

California Championship
2026 General Show Rules and Approvals

1. **APPROVALS** - Classes are approved by AQHA, PCQHA and NSBA as per the class list.
2. **AQHA RULES** - All classes will be conducted in accordance with AQHA rules.
3. **NSBA RULES** – If NSBA futurities are offered they will be governed by NSBA rules
It is the obligation of exhibitors & trainers to be familiar with & abide by AQHA & NSBA rules. For questions consult the AQHA/NSBA rulebooks, download the free apps or ask show management
4. **NSBA DUAL APPROVAL** – Exhibitors showing in NSBA dual approved classes must enter the corresponding AQHA class. However, exhibitors in AQHA classes are not required to enter in the corresponding NSBA class. You may show in both AQHA & NSBA on one day and only AQHA on the second day if you choose.
5. **PROCEDURE CHANGES** – CQHA Show Management bears no responsibility for typographical errors in the show premium. Management reserves the right to change, combine, add to, or cancel awards. Show management may adjust arenas and/or class schedules as it deems necessary for the good of all exhibitors
6. **REFUND REQUESTS** – No Stall or Rv fee refunds after August 22, 2026 unless a vet or medical certificate is submitted with the request in writing.
7. **CREDIT CARDS & NSF** – 4% convenience fee for credit card payments. Checks returned for insufficient funds and declined credit cards will be charged \$40.
8. **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER/TAX ID NUMBER** – SSN or Tax ID numbers are required of any exhibitor/owner to whom prize money will be awarded. Prize money will not be distributed until the SSN or Tax ID numbers are provided.
9. **PARKING** – Parking of vehicles and trailers must be in designated areas. No parking between barns per the Fire Marshall. All lanes must be kept open in case of emergencies per the Fire Marshall. Violators will be towed at owner's expense.
10. **LUNGING** – No lunging will be allowed in the Pavilion arena at any time
11. **SEGWAYS, eBIKES & SCOOTERS** – Show management reserves the right to suspend the use of Segways and other types of motorized bikes/scooters when and if safety issues arise. Operators of these devices must always give the right of way to horses and pedestrians.
12. **VALID DRIVERS LICENSE** is required to operate any type of motorized vehicle. Proof of insurance maybe requested by show grounds management. All scooters, bikes, golf carts etc must be kept clear of horse activity around barns and arenas. NO skateboards or razors are allowed anywhere.
13. **ALL DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH. OWNERS ASSUME ALL PET RELATED LIABILITIES**
14. **CONDUCT** - Exhibitors/owners/trainers/guests are expected to behave in an orderly manner. Horses and other animals must always be treated with dignity and respect. Management has the right to remove those who do not do so. Any person who is asked to leave for unsportsmanlike conduct and/or for the inhumane treatment of animals will be reported to AQHA and/or proper authorities.

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2026 Specific Class Rules

- 1. Non-Pro Walk/Trot Ranch Riding, Ranch Trail, Work Rail** – For Amateur & Youth exhibitors. All Breed horses are allowed. AQHA rules apply. You may cross over and show in AQHA Youth W/T classes on registered AQHA horses and with a current AQHA membership. Of note walk/trot classes will be added to the AQHA Ranch division starting in 2027.
- 2. Non-Pro Trail – California Cash Class** – Open to both Amateur and Youth exhibitors. The entry fee is \$20/judge/class. AQHA rules apply. All breeds are welcome. Logs at the lope, jog, & walk maybe elevated. The class will run two goes with the Circuit Award being a cash payout of \$500 to the winner, \$250 to the reserve and \$125 to 3rd place
- 3. Non-Pro Performance Western Pleasure – California Cash Class** – Open to both Amateur and Youth riders. The entry fee is \$20/judge/class. All breeds are welcome. Performance Pleasure to be judge in accordance with the AQHA Rule book, however the judges will ask for at least two or more gait extension during the class. Such as the extended walk, extended trot, and/or extended lope. Ranch horses cannot cross enter. The class will run two goes with the Circuit Award being a cash payout of \$500 to the winner, \$250 to the reserve and \$125 to 3rd place.
Non-Pro Western Versatility – California Cash Class - Open to both Amateur and Youth riders. The entry fee is \$20/judge/class. All breeds are welcome. This is a pattern class. The horse is judge on its ability to execute the maneuvers. The walk, jog, lope along with possible extension of each gait will be required. Each rider will be required to walk, jog and lope a set of logs. Other maneuvers could include, a stop, back, sidepass, two track, pivot/spin either direction and lead change(s) (simple or flying). Ranch horses cannot cross enter. The class will run two goes with the Circuit Award being a cash payout of \$500 to the winner, \$250 to the reserve and \$125 to 3rd place.
- 4. Non-Pro Ranch Challenge** – Open to both Amateur and Youth riders. Entry fee is \$125 with \$25 to the office and \$100 to the jackpot. Added money is \$1500. Number of payouts will be based on number of entries. Maneuvers will be a mixed of required elements from Ranch Riding combined with Ranch Trail. Non-Pro riders will not be required to drag an object.
- 5. Pro Ranch Challenge** – Open to Professional riders. Entry fee is \$125 with \$25 to the office and \$100 to the jackpot. Added money is \$2500. Number of payouts will be based on number of entries. Maneuvers will be a mixed of required elements from Ranch Riding combined with Ranch Trail.
- 6. Ranch Team Challenge** – A team consists of a Non-Pro plus a Pro. Team must be designated before the Ranch Challenge classes start. Entry fee \$50 per team. The Non-pro's score will be combined with the score from the Pro. Placings will be based on the total of the two scores. Prizes 1st thru 6th. This is a class within the Non-Pro and Pro Ranch Challenge classes. The same or different horses maybe ridden by the Non-Pro and the Pro.