



Reining Alberta South Branch

Updated May 9, 2023

BASE CLASSES	DESCRIPTION (RA Year End Hi-Point Award Eligible Classes)
RA Green Reiner	Rider must be a valid RA Non Pro cardholder with no earnings in a reining event and may show one or two handed in any legal bit. Modified pattern (simple lead change option). In order to win the High Point Award, rider must not have won any 'RA Green Reiner High Point' award (Cannot win circuit award twice, however, still able to compete with \$0 earnings. Non-Pro horse ownership rules do not apply.
RA Beginner Youth and RA 13&Under	Rider must be a valid RA Non Pro cardholder, aged 13 or under as of January 1 st of the current year and cannot have any earnings in a reining event. May show one or two handed in any legal bit. Non-Pro horse ownership rules do not apply. Class runs concurrent with the RA Beginner Youth 14-18. Modified pattern.
RA Beginner Youth 14-18 and RA 14-18	Rider must be a valid RA Non Pro cardholder, aged 14-18 as of January 1 st of the current year, and cannot have any earnings in a reining event. May show one or two handed in any legal bit. Non-Pro horse ownership rules do not apply. Class runs concurrent with the RA Beginner Youth 13 & Under. Modified pattern.
RA Ranch Reiner	Rider must be a valid RA Non Pro cardholder with less than \$250 LTE. May show one or two handed in any legal bit. Class runs concurrent with the 'Never Won A Buckle' class.
RA Beginner Horse	Rider must be a valid RA cardholder. Horse must have less than \$200 LTE. May show one or two handed in any legal bit.
RA Limited Non-Pro	Rider must be a valid RA Non Pro cardholder with less than \$10,000 LTE.
RA Youth 13&Under	Rider must be a valid RA Non Pro cardholder and aged 13 or under as of January 1 st of the current year. Class will run concurrent with the RA Youth 14-18.
RA Youth 14-18	Rider must be a valid RA Non Pro cardholder and aged 14-18 as of January 1 st of the current year. Class will run concurrent with the RA Youth 13 & Under.
RA Limited Open	Rider must be a valid RA cardholder with less than \$7500 LTE. Class runs concurrent with the SB Open.
RA Non-Pro	Rider must be a valid RA Non Pro cardholder. Class runs concurrent with the SB Non Pro Prime Time. No LTE limitations.
SB CLASSES	DESCRIPTION
Non-Pro Ranch Riding*	Patterns will reflect the Ranch Riding Patterns in the AQHA handbook. Rules are on page 4. Some rules are modified from AQHA for the purpose of South Branch specific shows.
Open Ranch Riding*	Patterns will reflect the Ranch Riding Patterns in the AQHA handbook. Rules are on page 4. Some rules are modified from AQHA for the purpose of South Branch specific shows.
SB Non-Pro Prime Time*	Rider must be a valid RA Non Pro cardholder and aged 50 years or older as of January 1 st of the current year. No LTE limitations. Class runs concurrent with the RA Non Pro
Never Won a Buckle (Series)*	Rider must be a valid RA Non Pro cardholder that has never won a buckle in a reining event, excluding the current show year. No LTE limitations. May show one or two handed in any legal bit. Non-Pro horse ownership rules apply. Class runs concurrent with the RA Ranch Reiner. Winner of the Series will receive a buckle.
SB Short Stirrup	Rider must be a valid RA Non Pro cardholder and aged 10 or under as of January 1 st of the current year. May show one or two handed in any legal bit at the walk, trot, or lope. Non-Pro horse ownership rules do not apply.
SB Open	Rider must be a valid RA cardholder. Class runs concurrent with the RA Limited Open. No LTE limitations.
<p>All Lifetime Earnings are as of January 1st of the current year. *Class is eligible for South Branch Circuit Award</p>	

SB AWARDS	DESCRIPTION (South Branch Year End Awards)
Beginner of the Year	For Non-Pro Riders only. The rider must not have won any money or high point prizes in any reining event (lifetime). Will be awarded to the specific horse/rider combination that accumulates the most points in all classes throughout the year. Non-pro-ownership rules do not apply
Volunteer of the Year	This award will be presented to the individual who donates an above average amount of time to volunteering at the South Branch Shows and helping them run smoothly.
Trainer of the Year	The recipient will be chosen based on nominations from membership, and participation at South Branch Circuit Shows for themselves and their clients that named them their Trainer.

Hi-Point & Circuit Award Eligibility

- Riders must show at a minimum of 3 South Branch circuit shows to be eligible for any circuit awards.
- Riders must volunteer a minimum of 3 hours at circuit shows to be eligible for any circuit awards.

Available jobs for volunteer hours:

Scribes for judges, gatekeepers, timer, Ranch Riding setup at each show, arena pooper scooping, prize and show desk tables setup/take down, etc. If you are able to scribe at a specific show, please contact us at the beginning of the year. There will be a sign-up sheet for all shows with the online entry form and will be available at the show desk as well.

To reserve your spot today you may also email:

Wendy Kemble: rasb.chairperson@gmail.com

Karen Huggins: rasouthentries@gmail.com

The hours will be tracked and added up for year-end prize qualifications. Volunteers are responsible for communicating their hours to the South Branch Secretary.

Sportsmanship

Reining Alberta's South Branch strives to offer a fun, inclusive, and educational show circuit where competitors of all levels can have fun with their horses and improve their showmanship skills.

All of our members and competitors play a part in that!

As representatives of our Association, the South Branch encourages all our members to act with respect towards all horses on the show grounds, towards fellow competitors, officers, staff, directors, and judges.

Any issues or concerns should be directed towards the South Branch Chairperson or Show Secretary.

~ TO PROMOTE, DEVELOP AND ENHANCE THE SPORT OF REINING IN ALBERTA ~

Reining Alberta Branch Circuit Rules

Section A. Entrance Requirements:

- Both owners and riders must be current RA members to compete at RA shows.
- Open to all breeds and grade horses.
- NRHA rules apply except where otherwise indicated.
- AQHA rules apply for Ranch Riding Classes
- Non-Pros that do not hold a current NRHA Non-Pro card must complete the RA Non-Pro declaration form with their entry. NRHA Non-Pro horse ownership rules apply unless otherwise stipulated.
- All contestants must sign a waiver before taking part in any RA event.
- Cheques must be made out to Reining Alberta in Canadian funds.

Section B. Equipment:

- Riders are required to wear a long sleeve shirt, cowboy hat, and heeled boots at all times while showing.
- No training equipment allowed in any judged class.
- Beginner Horse, Beginner Youth, Green Reiner & Ranch Reiner may be ridden one or two handed in any legal bit.
- Horses over 4 years of age must be ridden one handed in any Ranch Riding Class.

Section C. Eligibility:

- It is the competitor's responsibility to be aware of their earnings and enter classes accordingly. Eligibility criteria are explained in the class list provided by the branch circuits and are as of January 1st, current year.
- RA classes use lifetime earnings, which are the total of all moneys earned at any reining event. Lifetime eligibility lists are available at [HYPERLINK "http://www.equistat.com/"](http://www.equistat.com/)
- Youth riders are determined as Non-Pro riders 18 years of age or under as of January 1st of the current calendar year.

Section D. High Point Awards:

- To qualify for Branch Circuit High Point awards a member must attend at least 3 shows in a single circuit and volunteer a minimum of 3 hours at Reining Alberta events.
- Points are earned by the rider (except Beginner Horse) regardless of the horse ridden.
- A rider is not limited to the number of horses they can ride in any one class, but only the points earned on the highest placing run in each class will be recorded in the High Point tally for the rider.
- The horse, regardless of who the rider is, earns Beginner Horse Points.
- Not all classes qualify for High Point awards; each branch determines eligible classes individually.
- Ties for High Point awards will be resolved by a coin toss at the Reining Alberta annual banquet.
- High point awards will be presented at the Reining Alberta annual banquet.

High Point Calculations:

- 1st – 5 + ½ point for every horse placing lower
- 2nd – 4 + ½ point for every horse placing lower
- 3rd – 3 + ½ point for every horse placing lower
- 4th – 2 + ½ point for every horse placing lower
- 5th – 1 + ½ point for every horse placing lower

Section E. Stalls and Arena Availability:

- See Branch schedules for specific open riding times, move in time and show office hours.
- The show committee reserves the right to close the arena for maintenance at any time they deem necessary.

Section F. Show Management:

- Any concerns must be directed to the show secretary.
- No mistreatment or abuse of a horse will be tolerated.
- All competitors and spectators must conduct themselves in a sportsman like manner at all times.
- Show management decisions will be final and binding.
- All horses being ridden must be in full tack while on the grounds; riding double or bareback is not allowed.
- Horses in any warm-up situation must be ridden (no ponying alongside another horse).
- Horses are **NOT** to be tied in the warmup area; they must be accompanied at all times. Youth are not allowed to ride stallions.
- All show fees must be paid **BEFORE** you show each day. If not, you will forfeit all points and prizes accumulated that day. Settlement must then be made **BEFORE** entries are accepted at other shows.
- Please have all post entries in by noon on show day.

RANCH RIDING

The purpose of Level 1 ranch riding is to allow a horse to compete in a field with minimally accomplished horses of the same level of experience.

Regardless of horse's age

• **Riding 2 handed is acceptable in an O-ring snaffle bit • Must Ride 1 handed in a shank bit**

All other equipment rules will reflect Reining Rules as set out by Reining Alberta South Branch for the purpose of our Schooling Shows. This includes but is not limited to any rules regarding leg protection and braiding etc.

The purpose of the ranch riding class is to measure the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from performing one ranch task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines of an arena. The horse should be well trained, relaxed, quiet, soft, and cadenced at all gaits. The ideal ranch horse will travel with forward movement and demonstrate an obvious lengthening of stride at extended gaits. The horse can be ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein without requiring undue restraint, but not shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the ranch riding horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner, as well as the quality of the movement is of primary considerations. The ideal ranch riding horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver.

Class requirements:

- Each horse will work individually, performing the required gait maneuvers and a minimum of three optional maneuvers. Horses will be scored on the basis of 0 to 100, with 70 denoting an average performance. Each maneuver will receive a score that should be added or subtracted from 70 and is subject to a penalty that should be subtracted. Each maneuver will be scored on the following basis, ranging from plus 1 1/2 to minus 1 1/2.: -1 1/2 extremely poor, -1 very poor, - 1/2 poor, 0 correct, +1/2 good, + 1 very good, + 1 1/2 excellent. Maneuver scores are to be determined and assessed independently of penalty points.
- The required gait maneuvers will include the walk, trot, and lope both directions: and the extended trot and extended lope at least one direction; as well as stops, and back.
- The optional maneuvers may include a side pass, turns of 360 degrees or more, change of lead (simple or flying), walk, trot, or lope over a log(s); or some reasonable combination of maneuvers that would be reasonable for a horse to perform or encounter during ranch work.
- The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be as those described in GAITS, (SHW334 Ranch Riding) with an emphasis on forward movement, free flowing, and ground covering for all gaits. Transitions should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness.
- No time limit.
- The use of natural logs is encouraged.
- Posting at the extended trot is acceptable.
- Touching or holding the saddle horn is acceptable.

Ranch Riding Penalties. A contestant shall be penalized each time the following occur:

- One (1) point penalty Too slow (per gait) Over-bridled (per maneuver) Out of frame (per maneuver) Break of gait at walk or trot for 2 strides or less
- Three (3) point penalties Break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 strides Break of gait at lope Wrong lead or out of lead Draped reins (per maneuver) Out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides when changing leads Trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change Severe disturbance of any obstacle.
- Five (5) point penalties Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.) for each refusal
- Ten (10) point penalty Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)
- (OP) Placed below horses performing all maneuvers Eliminates maneuver Incomplete maneuver.
- **(0) Score Illegal equipment.**
- No specific penalties will be incurred for nicks/hits on logs, but deduction may be made in maneuver score.
- No specific penalties will be incurred for over/ under spins, but deduction may be made in maneuver score.