



2023 SEASON OFFICIAL RULEBOOK

Updated April 2023

MISSION, VISION AND CORE VALUES

The National Barrel Horse Association's mission is to promote and expand the sport of barrel racing, utilizing a divisional format, which allows a diverse membership to compete on any breed of equine.

The vision of NBHA is to be the leading association for barrel racing worldwide.

NBHA values passion, integrity, diversity, innovation, and a commitment to our members.

The goal of NBHA is to increase the number of participants, improve the quality of shows and enhance the sport of barrel racing. NBHA supports the expansion of events by providing director support at the local, state, and regional level.

INTRODUCTION

Official NBHA rules address the needs of NBHA members, promote fairness, eliminate confusion, and assist show organizers in the production of an event that reflects the standards.

These Rules cannot cover all possible situations that may arise during a show, nor can they regulate all administrative questions. Where cases are not precisely regulated by a Rule, it should be possible to reach a reasonable decision by looking at the Rule book and the Director's Handbook. The Rules assume that NBHA Directors, Show Management and Headquarter staff have the necessary competence, sound judgment and absolute objectivity. Too detailed a rule might deprive the official of his/her freedom of judgment and thus prevent him/her from finding the solution to a problem dictated by fairness, logic, and special factors.

- **SECTION A: Competition Rules**
- **SECTION B: Show Sanctioning**
- **SECTION C: Earned Points**
- **SECTION D: Payout**
- **SECTION E: Rules Related to State, Super and World Shows**
- **SECTION F: Penalties and/or Disqualifications**
- **SECTION G: Dress Code**
- **SECTION H: Protests & Complaints**
- **SECTION I: NBHA Intellectual Property**

Section A. Competition Rules

1. An NBHA barrel race is an electronically timed event using three identical barrels set in a cloverleaf pattern. Barrels may not be weighted (i.e., sand or water). Barrels must be metal or plastic and must be enclosed on both ends.
2. The starting gate or gates must remain the same throughout the entire event. If more than one start gate is available, it must be offered or denied to all riders equally regardless of the direction they run.
3. The start/finish line and the barrel positions should be permanently marked and must remain the same throughout the entire event.
4. The pattern at an NBHA show must meet the following conditions:
 - a. The first two barrels must be a minimum of 15 feet off the side fence.
 - b. a minimum of 30 feet between the third barrel and the back fence.
 - c. a minimum of 30 feet between the timeline and the first barrel.
5. Ground Conditions:
 - a. The ground conditions within the arena must remain consistent throughout the event. The ground around the barrels must be reworked and leveled after no more than each 5 contestants have competed. Drag intervals must be consistent. Example: After every 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 draw numbers. If scratches exist, the drag must still remain in the same position.
 - b. The preferred method of working the ground is with a ground tool pulled by some type of motor vehicle. Hand raking is not acceptable.
6. Any time a contestant crosses the starting line, time will begin and this will constitute an attempt at a run.
7. Contestants must compete using a western saddle. Riding bareback in a sanctioned NBHA class will result in a disqualification. Additionally, no bareback riding is permitted at any Super Show or World Championship Show at any time, and can result in a fine or further action for repeat offenses.
8. A contestant will be given a "no time" for any of the following reasons:
 - a. Off Pattern
 - b. Knocking over a barrel completely, regardless if it stands back up on either end. Touching the barrel is permitted, without penalty.
 - c. Running out of turn and/or riding a horse other than the horse in the drawn position. It is the contestant's responsibility to know their drawn position. In the case where the announcer clearly announces the wrong running order and can identify their mistake, a contestant shall be offered a rerun. At the completion of the "out-of-order" run, the ground shall be drug for those riders remaining in the drag, if any.

- d. If the rider falls off after crossing the starting timer. A rider who falls off a horse completely, before the starting line, regardless if the horse breaks the timer, a re-run will be offered in that moment in the same draw position, and not at a later time.
9. If a barrel or timer is moved off its marker during competition, they must be reset prior to the next competitor's run to the proper markers and all contestants who competed on the incorrect pattern must re-run at the end of the event, or else a no-time will be given. If the pattern is altered in any way during the running of a class, such that it cannot be restored to its original layout, all runs made to that point are void for the purpose of NBHA points. NBHA points may be awarded only if the entire class is rerun. (An altered pattern includes but is not limited to: Changes in the staked position of the barrels; a change in the position of the timing device, either vertically or horizontally; or a change in the position of the entry gate(s).
10. Contestants may ride any horse, regardless of ownership, and may ride as many horses as they choose in a class unless otherwise approved by the NBHA Headquarters. However, a horse may not be shown by more than one person in a class, unless the following conditions are met:
 - a. Both contestants are members of the same immediate family who also reside in the same household (husband, wife, siblings, children and grandchildren). Children and grandchildren who are attending school away from home, but who reside part of the year with their parents or grandparents are included under this rule.
 - b. Neither contestant is showing any other horse in that class.
 - c. In no case will the same horse be run more than twice in the same class.
11. Entries for an NBHA class will close when the first horse in that class runs, unless otherwise stated on District communications.
12. At all NBHA sanctioned shows, the draw shall be done in a random manner (computer, shuffling cards, drawing numbered chips, etc.). All horses in the draw must be named using registered names, when available. Riders with multiple entries must ride their horses in the position in which they draw up. Once set, the draw may not be changed, except to accommodate entries with the same horse or rider, or entries involving members of the same immediate family, as defined in Section A, Rule 9a, which have drawn up close to each other. What constitutes "close to each other" will be determined by Show Management; however, a consistent standard should be adhered to for the class. The draw may not be changed to give preference to any rider or to accommodate another commitment of a particular rider such as work or another barrel race. Changes must be moved to the end.
13. Only one horse may be in the competition arena at any time during competition.
14. Reruns shall be granted if the official or back up electronic timer fails to work properly or if the barrels are not placed properly on their markers. Any penalty incurred on the original run shall not be applied against the rerun; however, any penalty occurring on the rerun shall result in a *no time*.
15. Contestants who are given a no-time, either for missing the pattern or knocking down a barrel, may complete the pattern. However, show management may, at its discretion, ask a rider who is

taking excessive time to train to leave the arena immediately. If such request is not complied with, a \$25 fine may be assessed, payable to the district awards fund.

16. NBHA Officials have the right to disqualify any uncontrolled horse which does not begin performance within two minutes of the time the rider has been called. This rule does not apply to competitors who have not checked in with gate personnel.

Section B. Show Sanctioning

1. For a show to be sanctioned by the NBHA, an official request **must** be made to the District Director on an NBHA Sanctioned Show Request Form. A \$30 sanctioning fee must accompany this request. If the show is to be published in Barrel Horse News, the request form must be received by NBHA Headquarters 60 days prior to the show. To be approved as a sanctioned show, the request form and fee must be received at NBHA Headquarters at least 14 days prior to the requested show date. State Directors will have final approval for all sanctioned shows. NBHA points will not be awarded for shows that are not properly sanctioned.
2. Sanctioned shows may pay out on either the 3D, 4D, or 5D format.
3. The NBHA will sanction only one show on a given date within a district, except that two separate NBHA runs may be sanctioned on the same day at the same arena.
4. No sanctioned NBHA point shows within the continental United States will be approved for dates that would interfere with members from attending their State Championships, the World Championships, the Youth World Championships. No sanctioned NBHA point shows within the continental United States will be approved within 350 miles of a Tour Show regardless of region. Exceptions may be permitted with timely approval from the NBHA Headquarters.
5. Shows will be sanctioned on a first-come, first-serve basis. The NBHA reserves the right to refuse sanctioning for a particular date or show if it is determined not to be in the best interest of the NBHA or its members.
6. A district shall have no fewer than six (6) nor more than eighteen (18) sanctioned shows per competition season.
7. To be sanctioned, a show must offer all NBHA members in good standing, regardless of age or sex, the opportunity to compete. NBHA members may not be required to enter any other class, or join any other association or club. Competitors must not be required to pay any non-member fee or permit fee greater than \$3 to any association or club not officially affiliated with NBHA, as a condition of riding in an NBHA sanctioned class.
8. There will be four classes of competition as follows (Proof of age may be required at the discretion of Show Management):
 - Open (all ages)
 - Youth (12 years of age and under as of January 1st of the competition year)
 - Teen (13-18 years of age and under as of January 1st of the competition year)

- Senior (50 years of age and over as of the date of the show)

Proof of age may be required at the discretion of Show Management. A Youth competitor may not rollup to a Teen division for any reason.

- (a) Show Management may allow eligible contestants to rollover/carryover their time in the Open class for the Youth, Teen or Senior class. Contestants wishing to rollover a time must declare their intent before event begins. Any contestant carrying time must pay the applicable entry fee for both classes and is eligible to win prize money and NBHA points just as if the time was run in the other class. If this is done, the Open must be run first. The pattern for the Open, Youth, Teen and Senior must be exactly the same and must not be changed in any manner.
- (b) The NBHA points, and payout, if any, will be determined based only on those riders who qualify for that particular class (Youth, Teen or Seniors).
- (c) The Director has the option to run on class, usually called Youth, and combine the Youth and Teen categories into one draw, and one payout. The points must be calculated separately according to the points rules.

9. All sanctioned shows must have an electronic timing system and conform to the NBHA rules. (Note: NBHA events will be timed to thousandths of seconds if the clock being used displays three decimal places.)
10. The District Director must submit show results of all NBHA classes (Open, Youth, Teen and Senior) to their State Director WITHIN SEVEN DAYS after the show. Please note that results must be reported in the 5-D format, regardless of whether the show used the 3-D, 4-D or 5-D payout formula. POINT STANDINGS MUST BE POSTED IN A PUBLIC LOCATION BY THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR AT EVERY SHOW OR ON A PUBLIC WEBSITE FOR MEMBERS TO SEE. When a member disagrees with points awarded, that member will have 14 days, from the date points are posted, to bring any discrepancies to the attention of the District Director and, if necessary, to file a written protest in accordance with SECTION H of this Rule Book. If points are not posted in a public location at a show, members should notify their State Director. If that fails to resolve the problem, the member may notify their Regional Director in writing.
11. Directors must use good judgment in order not to create a travel distance hardship on members and risk revocation of sanction. State Directors will have final approval authority for all co-sanctioned shows.
12. The sanction fee for a co-sanctioned show is \$30, no matter how many districts participate. However, each district director must sign off on the show for their district, either by signing the same form or by submitting their own form. A co-sanctioned show must be sanctioned for the district in which it takes place unless specific permission has been given by the District Director.
13. If a show is co-sanctioned, and the host district later decides to cancel the sanction, the show may continue as sanctioned for any or all the visiting districts which decide to keep the sanction. The original host district may not sanction another show within that district on the same day.

14. A contestant's current NBHA membership card or a copy of current membership application is no longer required to the show secretary prior to entering an NBHA sanctioned show.
15. Non-members may compete for prize money at an NBHA sanctioned show only upon payment of a non-member permit fee. A non-member permit fee, in the amount of ten dollars (\$10.00) will be collected from each non-member seeking to enter each NBHA sanctioned show. The fee collected will permit non-members to enter one NBHA show and compete in all classes for which they are qualified. Non-member permit fees collected will be deposited in the district account for year-end awards. District Directors may waive the non-member permit fee for members of other approved clubs and associations only during a co-sanctioned event with the non-member's club or association. The NBHA reserves the right to refuse co-sanctioning for a particular date or show if it is determined not to be in the best interest of the NBHA or its members.
16. Organizations and individuals requesting NBHA sanctioned shows must use the official NBHA logo in all show bills and displayed advertising. Classified advertising and show listings must contain the words "NBHA Sanctioned." Camera-ready copies of the NBHA logo are available on the NBHA website or by contacting the National Headquarters.
17. As a condition of sanction, shows may be asked to display promotional items provided by select NBHA national sponsors.

Section C. Earned Points

1. To earn and maintain points, a competitor must be a member in good standing of the NBHA. Members who fail to renew their membership within 30 days of their expiration date will forfeit any accumulated points previously earned during the competition year, however race count for State Show qualifications purposes will remain. NBHA policy allows for a 30-day administrative grace period beyond the expiration date before the membership is officially marked as lapsed. Members who are in their administrative grace period should therefore not be credited with NBHA points unless they renew online before competing. Members past the expiration date are also liable for non-member permit fees. Members may not use the administrative grace period to compete in shows restricted to members, such as NBHA State Championships, Super Shows, National Championship Series, or World Championships.
2. NBHA members may accumulate points in only one district at a time during the competition year. Members are responsible for designating their district online at the time of joining or renewing. Members lose accumulated points in a district when they designate and start competing for NBHA points in another district during the competition year.
3. At no time will a lead line competitor receive points toward World Championship qualifications.
4. Divisions for points are determined by time brackets. The fastest time in the class will set the time for payback and District 00 points. Whatever district or districts sanction the show their district members' fastest time will set the time for their district points. If sanctioned by more than one district each district's fastest time will set their time for their district points.

- 1st Division – Fastest time in the class and those who place in this division.
 - 2nd Division – Fastest time in the class plus one-half second and those who place in this division.
 - 3rd Division – Fastest time in the class plus one second and those who place in this division.
 - 4th Division - Fastest time in the class plus one and one-half seconds and those who place in this division.
 - 5th Division – Fastest time in the class plus two seconds and those who place in this division. Note: The 5th division is not limited to a one-half second interval from two to two and one-half seconds off the fastest time. However, riders must make a good faith effort to run the pattern as fast as their ability will allow.
5. NBHA points will be awarded in all classes and divisions on a 5,4,3,2,1 basis for 1st place through 5th place among **NBHA members in that competition district only**, regardless of the number of entries or paying places. If two or more riders tie, the points for the tied positions should be added together and divided equally among the riders who tied. If non-members place among the top points positions, the points skip those riders and continue to the riders below them who are active within the district.
6. NBHA points are strictly for qualifications to World Championship shows. Districts may have different qualifications and sets of points used for district awards, such as volunteer standards or fundraising. This shall be determined by the State and District Directors. District awards are not required, but highly recommended.

Example of the time brackets for points (Note: This is only an example)

Placing	1st Division	2nd Division	3rd Division	4th Division	5th Division
1.	15.201- 5 pts	15.713- 5 pts	16.205- 5 pts	16.723- 5 pts	17.201- 5 pts
2.	15.272- 4 pts	15.772- 4 pts	16.322- 4 pts	16.740- 4 pts	17.243- 4 pts
3.	15.314- 3 pts	15.816- 3 pts	16.475- 3 pts	16.998- 3 pts	17.386- 3 pts
4.	15.357- 2 pts	15.993- 2 pts	16.528- 2 pts	17.113 2 pts	18.025- 2 pts
5.	15.448- 1 pt	16.116- 1 pt	16.580- 1 pt	17.157- 1 pt	18.567- 1 pt
6.	15.639- 0 pts	16.145- 0 pts	16.622- 0 pts	17.199- 0 pts	19.133- 0 pts

7. Should fewer than five horses place in a division, NBHA points will be awarded beginning with five points for 1st place.
8. NBHA points will not be awarded for any run during which a contestant knocks over a barrel.

9. Competitors may enter more than one class. For example, competitors in the Youth 5D or Senior 5D classes may also qualify in the Open 5D class.
10. Competitors may ride as many horses as they wish in each class. However, the competitor with multiple entries will receive points only for the highest placing horse in each division per class.
11. At a co-sanctioned show, each district's members are given their points separately. That is, the highest placing 1D rider from each district gets 5 points, and so on.
12. A competitor may qualify only one entry for the NBHA World Championships in each of the Open 5D divisions, the Youth 5D divisions, or the Senior 5D divisions, based on accumulated points.
13. NBHA Points, in all classes and divisions are awarded to the rider.
14. A horse may be entered only once in each class at the NBHA World Championships and National Championship Series, with the exception of immediate family members, as defined in Section A Paragraph 9 above, who qualify in the same class. In no case will the same horse be entered more than twice in the same class.
15. Each district may qualify for the world show ten (10) total riders in each division of each class (Open, Youth, Teen, and Senior) unless applicable ties cross over the 10th place position. Ties consume the number of places that there are competitors, for example, a two way tie with 6 points each for 3rd place then consumes the 3rd and 4th place collectively. In this case, someone with 5 points is considered 5th. If at any time a tie consumes 10th or better than all individuals in that group are to be turned into NBHA as qualifiers.
16. Rules for the roving district within a state:
 - a. The roving district is designated "00". It works like a geographical district except that members may earn points at any show which is sanctioned for any district in their state. This has been developed to provide another option for members who want a greater selection in the number of shows they attend, or who have work or other obligations which make it difficult to commit to the schedule of a particular district.
 - b. It is up to the discretion of the State Director whether to initiate the "00" district within a state. A District Director must be appointed to keep the points for the "00" district. This could be either the State Director or an appointed District Director. The State Director will determine the number of shows which each "00" member may count toward their year end point totals. The "00" Director will be responsible for submitting the year-end report with World Show qualifiers to Headquarters.
 - c. Members declare the "00" district just like any other. A member may not declare "00", and a regular district at the same time.
 - d. A "00" member who competes in an NBHA sanctioned show must indicate on the entry card or form, before the competition, whether they will count this show for points. If the member receives no points, the show still counts toward the allotment of shows.

- e. Time splits for the “00” district will be taken off the fastest time in the class, regardless of whether that time is posted by a member or non-member or which district the rider is a member of.

Section D. Payout

The required payoff for NBHA sanctioned shows is as follows:

1. A minimum of 75% of all entry fees must go to the jackpot. (Exception: If a show offers at least \$1,000 added money, a minimum of 70% of all entry fees must go to the jackpot.) That is, a maximum of 25% (or a maximum of 30% if at least \$1,000 added) may be withheld as the “office charge.” If more than 25% is withheld pursuant to the above, this fact must be stated on any show bills or flyers. This is exclusive of other fees which may be charged for specific purposes such as State District Awards Fees as defined below, timer fee, processing fee or arena fee. While we permit such charges, they must not be excessive, must be clearly stated in all advertising and show bills, and must be directed to the specific purposes as labeled, for example, the timer fees must either be paid to the timer owner/operator, or put toward the purchase of a timer for the district. The charging of a “processing fee” to district shows, the sole purpose of which is to add to the general revenue of the show, is not permitted.
2. To help support the State Championships by raising money for State Awards all NBHA sanctioned shows must charge a minimum \$2.00 awards fee with a minimum \$1.00 going to the District and a minimum \$1.00 going to the State Director for State Championships. If your district will not be awarding year-end awards there may not be a district fee. Each State can elect for higher fees for State and District if approved by the Regional Directors.
3. Shows may choose to payout their classes in a 3D, 4D or 5D although points are always awarded in a 5D. The times splits between the divisions for a 3D payout class is 1.0 – 1.0 second splits, 4D payout class may be either 0.5 - 0.5 - 0.5 second splits or 0.5 - 0.5 - 1 second splits, and splits for a 5D format must be 0.5 second between all divisions. It is up to the Director to choose the payout best suited.
4. In a payout, the total jackpotted entry fees are to be divided into:

Percent Place into Each Division (Original Option)

	Division 1	Division 2	Division 3	Division 4	Division 5
3D	50%	30%	20%		
4D	35%	30%	20%	15%	
5D	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%

Optional B: Percent Paid into Each Division

	Division 1	Division 2	Division 3	Division 4	Division 5
3D	N/A	N/A	N/A		
4D	32%	28%	22%	18%	
5D	26%	23%	20%	17%	14%

5-D Format												
Number of Entries												
Standard	-	1-20	21-40	41-80	81-150	151-200	-	201+	-	-	-	-
Alt. Option	1-25	26-50	51-100	101-143	144-200	201-250	251-300	251-300	301-350	351-400	401-450	451+
1st	100%	60%	50%	40%	30%	28%	26%	24%	22%	20%	19%	19%
2nd	—	40%	30%	30%	25%	22%	20%	18%	18%	18%	17%	17%
3rd	—	—	20%	20%	20%	18%	15%	15%	15%	15%	14.5%	14%
4th	—	—	—	10%	15%	14%	12%	12%	12%	12%	12%	11%
5th	—	—	—	—	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	9.5%	9.5%	9%
6th	—	—	—	—	—	8%	9%	8%	8%	7.5%	7%	7%
7th	—	—	—	—	—	—	8%	7%	6%	6%	6%	5.5%
8th	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6%	5%	5%	5%	5%
9th	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4%	4%	4%	4%
10th	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3%	3.5%	3.5%
11th	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.5%	2.75%
12th*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.25%

*For payout percentages when desiring to payout more than 12 places, please contact the NBHA Headquarters

8. District Directors will check payback in all NBHA classes. Paying more than the stated places requires approval of the District Director.
9. All prize money must be paid out.
10. Prize money will NOT be paid to any contestant who knocks over a barrel.
11. At any NBHA show, if not enough riders qualify in a division as monies to be paid, the money which is unaccounted for shall be divided equally among those who have placed in that division, or based upon the percentages of payout for the placings as shown in charts above in (5) until no leftover money remains. If no riders qualify in a division, the prize money for that division shall be divided among those riders in the other divisions of that class who have won prize money.

Section E: Rules Related to State, Super and World Shows

All rulings made in accordance to the rule book and for instances not referenced in the rule book, will be made by the Show Manager and will be considered final.

1. State Shows

- a. All NBHA rules will apply as set forth in the rulebook if not addressed below.

- b. All participants in State Championship's must be current members in good standings at the time of show.
- c. State Shows may not be used for District show points or qualifications of any kind.
- d. No member may compete in more than one NBHA State Championship during a calendar year.
- e. To be eligible to enter a State Championship in any class all participants must have competed in three separate district shows in at least one sanctioned class in the declared competition district during the time between State Shows.
- f. Under no circumstance shall a State offer a buy-in option to State Finals. Members must compete to obtain qualifications. No qualification will be given for rider who do not compete.
- g. Horse and rider combinations may not change draw positions under any circumstance.
- h. No rider substitutions allowed.
- i. Horse changes must be received in the show office prior to your competition run. When a Short Go/Finals is involved, members must compete on the horse they qualified on.
- j. Electric timers must be used for all rides. Should the timer malfunction a rerun will be granted immediately after the event is completed for the day and after a drag, or at the discretion of the Show Manager.
- k. In the event of a tie for a State title in any Division (1st Place only in any D), a run-off will occur using the following protocol:
 - i. A Show Official will toss a coin to determine running order, unless both/all parties tied parties mutually agree the coin toss to determine the clear winner without a runoff.
 - ii. In an event of a run-off, each contestant will be given a minimum of 30 minutes of rest before having to ride in a runoff.
 - iii. During the runoff, any barrels knocked down will result in a 5 second penalty per barrel down.
 - iv. Winning monies related to a tie will be split 50/50 or evenly in the case of more than two individuals in a tie and contestants will be deemed Co-Champions. Prizes will be awarded to the results from the runoff or the mutually agreed upon flip.
 - v. If a contestant fails to contact the Show Official within 30 minutes of announced results. He or she will forfeit the opportunity of flipping a coin or running for first choice of awards. This will not impact the event payoff, or the contestants being considered Co-Champions.
 - vi. It is the contestant's responsibility to seek show results.
- l. In the event of a tie not related to a State title, in which awards are given:
 - i. A coin flip will be used to determine who will receive first choice of awards. If a contestant fails to contact the Show Official within 30 minutes of announced results, he or she will forfeit the opportunity of flipping a coin for first choice of awards.
 - ii. Winning monies related to a tie will be split 50/50 or evenly in the case of more than two individuals in a tie.

2. Super Shows

- a. All NBHA rules will apply as set forth in the rulebook if not addressed below.
- b. It is recommended that all participants in Super Shows must be a current member in good standing, however NBHA reserves the right to open Super Shows to all competitors. If awards are given, only current members would be eligible for such awards.
- c. Lead line in a NBHA Super Show class will result in a no-time.
- d. Entries may remain open beyond the start of the classes. Entries will close at the advertised times.
- e. Horse and rider combinations may not change draw positions under any circumstance.
- f. Payouts per division will follow the percentages as stated in Section D, Rule 2. The percentages and number of placings within each D will be determined based on added money, number of entries and entry fee, and at the discretion of the Show Manager and may differ from Section D, Rule 2.
- g. Riders must check in with the gate help during the time the tractors are dragging for their set of runners. Failure to check in will result in a three-call for the rider and the rider missing their run if not able to enter the arena during those three calls.
- h. In the event of a tie where awards are applicable, a coin toss will be used to determine who will receive preference of/or any awards, but prize money will be evenly split.

3. World Shows

- a. All NBHA rules will apply as set forth in the rulebook if not addressed below.
- b. All participants in World Shows must be current members in good standings.
- c. Horse and rider combinations may not change draw positions under any circumstance.
- d. No rider substitutions allowed.
- e. Lead line in a Championship class will result in a no-time.
- f. Riders must check in with the gate help during the time the tractors are dragging for their set of runners. Failure to check in will result in a three-call for the rider and the rider missing their run if not able to enter the arena during those three calls.
- g. Payouts per division will follow the percentages as stated in Section D, Rule 2. The percentages and number of placings within each D will be determined based on added money, number of entries and entry fee, and at the discretion of the Show Manager.
- h. In the event of a tie for a World Championship title in any Division (1st Place only in any D), a run-off will occur for awards using the following protocol however riders will be considered Co-Champions:
 - i. A Show Official will toss a coin to determine running order, unless both/all parties tied mutually agree the coin toss to determine the rider who gets first choice of awards without a runoff.
 - ii. In an event of a run-off, each contestant will be given a minimum of 30 minutes of rest before having to ride in a runoff.
 - iii. During the runoff, any barrels knocked down will result in a 5 second penalty per barrel down.
 - iv. Winning monies related to a tie will be split 50/50 or evenly in the case of more than two individuals in a tie and contestants will be deemed Co-Champions.

- Prizes will be awarded to the results from the runoff or the mutually agreed upon flip.
- v. If a contestant fails to contact the Show Official within 30 minutes of announced results. He or she will forfeit the opportunity of flipping a coin or running for first choice of awards. This will not impact the event payoff, or the contestants being considered Co-Champions.
 - vi. It is the contestant's responsibility to seek show results.
- i. In the event of a tie not related to a World Championship title, in which awards are given:
- i. A coin flip will be used to determine who will receive first choice of awards. If a contestant fails to contact the Show Official within 30 minutes of announced results, he or she will forfeit the opportunity of flipping a coin for first choice of awards.
 - ii. Winning monies related to a tie will be split 50/50 or evenly in the case of more than two individuals in a tie.
- j. Wildcards
- i. Wildcards are good for one World Championship qualification. One Wildcard = One horse qualification into one Championship class.
 - ii. They cannot be replaced if physically lost.
 - iii. These do not expire and they are transferable with proper transfer form. NBHA does not sell Wildcards. Transfers and purchases must be done between competitors.
 - iv. The physical certificate must be surrendered for qualification. Photocopies and picture are not valid.
 - v. Wildcards may be used at either World Championship show (Youth/Teen/Senior/Open) regardless of where the Wildcard was won or what is stated on the certificate.
 - vi. Competitor may use valid Wildcards awarded in their own name to enter World Championships using the show guidelines and deadlines for entry. Competitors wishing to use a valid transferred Wildcard must hold a membership current as March 1st in the same year they wish to compete in the World Championship show.

Section F: Penalties and/or Disqualifications

NBHA membership and participation in NBHA events is a privilege, not a right. Behavior which is damaging to the Association or its membership will not be tolerated. Violation of any of the following provisions may subject a member to disqualification from NBHA events, being denied entry to NBHA events, loss of points, or suspension from the Association.

1. Any act in connection with an NBHA sanctioned show or other NBHA business in violation of this section by a member of the family of an NBHA member may be deemed to have been committed by the NBHA member and subject him or her to penalties.

2. Any act deemed prejudicial to the best interests of the NBHA may result in the suspension of a member, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Using abusive or intemperate language or attempting to threaten, bribe, influence or harass any contestant, show official or NBHA official. Also, any remarks made with the intent to cast aspersions on the character or integrity of an NBHA official or show official.
 - b. Moving or attempting to move markers at any time.
 - c. Use of electronic and/or remotely controlled devices to alter the outcome of a run.
 - d. Abuse of a horse in any way.
 - e. Competing while impaired and under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
 - f. Misidentifying a horse in any NBHA class will disqualify a contestant.
 - g. Other conduct that is not in the best interest of the NBHA or its members.
 - h. Failure to make good on a returned check to the NBHA or to any NBHA sanctioned event, or to any other association which has a cooperative agreement with the NBHA on returned checks.
 - i. Show Management and/or NBHA Directors at their sole discretion shall have the authority to disqualify or deny entry to any horse they deem dangerous to the rider, or to other individuals, animals or property.
3. A member who has been suspended, disqualified, or denied points under this section may appeal to an appeals committee of NBHA members and directors appointed by the appropriate State, Area, or Regional Director. the date, time, and location of such meeting will be determined by the State or Area Director. The decisions of such appeals committee shall be final and binding on all parties.
4. Any litigation, whether pending or complete, including the NBHA, its directors, and/or any affiliated parties may result in further review by the NBHA on a case by case basis. NBHA reserves the right to suspend, refund or otherwise deny any membership or any relationship related to the NBHA as deemed necessary for the betterment and safety of the membership as a whole.

Section G. Dress Code

1. To enhance the image of our sport, the NBHA encourages and promotes appropriate western attire throughout all NBHA sanctioned events. Dress code is mandatory at State, National, Super and World Championship shows, unless otherwise stated. This includes a long-sleeved Western full button, full snapped or full zipped shirt with collar, jeans/pants and a western cowboy hat or helmet. Shirt sleeves must be rolled down and buttoned or snapped. Shirt tails must be tucked in. Jackets or coverings may be worn, but the western attire must exist regardless of cover. Western boots are highly recommended for safety. At the district level, jeans/pants required.

2. This dress code will be strictly enforced at all State Championships, National Championship Series, the NBHA World Championships, the NBHA Youth World Championships, and all Super Shows, unless otherwise approved and stated for State Championship Shows. Anyone making a run at any of these shows that is found to be in violation of the dress code will be first given a verbal warning, and then assessed a \$50 fine for any subsequent offense. A contestant cannot be disqualified for dress code offenses. During all Super Shows contestants will be assessed a fine of \$10 for losing their hat at any time within the competition arena, however the fine will be \$15 at World Shows, unless otherwise posted. Members who fail to pay such fines will be ineligible to compete in or enter any NBHA sanctioned or approved shows until such fines are paid in full. All disputes over dress code and fines will be decided by Show Management. The decision of Show Management will be final and binding.
3. Anyone in any practice pen, holding area, or competition area must wear closed-toed shoes. When sufficiently posted, full western attire can be mandated in holding pens for all individuals, not just contestants.

Section H. Protests & Complaints

1. Persons who believe a rule violation or infraction has occurred at an NBHA event, may file a written protest with NBHA Headquarters, 2112 Montgomery St., Fort Worth, TX 76017. The written protest must be accompanied by a \$50 protest fee. The protest must be made within 30 days of the incident which is being protested. If the protest proves to be valid, the \$50 protest fee will be returned to the person filing the protest. If the protest proves to be invalid, the protest fee will be returned to the district where the protest was filed to be used for district year end awards. In certain cases, determined by the Executive Director, NBHA Headquarters may reserve the right to return the \$50 protest fee even if the protest proves to be invalid. This is the ONLY manner in which a protest or complaint will be accepted.

NOTE: This rule does not prevent Directors and Show Managers from correcting obvious problems brought to their attention, without the submission of a written protest fee. Any situation not covered under these rules shall be decided by the NBHA official on site.

SECTION I: NBHA Intellectual Property

1. NBHA Brand Usage Guidelines

Overview of NBHA's intellectual property "IP" rights and guidance on how the NBHA name and logos may be used. Throughout this section, "NBHA IP" means the logos, words and phrases, and other imagery to which NBHA holds exclusive rights. These guidelines are intended to provide guidance regarding the use of NBHA IP in any way that may reasonably be interpreted as implying endorsement, approval, sponsorship, or any other commercial affiliation by or with the NBHA. These guidelines are not intended to discourage the fair use of NBHA IP. NBHA retains the exclusive rights to its trademarks and copyrighted materials. NBHA allows access to NBHA IP solely for use in the promotion and marketing of NBHA and NBHA affiliated events.

a. Logos

- I. The NBHA owns and has the right to control logos (in full or part) in the United States and Canada and within its internationally affiliated associations, including the graphics below and the trademarked words and phrases below the logo (see Figure 1.).
- II. Font of NBHA logo: Basel Neue Black Italic and Athelas.
 - i. Red: C: 0 / M: 97 / Y: 80 / K: 20
 - ii. Blue: C: 100 / M: 94 / Y: 0 / K: 35

Figure 1. The Official NBHA logos (with and without horse & rider)



At no time can the logo be disassembled or rearranged beyond what is shown above. See nba.com/about/logo for color variations and more logo info.

b. Words and Phrases

- I. The NBHA has exclusive right to, but not limited to:
 - NATIONAL BARREL HORSE ASSOCIATION
 - NBHA

c. Photographs

- I. The NBHA has the right to control the commercial use of photographs or other images from NBHA events. A competitor's entry provides consent for their image to be used for NBHA promotional purposes across digital or print platforms. NBHA reserves exclusive rights to all photography privileges at sanctioned events. Any photography on-site or use of media whether for personal or commercial use must obtain prior approval from the NBHA office.

2. Global Commercial Use of NBHA IP

- a. No United States or Canada business or other commercial entity should use NBHA IP without the express consent of the NBHA.
- b. International sponsors, who sponsor an NBHA association in a country, besides the United States or Canada, can use the NBHA logo from their country but it must not be used as a stand-alone logo. The NBHA country (i.e., NBHA AUSTRALIA) MUST be placed alongside the NBHA Official logo but, and additions to the logo must not interfere, modify, or overlap the Official NBHA logo. (see Figure 2.).

3. State and District Guidelines: Within the United States and Canada

Official affiliated NBHA districts are bound by the following guidelines. Failing to follow NBHA IP guidelines may jeopardize official affiliation with NBHA. Districts MUST use the Official NBHA logo in conjunction with the District name (ie. NBHA TX 15). States and Districts are NOT permitted to use the any NBHA IP as a stand-alone logo.



Award Guidelines

- a. An official affiliated NBHA District is permitted to use the Official NBHA logo on awards items presented at single races or for year-end awards, that include but are not limited to clothing, embroidery, trophy tack, trophies.
- b. An official affiliated NBHA District is NOT permitted to use the Official NBHA logo on any trophy belt buckle. Gist Silversmiths maintains exclusive right to the use of the NBHA logo within the United States and Canada.
- c. An official affiliated NBHA District may use the letters NBHA (in a generic font) on a trophy belt buckle, but the full NBHA logo (with or without the horse and rider image attached) is reserved for exclusive use by the Official NBHA Silversmith, Gist Silversmiths. Districts are encouraged to order trophy buckles, with the NBHA logo, from Gist Silversmiths.

Marketing Guidelines

- a. NBHA Districts are permitted to use NBHA IP on marketing materials, that include websites, social media posts, printed flyers, and barrel covers. The NBHA District number (i.e., NBHA TX 15) MUST be placed alongside the NBHA Official logo. Additions to the logo must not interfere, modify, or overlap the Official NBHA logo.

Merchandise Guidelines

- a. An official NBHA affiliated District is permitted to use the NBHA logo on Official District merchandise that is available for sale to the public or awarded to District members. Districts MUST use the Official NBHA logo in conjunction with the District name (ie. NBHA TX 15).
- b. Districts are NOT permitted to use the any NBHA IP as a stand-alone logo. All merchandise items produced by Districts, for in-District use, must contain the District name, alongside the Official NBHA logo (ie. NBHA TX 15).

4. Global Guidelines: Outside of Canada and the United States

Official internationally affiliated NBHA associations are bound by the following guidelines. Failing to

follow NBHA IP guidelines may jeopardize official affiliation with NBHA. The NBHA country (i.e., NBHA AUSTRALIA) MUST be placed alongside the NBHA Official logo but, and additions to the logo must not interfere, modify, or overlap the Official NBHA logo. (see Figure 2.)

Figure 2. Example of international country name placement



Award Guidelines

- a. An official affiliated NBHA International associations is permitted to use the full NBHA logo on awards items presented at single races or for year-end awards. The NBHA country (e.g., NBHA ITALY) MUST be placed alongside the NBHA Official logo but, and additions to the logo must not interfere, modify, or overlap the Official NBHA logo.
- b. The promotion of international awards featuring the letters NBHA or the full NBHA logo MUST be limited to digital and print platforms based in their country of origin.

Marketing Guidelines

- a. International NBHA affiliated associations are permitted to use NBHA IP on event marketing materials, that include websites, social media posts, printed flyers, and barrel covers. The NBHA country (i.e., NBHA ITALY) MUST be placed alongside the NBHA Official logo but, and additions to the logo must not interfere, modify, or overlap the Official NBHA logo.
- b. Digital and printed promotions of sponsors of internationally affiliated NBHA associations MUST be limited to digital and print platforms owned in their home country. (e.g., NBHA Australia sponsors cannot be promoted on a United States based webpage, platform, or social media page).

Merchandise Guidelines

- a. International NBHA affiliated associations are permitted to use the NBHA logo on merchandise that is available for sale to the public or awarded to international members. International NBHA affiliated associations MUST use the Official NBHA logo in conjunction with their country name (e.g., NBHA ITALY).
- b. International NBHA affiliated associations are NOT permitted to use any NBHA IP as a stand-alone logo. All merchandise items produced by international NBHA affiliated associations, for in international use, must contain the country name, alongside the Official NBHA logo.

5. Social Media – Including the United States, Canada, and Globally Affiliated Associations

- a. The NBHA recognizes that the nature of social media encourages people to talk about current events and topics; and NBHA appreciates the interest, excitement, and public conversation surrounding NBHA events but only Official NBHA Districts, State Directors, and affiliated internal associations have permission to use NBHA IP in social media. This section applies to all social media platforms including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, Google+ and others.

6. Protecting NBHA IP

- a. NBHA is committed to protect the NBHA’s rights. These guidelines are not intended to provide legal advice and any information contained herein does not in any way limit the NBHA’s legal rights and remedies.
- b. NBHA rules and regulations protecting NBHA IP regarding logo usage is applicable to State and District Directors, and applies to members and non-members on an individual level. A NBHA member or non-members is subject to the same rules as State and District Directors and may not use the NBHA logo or an NBHA Tour Event Logo on a standalone basis.

*****LAST UPDATED 04/13/2023*****