

2023 RULE CHANGES – Approved July 16, 2022

#1: CHANGE THE END OF THE RIDE YEAR

SECTION 2 - SANCTIONED RIDES AND CLINICS

- A. Rides
 - 1. Sanctioning
 - d. Ride year **ends the last Sunday in November.**

SECTION 9 – AWARDS

- B. Annual Awards
 - 1. General
 - e. Ride year **ends the last Sunday in November.**

#2: COMBINE DIVISION WEIGHT CLASSES INTO ADULT CLASS (A TEMPORARY ONE-YEAR ACTION)

SECTION 4 – DIVISIONS, CLASSES, AND ELIGIBILITY

- A. Divisions
 - 1. Open
 - d. Classes
 - (1) This division will offer **Adult** and Junior Classes in horse as defined in Section 4 B.
 - 2. Novice
 - d. Classes
 - (1) This division will offer **Adult** and Junior Classes in horse as defined in Section 4 B.
 - 3. Competitive Pleasure
 - d. Classes
 - (1) This division will offer **Adult** and Junior Classes in horse as defined in Section 4 B.
- B. Classes
 - 1. **The Heavyweight and Lightweight classes are combined into an Adult class on a temporary basis for the 2023 ride year and will revert to 2022 rules unless extended by the National Board of Directors.**
 - 2. **Riders 18 or older at the beginning of the ride year must compete in the Adult class.**
 - 3. Junior
 - b. Juniors may compete in Open, Competitive Pleasure or Novice Division **Adult** Classes. **Juniors may compete in Leisure Division Adult or Experienced Classes.**

SECTION 9 – AWARDS

- A. Ride Awards
 - 1. A sanctioned ride having an Open, Competitive Pleasure and Novice Division will offer **Adult** and Junior Classes in horse and horsemanship.
- B. Annual Awards
 - 2. National Awards
 - i. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: In **the** Open Division **Adult** Class, a horse shall be declared a National Champion when all the following requirements are met within the first 16 rides officially started in the same year.
 - k. COMPETITIVE PLEASURE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: In the Competitive Pleasure Division **Adult** and Junior Classes, a horse shall be declared a National Champion when all the following requirements are met within the first 12 rides officially started in the same year.
 - l. HIGH POINT OPEN HORSE: Points shall be credited to horses for the purpose of determining annual high point awards in each Open Class, (i.e., **Adult**, Junior), first through sixth place.
 - m. HIGH POINT OPEN HORSEMANSHIP: Points shall be credited to riders for the purpose of determining annual high point awards in each Class, (i.e., **Adult**, Junior), first through sixth place.
 - n. HIGH POINT COMPETITIVE PLEASURE HORSE: Points shall be credited to horses for the purpose of determining annual high point awards in each Competitive Pleasure Class (i.e., **Adult**, Junior), first through sixth place. Only the first 12 rides officially started will count.
 - o. HIGH POINT COMPETITIVE PLEASURE HORSEMANSHIP: Points shall be credited to riders for the purpose of determining annual high point awards in each Competitive Pleasure Class (i.e., **Adult**, Junior), first through sixth place.
 - q. HIGH POINT NOVICE HORSE: Points shall be credited to horses for the purpose of determining annual high point awards in each Novice Class (i.e., **Adult**, Junior), first through sixth place.
 - r. HIGH POINT NOVICE HORSEMANSHIP: Points shall be credited to riders for the purpose of determining annual high point awards in each Novice Class (i.e., **Adult**, Junior), first through sixth place.

SECTION 10 – REGION 1A AWARDS

- B. Annual/Year-end Awards
 - 2. National Awards
 - a. National Championship: In the Open Division in **Adult** and Junior Classes, a horse shall be declared a National Champion when both of the following requirements are met within any consecutive three-year period in which rides are held.
 - (1) Awarded one first place.
 - (2) Accumulated 36 points.
 - b) If the rider is no longer age-eligible, points earned as a Junior during the applicable 3-year period can be applied to the new **Adult** class.

- b. National Championship: In the Competitive Pleasure Division **Adult** and Junior Classes, a horse shall be declared a National Champion when both of the following requirements are met within any consecutive three-year period in which rides are held.
 - (2) Accumulated 36 points.
 - b) If the rider is no longer age-eligible, points acquired as a Junior during the applicable 3-year period can be applied to the new **Adult** class.

#3: CONSISTENCY IN LIMITATIONS FOR NOVICE DIVISION AND LEISURE ADULT CLASS

SECTION 4 - DIVISIONS, CLASSES, AND ELIGIBILITY

A. Divisions

2. Novice

e. Limitations

- (1) Any horse and adult rider combination having earned 250 points, lifetime accumulation, in horse (regardless of class in Open, Competitive Pleasure, **and Novice**) **or in Leisure Team**, shall not compete for awards in Novice Horse Division.
- (2) Any horse and junior rider combination having earned 250 points, lifetime accumulation, in horse (regardless of class in Open, Competitive Pleasure, **and Novice**) **or in Leisure Team**, and rider having reached age of 14 shall not compete for awards in Novice Horse Division.
- (3) Any adult rider having earned 250 points, lifetime accumulation, in horsemanship (regardless of horse, or class in Open, Competitive Pleasure **and Novice**) **or in Leisure Team**, shall not compete for awards in Novice Horsemanship Division.
- (4) Any junior rider having earned 250 points, lifetime accumulation, in horsemanship (regardless of horse, or class in Open, Competitive Pleasure **and Novice**) **or in Leisure Team**, and having reached the age of 14 shall not compete for awards in Novice Horsemanship Division.
- (5) Horse and rider combinations having won a National Championship or placed 3rd or higher in the NATRC annual high point awards (excluding regional awards) in any class in Open or Competitive Pleasure in any previous year are ineligible to compete in the Novice Division.
- (6) No accredited **past or present** NATRC horsemanship, veterinary or **leisure** judge shall compete for horse or horsemanship awards in the Novice Division.

4. Leisure

e. Classes

- (1) This division will offer Experienced, Adult and Junior Classes as defined in Section 4 B, with the exception that Experienced teams are defined as:
 - (a) Any **past or present** NATRC judge (veterinary, horsemanship, leisure).
 - (c) Horse and rider combinations having won a National Championship or placed 3rd or higher in the NATRC annual high point awards (excluding regional awards) in any class in Open or Competitive Pleasure in any previous year.**
 - (d) Any NATRC rider having attained 1,500 miles in competition or having won one or more National Championships, President's Cup, Jim Menefee Combined Horse and Horsemanship, Bev Tibbitts Grand Champion High Average Horse, or Polly Bridges High Average Horsemanship in any class in any previous year.**

#4a: LOWER AGE OF ALL JUNIOR COMPETITORS

And #5: JUNIOR COMPETITORS SUPERVISION

SECTION 4 – DIVISIONS, CLASSES AND ELIGIBILITY

B. Classes

3. Junior

- a. Age **8** through 17. The rider must be **8** years old to enter competition; thereafter the age of a junior shall be determined by whatever their age is as of the beginning of the ride year, and this age shall continue throughout that ride year. **Riders must be able to care for their horse with minimal assistance. Riders 12 and under must ride with an adult sponsor or a junior sponsor, 13 or older with more than 250 NATRC miles, with a limit of two per sponsor. The sponsor must also be a registered participant in an appropriate division. If the sponsor cannot continue, a sponsor on trail can be substituted with another appropriate competitor or DO rider.**
- b. Juniors may compete in Open, Competitive Pleasure or Novice Division **Adult** Classes. **Juniors may compete in Leisure Division Adult or Experienced Classes.**

D. Eligibility of Riders

- 1. All persons **of minimum competitive age** or older are eligible to compete in NATRC, except:

#6: SANCTION LANGUAGE

SECTION 2 – SANCTIONED RIDES AND CLINICS

A. Rides:

1. Sanctioning

- f. Rule violations may cause loss of **placings, points, and mileage** to the competitors.
- g. Failure to comply with established NATRC sanctioning guidelines **up to 14 days prior to the ride date may cause denial or revocation of sanction. Further failure to comply with sanctioning guidelines or rules will cause a review of the ride by the sanction chair, executive committee, and representative from the judges committee. The review committee will render a judgement on allowing placings, points, and mileage.**