

Montana Cutting Horse Association, Inc.
Rules and Regulations
Revised April 2018

1. Any contest approved by this Association must be executed by the rules of the National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA).
2. All shows sanctioned by MCHA must also be approved by NCHA and must have a minimum of \$200 added purse in the Open and Non-Pro each day, unless specially approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
3. All shows in the MCHA must offer all the NCHA approved classes unless specially approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
4. All shows produced in the months of January, February, March and April shall submit show dates to the Vice President of MCHA by November 1 of the prior year for review and consideration for approval by the existing MCHA Board of Directors. Shows produced in the remaining months (after April) shall submit dates to the Vice President of MCHA for review and consideration for approval by the MCHA Board of Directors taking office on January 1. Out-of-state shows must be approved by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors. The MCHA Board will give priority (not guarantee) to show locations and dates that took place in the previous year when voting on approval of shows. Priority applies between requests for the same dates assuming that both requests are acceptable/desirable shows.
5. If a show management does not desire to seek NCHA approval, we nevertheless, will encourage and strongly support their cutting activities. Notice of such events will not be counted toward MCHA awards.
6. All NCHA judges will also be approved by the MCHA.
7. All MCHA judges must be NCHA approved judges.
8. All applications for MCHA show approvals must be received by the MCHA Secretary at least fifty (50) days prior to the cutting or fifty (50) days before closing day of entries, whichever is earlier and advertised to the members at least twenty-one (21) days before closing day for entries. Approvals and advertisement must include purses, judges, starting time, entry deadline, classes and fees therein.
9. Entry fees, less authorized deductions, shall be added to the purse. If any charge is to be made other than entry fees, it must be stated as a stall, handling, stock, or office charge, and must be separated from the entry fee.
10. MCHA approval fees are \$4.00 per horse entry per MCHA approved class LESS MCHA memberships collected. If total memberships collected by a producer are less than \$4.00 per horse entry per MCHA approved class, the show producer is responsible for paying the deficiency. If total memberships collected by a producer are greater than \$4.00 per horse entry per MCHA approved class, the show producer is not required to pay an approval fee. Reciprocal show approval agreements or other arrangements deemed to be in the financial interest of MCHA may also be approved by the Board of Directors. Any approval fees owed shall be sent to the MCHA Secretary-Treasurer along with the results of the show within ten (10) days of the close of the show. The show secretary is responsible for submitting approval and results to the NCHA.

11. Pay-offs for all MCHA approved cutting contests will be one (1) money for every three (3) horses entered, unless otherwise advertised by the show management, or where the NCHA pay-off schedule takes precedence.
12. Any entrant in a show wishing to withdraw from the contest must do so before the positions have been drawn. If the entrant's name goes in the draw, then that entrant is obligated to pay the entire entry fee, including cattle charge and office charge to the show management as his/her entry fee would have been figured in the pay-off. If the entry is not paid to show management, said entrant shall be denied any privileges of membership and will be suspended until said entry fee is paid.
13. Before the first approved show of each season, the Board of Directors shall determine and publish in the newsletter the classes in which year-end awards will be presented at the close of the season.
14. When there are several riders who are all MCHA members riding a horse owned by a MCHA member, the accumulative monies won by all riders for the horse will be recognized.
15. The eligibility of horse and/or rider to enter specified cutting classes will be based on the lifetime earnings of said horse or rider on January 1st of the fiscal year in which the contest is held, according to NCHA official records. NCHA RECORDS WILL TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER ANY MCHA RECORDS.
16. Each individual must furnish verification of his/her own eligibility, or his/her misrepresentation will result in automatic suspension for a period to be determined by the Board of Directors.
17. Any person making a protest on the eligibility of any horse shall be responsible for notifying MCHA. If the horse in question is ineligible, the owner should be responsible for paying for the inquiry.
18. The MCHA will use the Intermountain Quarter Horse Association point award system for tabulating winners for the Youth Year-End awards.
19. The Rules Committee will consist of the elected Directors of the MCHA.
20. In the event any such NCHA standing rules are issued, the name of the MCHA shall be used where the name NCHA is used and wherever the term "Executive Committee" is used the term "Directors of MCHA" shall be substituted.
21. All MCHA rules will work in conjunction with NCHA rules.
22. Both the owner AND rider of a horse must have an MCHA membership and be in good standing with MCHA to show at an MCHA produced show or an MCHA in-state approved show and to be eligible for year-end awards.

Article II – Membership Dues

Section 1: Any individual, firm or corporation may become a member of this Association.

Section 2: The Association shall have no initial membership fee, but shall assess annual membership dues for each fiscal year in such amounts as the Board of Directors shall from time to time determine in advance by majority vote.

Section 3: Any youth 18 years of age and younger at the beginning of the year may become a Youth Member of the MCHA. Membership dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors. A youth membership shall entitle the youth to be included in the year-end standings of all the MCHA classes.

Section 4: Each member shall pay annual dues in an amount approved by the Board of Directors. If payment of dues is not made by May 1 of the current show year, earnings won earlier in the year at MCHA produced or approved shows will not be counted toward MCHA year-end standings. If payment is made after May 1, all membership rights and privileges commence from the date of payment and continue to year-end. Payment shall be determined by the date of hand delivery or postmark.

Section 5: The fiscal year of the MCHA shall be concurrent with the NCHA fiscal year. The MCHA point year will be concurrent with the NCHA point year. There will be no show approval given by MCHA after the year-end awards have been given, until the beginning of the new point year. All MCHA shows must be approved by the Board of Directors as provided in the Rules.

Section 6: NCHA membership is required to compete in the NCHA classes, pursuant to NCHA Rules and Regulations.