
BCRCHA – What class(es) should I enter?

This document is intended to give BCRCHA club members some guidance on which of the 10 cutting classes you should enter at BCRCHA shows.

1. If you are a **youth rider** (any rider that has not reached their 18th birthday by January 1st of the current year), you should enter the **Youth class**.

- Helmets must be worn.
- You may ride any horse.
- You may ride one or two-handed and can switch back and forth without penalty.
- You can stop on the end or rein through the turn with no penalty.
- You will only be competing against other youth riders.

Note: A youth rider also has the option to enter any of the other BCRCHA classes following the rules of any class that you enter.

2. If you are a **beginner rider** or a **novice rider with less than \$500 in NCHA earnings**, you should consider entering either or both of the **\$500 Limit Rider** or the **\$500 Novice Horse Amateur** classes depending on your horse's experience.

- If you are riding a beginner or novice horse with earnings of less than \$500 that you or your family owns, then you should consider the **\$500 Novice Horse Amateur** class.
 - Rider must have earnings of less than \$500.
 - Horse must have earnings of less than \$500.
 - You may ride one or two-handed and can switch back and forth without penalty.
 - You can stop on the ends with no penalty.
 - You can show multiple different horses in this class.
 - You will only be showing against other amateur riders with earnings of less than \$500 riding horses with earnings of less than \$500.
- If you are riding a finished or very experienced cutting horse, you should consider the **\$500 Limit Rider** class.
 - Rider must have earnings of less than \$500.
 - There is no restriction on horse earnings and you do not need to own the horse.
 - You may ride one or two-handed and can switch back and forth without penalty.
 - You can stop on the ends with no penalty.
 - You may only show one horse per show in this class.
 - You will only be showing against other non-pro or amateur riders with earnings of under \$500 but they may be riding very experienced cutting horses.

Note: Any beginner or novice rider with less than \$500 in NCHA earnings also has the option to enter any of the other BCRCHA classes following the rules of any class that you enter. In particular, if you are riding a finished or very experienced cutting horse and you can cut one-handed, you should also consider looking at the **\$2,000 Limit Rider** class. If you own the horse, it has less than \$1,000 in earnings or is four years old and you can ride one-handed; you should also consider looking at the **\$1,000 Novice Horse Non-Pro** class.

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3. If you are a **beginner rider** or a novice rider **with less than \$2000 in NCHA earnings** and are **showing one-handed**, you should consider entering either or both of the **\$2,000 Limit Rider** or the **\$1,000 Novice Horse Non-Pro** classes.
- If you are riding a beginner or a novice horse that **you or your family owns** and the horse is four years old or has less than \$1,000 in NCHA earnings, then you should consider the **\$1,000 Novice Horse Non-Pro** class.
 - Rider must be a non-pro or amateur but has no restriction on rider earnings.
 - Horse must be four years old or have NCHA earnings of less than \$1,000.
 - You must show one-handed but can stop your horse on the ends.
 - You can show multiple horses in this class.
 - You may be showing against very experienced non-pro and amateur riders but they will also be riding novice horses.
 - If you are riding a finished or very experienced cutting horse, you should consider the **\$2,000 Limit Rider** class.
 - Rider must have earnings of under \$2,000.
 - You or your family do not need to own the horse.
 - You must show the horse one-handed under full NCHA judging rules.
 - You can only show one horse per show in this class.
 - You will only be showing against other riders with earnings of less than \$2,000 but they may be riding very experienced cutting horses.

Note: Any beginner or novice rider with less than \$2,000 but more than \$500 in NCHA earnings also has the option to enter any of the other BCRCHA (excluding the \$500 Limit Rider and the \$500 Novice Horse Amateur classes). In particular, if you are riding a finished cutting horse, you should also consider looking at the **\$15,000 Amateur** class.

4. If you are a **novice or experienced amateur rider with less than \$15,000 in NCHA earnings** and are showing one handed, you should consider entering either or both of the **\$15,000 Amateur** or the **\$1,000 Novice Horse Non-Pro** classes.
- If you are riding a beginner or a novice horse that **you or your family owns** and the horse is four years old or has less than \$1,000 in NCHA earnings, then you should consider the **\$1,000 Novice Horse Non-Pro** class.
 - Rider must be a non-pro or amateur but has no restriction on rider earnings.
 - Horse must be four years old or have NCHA earnings of less than \$1,000.
 - You must show one-handed but can stop on the ends.
 - You can show multiple horses in this class.
 - You may be showing against very experienced non-pro and amateur riders but they will also be riding novice horses.
 - If you are riding a finished or very experienced cutting horse, you should consider the **\$15,000 Amateur** class.

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- Rider must be an amateur and have earnings of under \$15,000.
- You or your family must own the horse.
- You must show the horse one-handed under full NCHA judging rules.
- You can only show one horse per show in this class.
- You will only be showing against other amateur riders with earnings of less than \$15,000 but they may be riding very experienced cutting horses.

Note: Any novice or experienced amateur rider with less than \$15,000 in earnings also has the option to enter other advanced classes. In particular, if you are riding a finished cutting horse, you should also consider looking at the **Non-Pro** class. Many riders and horses compete in both the **\$15,000 Amateur** and the **Non-Pro** classes at each show.

5. If you are a **Non-Pro rider** you should consider entering the **\$2,000 Limit Rider**, the **Non-Pro** or the **\$1,000 Novice Horse Non-Pro** classes.
- If you are riding ANY horse regardless of ownership and you have under \$2,000 in NCHA lifetime earnings, you should consider entering the **\$2,000 Limit Rider** class.
 - Rider must have earnings of under \$2,000.
 - You or your family do not need to own the horse.
 - You must show the horse one-handed under full NCHA judging rules.
 - You can only show one horse per show in this class.
 - You will only be showing against other riders with earnings of less than \$2,000 but they may be riding very experienced cutting horses.
 - If you are riding a beginner or a novice horse that you or your family owns and the horse is four years old or has less than \$1,000 in NCHA earnings, then you should consider the **\$1,000 Novice Horse Non-Pro** class.
 - Rider must be a non-pro or amateur but has no restriction on rider earnings.
 - Horse must be four years old or have NCHA earnings of less than \$1,000.
 - You must show one-handed but can stop on the ends.
 - You can show multiple horses in this class.
 - You may be showing against very experienced non-pro and amateur riders but they will also be riding novice horses.
 - If you are riding a finished or very experienced cutting horse that you or your family owns, you should consider the **Non-Pro** class.
 - Rider must be a non-pro or an amateur.
 - You or your family must own the horse.
 - You must show the horse one-handed under full NCHA judging rules.
 - You can only show one horse per show in this class.
 - You will only be showing against other non-pro or amateur riders but they may be riding very experienced cutting horses.

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Note: Any Non-Pro rider also has the option to enter the **Open**, the **\$25,000 Novice Horse**, and the **\$1,000 Novice Horse Open** classes following the rules for those classes but you will be showing against professional riders (i.e, trainers).

6. If you are a **trainer or an open rider**, you are eligible to show any horse that meets the qualifications for the class in the following four classes: **Open**, **\$25,000 Novice Horse**, **\$1,000 Novice Horse Open** and **\$2,000 Limit Rider**.
- If you have under \$2,000 in NCHA lifetime earnings, you are eligible to complete in the **\$2,000 Limit Rider** class on any horse.
 - If you are showing any horse that has won more than \$25,000 than you may enter the **Open** class.
 - If you are showing any horse that has won less than \$25,000 than you may enter the **Open** class or the **\$25,000 Novice Horse** class.
 - If you are showing any four year old horse or any novice horse that has won less than \$1,000, than you may enter the **Open** class, the **\$25,000 Novice Horse** class or the **\$1,000 Novice Horse Open** class.
 - If you are showing a four year old horse or any horse with earnings under \$1,000 that needs to be ridden two-handed or needs to be stopped on the ends, then you may enter the **\$1,000 Novice Horse Open** class.