot or space at a walk or trot

skipping over or failing to step into required space

split pole in lope-over; incorrect number of strides, if specified

one step on mount/dismount or ground tie except shifting to balance

**Wrong lead or out of lead for 2 strides or less**

**When changing leads, out of lead or cross-cantering for more than 1 stride up to 2 strides**

**Trotting in lope departures in circles or when exiting a rollback for 2 strides or less**

Three (3) point penalties. Add and then consider making all or some of these penalties 2 point penalties to lesser the penalty deduction of the error.

Wrong lead or out of lead

draped reins

break of gait at lope

break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides

two to three steps on mount/dismount on ground tie

Wrong lead or out of lead **for more than 2 strides**

**Trotting in lope departures in circles or when exiting a rollback for more than 2 strides**

(currently under 5 pt) Knocking **down or over** or **severely disturbing an obstacle**

**Stepping out of or falling off an obstacle with one foot**

**Missing or evading part of a log that is part of a series of an obstacle with one foot**

Amend Five (5) point penalties: Remove and add to 3 point penalty:

-Knocking over an obstacle

Add to Five (5) point penalties: Stepping out of or falling off an obstacle **with more than one foot**

**Missing or evading part of a log that is part of a series of an obstacle with more than one foot** – (member)

41. Amend rule VRH RANCH TRAIL SHW561.10 CREDITS AND PENALTIES **Off-Pattern (OP) failure to open and shut gate or failure to complete gate.** – (member)

42. Amend rule 561.10 VRH RANCH TRAIL. - 1 Point Penalties: Over-bridled (per maneuver), out of frame (per maneuver), Each hit, bite or stepping on a log, cone plant or any component of the obstacle, incorrect or break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less; both front or hind feet in a single-stride slot or space at a walk or trot; skipping over or failing to step into required space; split pole in lope-over; incorrect number of strides, if specified; ~~one step~~ **one to two steps** on mount/dismount or ground tie except shifting to balance.

- 3 Point Penalties: Wrong lead or out of lead; draped reins; break of gait at lope; break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides; ~~two to three steps~~ **three to four steps** on mount/dismount on ground tie.

- 5 Point Penalties: Spurring in front of cinch; blatant dis-obedience; use of either hand to instill fear/praise; use of two hands per maneuver; more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins per maneuver; knocking over, stepping out of or falling off an obstacle; dropping an object required to be carried; 1st or 2nd cumulative refusal; letting go of gate, ~~four~~ **five** or more steps on mount/dismount or ground tie. – (member)

43. Amend rule VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE DIVISION AND RANCHING HERITAGE CHALLENGES SHW557.5 **Eliminate the OP (Off Pattern) in all classes and replace it with a 10 point penalty.** – (member)

44. Amend rule SHW 561.6 MANDATORY OBSTACLES AND/OR MANUEVERS. 2. Open, passing through and closing gate: use gate that will not endanger horse or rider and requires minimum side-passing. **Gate is required to be a hinged swinging gate (not a rope gate).** – (staff)

45. Remove SHW562.VRH RANCH REINING **VRH AND RHC RANCH REINING PATTERN 6.** – (member)

46. Amend rule SHW562.2 VRH RANCH REINING – CREDITS AND PENALTIES - To rein a horse is not only to guide him but also to control his every movement. The best reined horse should be willingly guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance and dictated to completely. Any movement on his own must be considered a lack of control. All deviations from the exact written pattern must be considered a lack of or temporary loss of control and therefore a fault that must be marked down according to severity of deviation. The horse/rider team's overall performance should be credited for smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness and authority of performing various maneuvers while using controlled speed which raises the degree of difficulty and makes the horse/rider team more exciting a pleasing to watch. – (member)

47. Amend rule VRH Ranch Reining. SHW562.3 Penalties Off-Pattern (OP) **jogging**

**in excess of ½ circle or ½ the length of the arena.** – (member)

48. Amend rule VRH RANCH COW WORK SHW563.2 CREDITS AND PENALTIES Off-Pattern (OP): Turning tail; failure to attempt any part of the class; leaving arena before run is complete; repeated blatant disobedience; schooling after entering the arena prior to calling for cow; schooling horse between cows if new cow is awarded, or complete loss of rope ~~in open/cowboy class,~~ **and/or illegal catch** cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly. – (member)
49. Amend rule SHW563.2 CREDITS AND PENALTIES. Disqualifications (DQ) **bring the cattle over backwards landing on its back or head with all four feet in the air.** – (member)
50. Amend rule LIMITED RANCH COW WORK AMATEUR/ YOUTH SHW564.1 Part Three - Boxing the Cow at Opposite End of Arena – The exhibitor will regain control or “hold” the cow at end of the arena to demonstrate the horse’s ability to “hold” the cow, **the cow must be stopped a minimum of three times.**
51. Amend rule SHW564.2 - Credits and Penalties – 1 Point Penalties: Over-bridled (per maneuver), out of frame (per maneuver), loss of working advantage; working out of position; slipping rein; in limited cow work, failure to drive cow past the middle marker on second drive before time expired **and driving cow down the opposite fence (changing sides).**
- 3 Point Penalties: Knocking down the cow without having a working advantage; losing a cow while boxing **and failure to make at least 3 stops when boxing the cow at the opposite end of the arena (part three).** – (member)
52. Amend rule VRH RANCH CUTTING SHW565.2 – ~~For open, cowboy and amateur~~ **In all** divisions ~~competition,~~ there will be a two minute time limit. Each exhibitor must work two head and has the option of ending their run before the two minute limit or working the full two minutes. For international countries, show management has the option of allowing exhibitors to work the two head or there may be a one and one half time limit and work only one head.
53. Delete existing rule SWH565.3 - ~~For youth competition, there will be a one and one-half minute time limit. Each exhibitor may work one or two cows and has the option of ending their run before the one and one-half minute time limit or working the full one and one-half minutes. Working two cows does not assure extra credit to the run.~~ – (member)
54. Amend rule VRH RANCH CUTTING SHW565.9 - Five (5) points – horse quitting cow; losing cow; changing cattle after a specific commitment; failure to separate a single animal after leaving the herd blatant disobedience; use of two hands **(except in snaffle bit or hackamore)** (per cow); more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (per cow). – (member)



55. Amend rule VRH RANCH CUTTING SHW565.9 Disqualification (DQ) **lameness, abuse, disrespect or misconduct.** – (member)

56. Amend rule SHW566. VRH RANCH CONFORMATION. The purpose of ranch conformation is to preserve American Quarter Horse type selecting well-mannered individuals in the order of their resemblance to the breed ideal and that are the most positive combination of balance, structural correctness, and movement with appropriate breed and sex characteristics and adequate muscling. The ideal VRH Ranch conformation horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail. ~~The ranch conformation class must be held after the conclusion of the other events, except at the AQHA All-Around Ranch Horse World Championship Show.~~ – (member)

57. Add new rule SHW803.5 Ranch Pleasure. – (member)

**Closing Business:**

58. Voting by full Committee on agenda items.

59. Election of Committee Chair

60. Adjourn