

New England Quarter Horse Association

Western Performance and Ranch Shows



12th & 13th September 2026

Armidale Exhibition Centre

Judge: Peter Simpson

All participants must be a member of the AQHA, or (RHAA for Ranch show) or a full or day member of the NEQHA to compete. Only horses entered in a class are permitted to be on the grounds.

All competitors agree to abide by the AQHA/RHAA rules. It is the responsibility of the competitor to understand eligibility, rules and conditions prior to entering. **To earn RHAA points, riders must hold current permits with RHAA.**

Entry Fees/Class: Classes \$15.00, Youth/EWD \$10.00
Stabling: Enclosed \$20, Open \$15, Yards \$6
Powered Camping: \$30 per night
Unpowered camping: \$25 per night

All entries are through Nominate. Scratching prior to close of entries incurs a fee from Nominate. Scratching after close of entries requires a vet or medical certificate to be provided.

End of Year High Point Buckles

To qualify for club end of year high point buckle awards, you must be a financial member of NEQHA and ride at a minimum of 2 out of 3 club shows in the 2026/2027 membership year.

Western Performance Guidelines and Club Rules

NEQHA Performance shows are AQHA sanctioned events and therefore run under AQHA rules.

Competitors are responsible for ensuring they know the rules and regulations for the classes they are entering. Beginner and NEQHA Member's classes are run under club rules and do not attract breed association points. Walk/Jog classes are also non-sanctioned.

* Classes marked with an * are ineligible for breed association points.

Beginner A rider or handler who has never won an equivalent class at any sanctioned western event and has not won an NEQHA Beginner end of year High Point award. Beginners who meet these criteria can compete for the show season in this category.

NEQHA Member's Class This is a class for club members. The horse may be unregistered and can be ridden in a snaffle, hackamore, or curb bit and any safe saddle, either one-handed or two-handed but cannot change during the class.

WESTERN ATTIRE IS MANDATORY; (All divisions)

- long sleeved shirt or jacket with a collar
- western hat (the hat must be on the rider's head when the exhibitor enters the arena) or ASS approved safety helmet
- western pants/jeans
- western boots

Optional Attire – necktie, scarf, spurs, chinks and chaps in ridden classes.

Western Performance Show

Saturday 12th September 2026 8:00am start

AQHA Halter

1. 3yrs & under Colt
2. 4yrs & over Stallion
Champion/Reserve
3. Amateur 3yrs & under Colt
4. Amateur 4yrs & over Stallion
Champion/Reserve
5. 3yrs & under Gelding
6. 4yrs & over Gelding
Champion/Reserve
7. Amateur 3yrs & under Gelding
8. Amateur 4yrs & over Gelding
Champion/Reserve
9. 3yrs & under Filly
10. 4yrs & over Mare
Champion/Reserve
11. Amateur 3yrs & under Filly
12. Amateur 4yrs & over Mare
Champion/Reserve

Grand Champion AQHA

PHAA Halter

13. 3yrs & under Colt
14. 4yrs & over Stallion
Champion/Reserve
15. Amateur 3yrs & under Colt
16. Amateur 4yrs & over Stallion
Champion/Reserve
17. 3yrs & under Gelding
18. 4yrs & over Gelding
Champion/Reserve
19. Amateur 3yrs & under Gelding
20. Amateur 4yrs & over Gelding
Champion/Reserve
21. 3yrs & under Filly
22. 4yrs & over Mare
Champion/Reserve
23. Amateur 3yrs & under Filly
24. Amateur 4yrs & over Mare
Champion/Reserve

Grand Champion PHAA

PHAA Paint Bred Halter

- 25. 3yrs & under Colt
- 26. 4yrs & over Stallion
Champion/Reserve
- 27. Amateur 3yrs & under Colt
- 28. Amateur 4yrs & over Stallion
Champion/Reserve
- 29. 3yrs & under Gelding
- 30. 4yrs & over Gelding
Champion/Reserve
- 31. Amateur 3yrs & under Gelding
- 32. Amateur 4yrs & over Gelding
Champion/Reserve
- 33. 3yrs & under Filly
- 34. 4yrs & over Mare
Champion/Reserve
- 35. Amateur 3yrs & under Filly
- 36. Amateur 4yrs & over Mare
Champion/Reserve
- Grand Champion PHAA Paint Bred**

Any Other Registered Breed

- 37. Colt/Stallion*
- 38. Gelding*
- 39. Filly/Mare*

Supreme Champion Halter Horse

AQHA, PHAA, PHAA Paint Bred, Other Breed

Showmanship At Halter

- 40. EWD
- 41. Beginner*
- 42. NEQHA Members*
- 43. Youth (5 to 18 Yrs)
- 44. Amateur
- 45. Select Amateur

Lunge Line

- 46. Yearling
- 47. 2yr old

Hunter In Hand

- 48. Yearling
- 49. Junior Horse
- 50. Senior Horse

Ridden Hack

- 51. Youth (7 to 18 Yrs)
- 52. Amateur
- 53. All Age

Ridden Show Hunter

- 54. Youth (7 to 18 Yrs)
- 55. Amateur
- 56. All Age

Hunter Under Saddle

- 57. Open Walk/Trot*
- 58. Beginner Walk/Trot*
- 59. NEQHA Members*
- 60. Junior Horse
- 61. Senior Horse
- 62. Youth (7 to 18 Yrs)
- 63. Amateur
- 64. Select Amateur

Hunt Seat Equitation

- 65. EWD
- 66. Beginner Walk/Trot*
- 67. NEQHA Members*
- 68. Youth (7 to 18 Yrs)
- 69. Amateur
- 70. Select Amateur

Western Pleasure

- 71. Open Walk/Jog*
- 72. Beginner Walk/Jog*
- 73. NEQHA Members*
- 74. Junior Horse
- 75. Senior Horse
- 76. Youth (7 to 18 Yrs)
- 77. Amateur
- 78. Select Amateur

Western Horsemanship

- 79. EWD Walk/Jog
- 80. Beginner Walk/Jog*
- 81. NEQHA Members*
- 82. Youth (7 to 18 Yrs)
- 83. Amateur
- 84. Select Amateur
- 85. All Age

Ranch Riding

- 86. NEQHA Members*
- 87. Junior Horse
- 88. Senior Horse
- 89. Youth (7 to 18 Yrs)
- 90. Amateur
- 91. Select Amateur

Reining

- 92. NEQHA Members*
- 93. Junior Horse
- 94. Senior Horse
- 95. Youth (7 to 18 Yrs)
- 96. Amateur
- 97. Select Amateur

Trail

- 98. Yearling
- 99. Led 2yr old
- 100. Open Walk/Jog*
- 101. Beginner Walk/Jog*
- 102. EWD
- 103. NEQHA Members*
- 104. Junior Horse
- 105. Senior Horse
- 106. Youth (7 to 18 Yrs)
- 107. Amateur
- 108. Select Amateur

End of Performance Show

Ranch Show

Saturday 13th September 2026

Start at conclusion of Performance show

Ranch Prospect Trail

- 109. Yearling
- 110. Led 2yr old
- 111. Led 3yr old

Ranch Trail

- 112. Junior Horse
- 113. Senior Horse
- 114. Amateur
- 115. Select Amateur
- 116. Youth
- 117. EWD
- 118. Green Horse
- 119. Green Rider
- 120. Green Youth
- 121. Intermediate Horse
- 122. Intermediate Rider
- 123. Intermediate Youth
- 124. Australian Heritage Snaffle Bit
- 125. All Age

Ranch Prospect Lunge Line

- 126. Yearling
- 127. 2yr old
- 128. 3yr Old

Ranch Prospect Conformation

- 129. Yearling
- 130. 2yr old
- 131. 3yr old

Sunday 15th November 2026

8am Start

Ranch Riding

- 132. Junior Horse
- 133. Senior Horse
- 134. Amateur
- 135. Select Amateur
- 136. Youth
- 137. EWD
- 138. Green Horse
- 139. Green Rider
- 140. Green Youth
- 141. Intermediate Horse
- 142. Intermediate Rider
- 143. Intermediate Youth
- 144. Australian Heritage Snaffle Bit
- 145. All Age

Ranch On The Rail

- 146. Junior Horse
- 147. Senior Horse
- 148. Amateur
- 149. Select Amateur
- 150. Youth
- 151. Green Horse
- 152. Green Rider
- 153. Green Youth
- 154. Intermediate Horse
- 155. Intermediate Rider
- 156. Intermediate Youth
- 157. Australian Heritage Snaffle Bit
- 158. All Age

Ranch Reining

- 159. Junior Horse
- 160. Senior Horse
- 161. Amateur
- 162. Select Amateur
- 163. Youth
- 164. Intermediate Horse
- 165. Intermediate Rider
- 166. Intermediate Youth
- 167. Australian Heritage Snaffle Bit
- 168. All Age

Ranch Conformation

- 169. Junior Horse
- 170. Senior Horse
- 171. Amateur
- 172. Select Amateur
- 173. Youth
- 174. EWD
- 175. Green Horse
- 176. Green Rider
- 177. Green Youth
- 178. Intermediate Horse
- 179. Intermediate Rider
- 180. Intermediate Youth
- 181. Australian Heritage Snaffle Bit
- 182. All Age

End Of Ranch Show

Ranch Rules and Guidelines

Ranch Horse Association of Australia is recognized as the governing body for Ranch classes in Australia. Their rule book can be found on their website at www.rhaa.com.au

Green Rider A class for inexperienced adult riders holding a current Green Rider permit with RHAA. Riders will be required to show their horses at the walk & trot only.

- No curb/shank bits – snaffle bit or hackamore only
- Any 'safe' saddle; English, Western, stock, fender or half breed saddles with the exclusion of bareback pads
- Ownership of horse not required – a borrowed horse may be used (owner of the horse must be a financial member)

Green Horse Open to all riders wanting to bring inexperienced horses (3yrs and over) into the show arena. Horses will be required to show at the walk, trot & lope.

- Horse may be ridden one or two handed in any legal headgear (see RHAA rules 'Gear')
- Rider must not swap from one to two hands or visa versa during the class
- Any 'safe' saddle; English, Western, stock, fender or half breed saddles with the exclusion of bareback pads

Intermediate Rider A class for riders holding a current Intermediate Rider permit with RHAA. Riders will be required to show their horses at the walk, trot & lope.

Intermediate Horse Open to all riders either professional or nonprofessional. Horses with previous show experience may be shown in this class. Horses will be required to show at the walk, trot & lope.

Youth Riders (7-18yrs). There are classes for Green Youth, Intermediate Youth and Youth. Green Youth and Intermediate Youth must hold a current permit with RHAA to earn points or prove eligibility. Youth competitors are required to wear an approved safety helmet whilst mounted. Youth must not ride or handle a stallion at any time.

Amateur/Select Amateur Person must be a financial member of an association and hold a current Amateur Permit. To earn RHAA points riders must hold a current Amateur permit with RHAA. Select Amateur classes are for those who have attained the age of 50 years and been endorsed as such by their association. Select Amateurs must choose which class they wish to enter at a show if there are different divisions offered.

Junior Horse, Senior Horse, All Age Horses must be registered with their breed association or have provided a vet certificate verifying the age of the horse. Horse must be ridden in the correct head gear in a western saddle as per AQHA/RHAA rules.

- Junior Horse is 3 – 5 years old
- Senior Horse is 6 years and older

Heritage Snaffle Bit Rider may be on a horse of any age that must be shown in a snaffle bit and stock/fender saddle. Those entered in this division if eligible, can cross enter Amateur, Select Amateur, Intermediate Rider, Intermediate Horse, Intermediate Youth and Youth classes.

WESTERN ATTIRE IS MANDATORY; (All divisions)

- long sleeved, collared, button-up shirt
- western hat (the hat must be on the rider's head when the exhibitor enters the arena) or ASS approved safety helmet
- western pants/jeans
- western boots

Optional Attire – necktie, scarf, spurs, chinks and chaps in ridden classes.

Ranch Rules

- No horse under 3 years of age may be entered in ridden classes
- No hoof polish/black
- No braided or banded manes/tails or tail extensions
- Trimming inside ears is discouraged. Trimming bridle path is allowed, also trimming of fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair
- Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged
- Holding the saddle horn with either hand will not be penalised in any class
- Posting or standing in stirrups at extended trot is acceptable
- When exhibiting in a snaffle bit or hackamore, an exhibitor may switch between two hands and one hand on the reins at any time
- No drag allowed in Green level, Intermediate Level, Heritage Snaffle Bit or Youth classes.