



# American Rope Horse Futurity

## Rules

### AMERICAN ROPE HORSE FUTURITY ASSOCIATION RULES

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The American Rope Horse Futurity Association, also known as the ARHFA, was developed to give roping horse owners and exhibitors a chance to win prize money and awards. Sanctioned events are designed and held in stand-alone venues, and from time to time, with an American Quarter Horse Association Show (also known as AQHA), giving exhibitors the opportunity to compete once in their respective event with their resulting times/scores counting for AQHA World Show qualification points, as well as the ARHFA approved event.

#### MEMBERSHIP

There is no membership fee charged in the ARHFA, at this time. Anyone submitting an entry is entitled to enter and compete for prize money and awards at sanctioned ARHFA events. In the event an ARHFA event is co-sanctioned with an AQHA event, the horse must be a registered AQHA animal, as well as the exhibitor to be eligible to compete. Exhibitors are required to adhere to ARHFA rules when entered in an ARHFA event.

#### GENERAL

The ARHFA will conduct sanctioned events with certain roping events offered. Each event will have two go-rounds and a 'clean slate' finals, *unless* otherwise specified in the ground rules of a particular event. In the event that an ARHFA event is held in conjunction with an AQHA event, said event will adhere to AQHA rules, using judges hired by AQHA. Exhibitors will compete in each event entered *twice*, and their run and resulting score will count according to AQHA rules for AQHA World Show qualification, and will *also* count according to ARHFA rules towards ARHFA finals qualification. (This format is also known as - ...events will run '*concurrent*' with one another)

The exhibitor entered must be the same rider throughout the entire event. The only exception, per

Show Management approval, would be if the rider were to get severely injured during the course of the event and would be physically unable to continue in the competition

#### EVENTS

*(Not necessarily offered at every ARHFA event)*

Futurity Calf/Tie-down Roping-Horses 5 & Under

Futurity Heading-Horses 5 & Under

Futurity Heeling-Horses 5 & Under

Sweepstakes Calf/Tie-down Roping-Horses 6 & Over

Sweepstakes Heading-Horses 6 & Over

Sweepstakes Heeling-Horses 6 & Over

Non Pro Breakaway Roping

Non Pro Calf/Tie-down Roping

Non Pro Heading

Non Pro Heeling

Limited Rider Breakaway Roping

Limited Calf/Tie-down Roping

Limited Rider Heading

Limited Rider Heeling

Youth Breakaway Roping

Youth Calf/Tie-down Roping

Youth Heading

Youth Heeling

- Futurity events are defined as horses five (5) years of age and under.
- Non Pro is defined by AQHA's Amateur parameters.
- Limited Rider is defined as someone who has not won an AQHA World Championship in the past five (5) years. A Limited Rider cannot ever have been to the NFR or IPRA Finals. You must be entered in Futurity, Sweepstakes, Youth, or Non Pro classes offered to enter the

limited division. (It is offered as a side pot, with an additional entry fee, in each event.)

- Youth exhibitors will be determined based on AQHA parameters.
- If co-approved with another breed association, (i.e. AQHA, APHA) their parameters for non-pro, amateur, and youth status will supersede the ARHFA.

### **PRIZE MONEY/SPONSORSHIPS**

Prize Money offered in each event will be derived from sponsorships acquired for the event. Sponsorship money is at various levels. Upper levels of sponsorship will provide the said sponsor, or a selected roper, an opportunity to participate in the "Sponsor Team Roping" scheduled at the main ARHFA event. Winners of the sponsorship roping will receive various awards, to be presented at the end of the roping, and will be invited to a party in their honor during the event's activities.

### **ENTRY**

1. Fees will be: Determined prior to each event, plus \$100 (optional) for eligible Limited Rider exhibitors. 100% of the Limited Rider fees will go into a separate payout to winners.
2. Contestant must fill out their own entry blank stating which events he/she wishes to enter. It is not the responsibility of ARHFA management to fill out entry forms.
3. Contestant may mail in entry for event or may enter at the show, without penalty. It would be a good idea to call secretary to ensure receipt if mailed entry or send entry by certified mail.
4. Fees may be paid by check, cash or money order at the time of entry. If contestant has a returned check, a \$20 insufficient check fee will be assessed, added to the amount of the check, and must be taken care of prior to prize money being paid. Payoff checks will be sent to winning exhibitors, by ARHFA management, approximately 10 days after the

conclusion of the event.

### **PAYOFF**

The division of money for payoff will be as follows:  
Finals - 60%; 1<sup>st</sup> round - 20%; 2<sup>nd</sup> round – 20%  
(Limited Division payoff will be posted at event)

Payout will be paid to the following placings (less administrative fees):

- 1-10 entries, 100% in finals
- 11-15 entries, 2 places-go rounds, 60/40%, 3 places-finals, 50/30/20%
- 16-25 entries, 3 places-go rounds, 50/30/20%, 4 places-finals, 40/30/20/10%
- 26-39, 4 places-go rounds, 40/30/20/10%, 6 places-finals, 29/24/19/14/9/5%
- 40 entries & over, 4 places-go rounds & 4 places-finals with 5<sup>th</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup> place in finals receiving prize money equal to entry fees paid in that class.

### **RERUNS**

If the exhibitor is unable to reasonably show their horse because of uncooperative livestock, reruns *may* be given if the official judge or field flagger deems it reasonable and fair. Reruns *may* also be given if the exhibitor is fouled at the gate, and said exhibitor immediately declares themselves by pulling their horse up and making an appeal to the judge or field flagger.

### **SCORING PROCEDURES**

All events timed with an electric timer, if used along with the rope barrier, or a stopwatch. Scores are based on two judge's scores, plus the time recorded. An example of an ARHFA score:

- Judge 1 = 70 points
- Judge 2 = 70 points
- Time = (example) 6.0, so-
- 70 + 70 + (time-6.0 minus a beginning base score of 60 points = 54) =
- Total Score – 194
- Tie scores-for example, if 6 places are paid in a particular go round and there are two

Identical scores for 6<sup>th</sup> place, both contestants will be considered 6<sup>th</sup> place.

### **JUDGING**

At stand-alone ARHFA events, two judges will be hired by ARHFA management who are well-versed in AQHA rules. In ARHFA/AQHA events, AQHA judges, who are exhibitors in the event, may be asked to judge the finals.

- The Breakaway Roping events are a 'time-only event'.
- To receive a score in team roping, a legal head and heel catch will be required.
- A calf is to stay tied a mandatory six (6) seconds in tie-down roping.

### **CONDUCT**

The following may be grounds for immediate disqualification from any qualifying or finals. Disqualification will include loss of any money earned and/or points won. This money and points will roll down to the next qualifying contestant until all money and points have been awarded.

1. Rowdiness, quarreling or fighting in the actual domain of the arena at any time, or any place for the duration of the event.
2. Conduct or speech of any kind detrimental to the best interest of the AQHA or ARHFA.
3. Vandalism at any place or time.
4. Cheating or attempting to cheat.
5. Any contestant attempting to coerce or threaten any official at any time.

*At the time of the infraction, the contestant will immediately be suspended until reinstated by AQHA and/or ARHFA.*

[www.ropehorsefutura.com](http://www.ropehorsefutura.com)

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