



Guidelines

The NEQHA is an affiliate of the Australian Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) Our judges refer to the AQHA rule book for **sanctioned classes**.

Classes that run under NEQHA rules with AQHA guidelines are referred to as **'Non-sanctioned classes'**

All participants must be a member of the NEQHA, or the AQHA, OR pay a day membership

To qualify for End of Year High Point awards, you must be a full financial member of the NEQHA and ride at a minimum of three (3) shows in the show year.

NEQHA Rules Non-Sanctioned Classes

Rookie/Beginner Youth, Beginner;
- A rider or handler who has never **won** the **equivalent** youth, amateur, open, junior, or senior horse **class** at a **sanctioned** western event or, won an NEQHA Beginner end of year High Point award. The focus of these classes is to encourage those who are new to western showing.

Any Handed - A horse and rider combination who together, have never won an equivalent youth, amateur, junior or senior horse, open or aged class. This class allows open riders to show young or green horses and gives new members an opportunity to show amongst open riders. Sometimes referred to as 'practice' runs.

Rules and Conditions for Rookie/ Beginner/Beginner Youth and Any Handed classes

- ✓ Children must be 7 years of age and over
- ✓ Horses must be 3 years of age and over
- ✓ May compete in any safe Saddle including western, stock, fender or English
- ✓ May use any legal snaffle bit, bosal/ hackamore or Bridle/shank bit (See AQHA rule book)
- ✓ if using a bridle (shank bit with split reins), horses can be ridden 1 or 2 handed but must not change from one back to two hands after entering the show arena
- ✓ Riders must wear a long sleeve shirt, jeans or jodhpurs, western hat or helmet and boots
- ✓ Horses are not required to be registered to any breed society

Any Other Breed Halter - For breeds **not registered** with AQHA, PHAA or AAA

Open Walk Jog/Trot - Any rider who has the correct equipment and attire for that class. Riders may not enter the Beginner Walk jog or trot at the same show

AQHA Rules Sanctioned Classes

Halter Horses - must be registered with their breed association AQHA, PHAA and AAA

Led Performance – lunge line, hunter in hand and led trail horses must be registered with their breed association, society or studbook

Junior Horse, Senior Horse and All Age/Open Horses - all breeds are accepted but must be registered with their breed association, society or studbook. Riders are only required to hold NEQHA membership.

Amateur – Non-Professional rider under 50 years of age

Select Amateur Non-Professional rider 50 years of age and over

Equestrian with Disabilities (EWD) as defined under AQHA rule 96.

Lead line - riders 3-6 years of age, horse must be led by a current financial member 18 years or over
Youth - Riders 7-18 years of age. Not required to hold ownership of the horses they ride

Youth Walk Jog/Trot - riders aged between 5 to 10 years, horses must be 4 years and over. If the rider is riding 2 handed then the horse must be ridden in a snaffle bit regardless of horse's age. Riders entered in youth Walk jog and walk trot classes are ineligible to enter any other ridden classes on the program

Amateurs are required to verify their Amateur Status. Members of AQHA, PHAA or AAA will find forms on their association's website. Nonprofessional riders who do not hold an Amateur card through a western breed association may download an Amateur application form from the HSAA website.

Amateur's horses must be owned or leased by the amateur or immediate family member.