

GREAT LAKES CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Amended April 17, 2023

A. GENERAL

1. All Great Lakes Cutting Horse Association (GLCHA) events, including horse shows, shall be run according to National Cutting Horse Association rules, unless otherwise noted in the *GLCHA Bylaws, Rules and Regulations*, or other GLCHA directives. Show producers will abide by the Show Producers Guidelines (see attached) for recommendations concerning animal wellbeing to be considered for GLCHA affiliation.
2. Exhibitors, spectators, and horse owners realize the inherent risk of horse related activities and agree to hold GLCHA, its Officers and Directors, sponsors, and any agent of GLCHA harmless with regard to any GLCHA activity.

B. MEMBERSHIP

1. Memberships Fees
The fee for regular adult membership to GLCHA shall be \$30.00. The fee for a family GLCHA membership shall be \$40.00 and include the spouse of an individual and any children considered youth. The fee for an individual youth membership to the GLCHA shall be \$15.00. A free one-year membership may be offered to any individual, adult or youth, that has not been a member for at least 3 years.
2. Youth
A youth is defined as any person 18 years or younger on January 1st of the current calendar year.
3. Deadlines
The membership year extends from January 1st to December 31st. Membership fees can be paid anytime throughout the year but they will not be prorated. Points for GLCHA year-end awards will not be accumulated until membership is established through valid payment.
4. Fees: Each Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF) check written to GLCHA will be \$40.
5. Exhibitor's Eligibility
GLCHA produced and/or approved horse shows are open only to current NCHA and/or GLCHA members. As such, both owner and rider must adhere to all

NCHA rider and ownership rules for all NCHA approved classes. In addition, Owner and Rider rule applies in the non-NCHA approved classes per the class descriptions. Both owner and rider must be a current GLCHA member in good standing in all GLCHA approved classes.

6. Year End Awards

The method of determining year-end awards for all classes at GLCHA approved shows shall be total NCHA points won at GLCHA approved horse shows. The NCHA point system shall also be used for all non-NCHA classes.

C. NON-NCHA CLASS DESCRIPTIONS AND JUDGING

1. GLCHA \$500 Novice Rider Class

The GLCHA \$500 Novice Rider Class (aka GitRdone Class) is open to any rider that has not won in excess of \$500 in lifetime earnings according to NCHA or GLCHA records. All NCHA competition rules apply in this class. However, at the show producer's discretion, two-minute clock and two-cow rule can be used. Rider does not have to own the horse. Per NCHA rules, the rider is penalized for reining or using 2 hands. All Riders need to be current members of GLCHA. This class qualifies for year-end GLCHA awards.

Herdwork Classes

Two hands are allowed, all bits and bridles are allowed without penalty, but credit is given if one hand is used. Rider must commit to one or two hands throughout the run. Snaffle bits are allowed (two hands) on horses of all ages. All NCHA competition rules apply with the exception of reining the horse. In this class, reining or two-handed reining the horse after the cow has been separated, where usually the rider puts his/her hand down, shall be allowed without penalty. However, credit should be given if reining is not necessary.

The herd of cattle will be in the center of the back wall of the arena. Judging will begin at the timeline. Credit emphasis should be given for good herd work. The contestant shall approach the herd with no hesitation, weaving or reluctance on the part of the horse to enter the herd sufficiently deep enough to show his ability to make a cut. The horse shall work quietly, but alertly, causing very little disturbance to the herd or the animal brought out. Credit will be given for driving cattle, clearing the herd by a sufficient distance, and setting up a cow while holding it in a working position as near the center of the arena as possible. The degree of difficulty, eye appeal and the amount of courage in staying tough on a cow will be taken into consideration. The amount of time spent working cattle in the two and one-half minute period will also influence the total score. The horse should show a great deal of expression but no ill will toward the cattle.

2. GLCHA Open-Rider Herdwork \$1500 Novice Horse Class

The class is open to any horse that has not earned over \$1500 in life-time earnings in any NCHA or GLCHA competition. Rider does not need to own the horse but must be a GLCHA member. There is no cap on rider earnings from any cow horse events. Horse eligibility for the year is based on money earnings of the horse as of 12/31 of the previous year. Proper attire should be consistent with NCHA rules. At the show producer's discretion, the two-minute

and two-cow rule can be used. This is a jackpot class with payback and qualifies for year-end GLCHA awards.

3. GLCHA \$1500 Novice Rider Herdwork Class

The class is open to any horse. Open to any rider that has not earned over \$1500 in NCHA or GLCHA competition. Eligibility for the year is based on money earnings of the rider as of 12/31 of the previous year. Riders must be members of the GLCHA. Proper attire should be consistent with NCHA rules. At the show producer's discretion, the two-minute and two-cow rule can be used. This class has no cash payback but qualifies for year-end GLCHA awards.

Boxing Classes

General Judging Rules: The announcer or judge will signal the completion of the 50 seconds with a whistle or horn. The greater the difficulty of the run, the more credit should be given. The difficulty may be due to the extreme speed or stubbornness of the cow, or the cow's reluctance to move down the fence when sufficiently driven by the contestant. The most controlled cow work, with the highest degree of difficulty, that exhibits good form throughout, should be marked the highest. Scoring is 60-80 points. Bad manners exhibited by the horse will be penalized. In the cow work phase of the class one hand on the horn may be used.

- 1-point penalties
 - ✓ Loss of working advantage
 - ✓ Working out of position
 - ✓ Excessive hollering
- 3-point penalties
 - ✓ Loss of control and animal leaves the end of arena
- 5-point penalties
 - ✓ Spurring or hitting in front of cinch at any time or excessively whipping or spurring the horse
 - ✓ Blatant disobedience, defined as kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking or obviously insubordinate
 - ✓ Not committing to one or two hands through the run
- 0-score
 - ✓ Turning tail on the cow
 - ✓ Falling off the horse or the horse falling down
 - ✓ Extremely out of control
 - ✓ Hitting or kicking the animal or being worked in an abusive manner

4. GLCHA Open-Rider \$1500 Novice Horse Boxing Class

The class is open to any horse that has not earned over \$1500 in life-time earnings in any NCHA or GLCHA competition. Rider does not need to own the horse but must be a GLCHA member. There is no cap on rider earnings from any cow horse events. Horse eligibility for the year is based on money earnings of the horse as of 12/31 of the previous year. Proper attire should be consistent with NCHA rules.

Two hands are allowed, all bits and bridles are allowed without penalty, but credit is given if one hand is used. Rider must commit to one or two hands throughout the run. Snaffle bits are allowed (two hands) on horses of all ages.

A 50 second time clock is used to work the cow. At the signal of the rider one cow is let into the arena and the gate closed and the clock is started. Judge has the discretion to change cattle if the cow is deemed not workable or dangerous. This is a jackpot class with payback and qualifies for year-end GLCHA awards.

5. GLCHA \$1500 Novice Rider Boxing Class

The class is open to any horse. Open to any rider that has not earned over \$1500 in NCHA or GLCHA competition. Eligibility for the year is based on money earnings of the rider as of 12/31 of the previous year. Riders must be members of the GLCHA. Proper attire should be consistent with NCHA rules.

Two hands are allowed, all bits and bridles are allowed without penalty, but credit is given if one hand is used. Rider must commit to one or two hands throughout the run. Snaffle bits are allowed (two hands) on horses of all ages.

A 50 second time clock is used to work the cow. At the signal of the rider one cow is let into the arena and the gate closed and the clock is started. Judge has the discretion to change cattle if the cow is deemed not workable or dangerous. This class has no cash payback but qualifies for year-end GLCHA awards.

Box Drive Classes

General Judging Rules: Judging begins when the contestant enters the arena. There shall be no schooling between entering the arena and the completion the cow work, or between cows if a new cow is awarded. The penalty for this is -0-.

- Pattern: The required pattern for the cow work is: box, drive, box, drive, in that order.
- Part One - Box: At the start of the work, each contestant, upon receiving a cow in the arena, shall hold that cow on the prescribed end of the arena for a sufficient time to demonstrate the ability of the horse to contain the cow at that end. If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate his horse's ability to drive and block the cow on the entry fence.
- Part Two - Drive: After a reasonable amount of time, the contestant shall set up and drive/rate the cow down the fence, opposite fence of the judges, to the opposite end of the arena. When coming out of corner, the horse shall be close enough to cow to demonstrate control with cow against the fence. This distance and control should be maintained for approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of arena. Upon reaching the opposite end of the arena, the rider will release the cow.
- Part Three – Box: Move horse toward center of arena to set the cow up for boxing. Again, box the cow for a sufficient time to demonstrate the ability of the horse to contain the cow at that end. If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate his horse's ability to drive and block the cow on the entry fence.
- Part Four – Drive: After a reasonable amount of time, the contestant shall set up and drive/rate the cow down the fence, opposite fence of the judges, to the opposite end of the arena. When coming out of corner, the horse shall be

close enough to cow to demonstrate control with cow against the fence. This distance and control should be maintained past the center marker and continue until the judge signifies the completion of the run or time expires. The rider will then release the cow.

Time Limit / Terminating the Work - Each contestant is allotted one minute and forty-five seconds to complete the four-part cow work pattern.

- The judge may blow his/her whistle once at any time during the work to terminate it.
- If at any time a judge feels that the contestant is out of control endangering themselves the cow and/or their horse, the judge may terminate the work, and a score of zero will be given.
- Exhibitors are not required to use all the allotted time to complete the pattern.
- Time shall begin when the gate closes behind the cow after being let into the arena.
- When there are 30 seconds left, the announcer will announce, 30 seconds remaining and at one minute and forty-five seconds, the announcer will call for time.
- Judging ends when exhibitor drives the cow past the middle marker the second time, judge ends the run with a whistle/ horn or the allotted time ends, whichever occurs first.

New Cow Guidelines

- When enough cows are available, the contestant should receive a new cow if the cow drawn is unreasonably difficult or unworkable.
- The judge will indicate new cow by blowing his/her whistle twice – indicating the awarding of a new cow. Allowing the horse to quit working before the judge signals for a new cow will result in a zero score.
- If the judge awards a new cow, the exhibitor has the option to refuse the new cow by continuing to work. If the exhibitor intends to accept the new cow, he or she must pull up immediately.
- In the case of an emergency (Such as a person falling into the arena or part of the arena falling apart) the judge may blow two whistles for a second time. At this point, the contestant has no option to continue and must receive a new cow. Contestant must pull up immediately or a score of zero will be given.
- During the cow work, when a cow leaves the working area, it is automatic that the contestant will receive a new cow and scoring will begin again with the new cow, unless the contestant has been awarded a new cow and opted to continue working the current cow.
- In the case that a rider is awarded a third cow, the rider will have the option to work their new cow or to rest their horse and work their new cow at the end of the next set. If the rider is in the last draw of the class, they shall be afforded up to 20 minutes for their horse to recover before working the third cow.

6. GLCHA Open-Rider \$1500 Novice Horse Box Drive Class

The class is open to any horse that has not earned over \$1500 in life-time earnings in any NCHA or GLCHA competition. Rider does not need to own the horse but must be a GLCHA member. There is no cap on rider earnings from any cow horse events. Horse eligibility for the year is based on money earnings of the horse as of 12/31 of the previous year. Proper attire should be consistent

with NCHA rules.

Two hands are allowed, all bits and bridles are allowed without penalty, but credit is given if one hand is used. Rider must commit to one or two hands throughout the run. Snaffle bits are allowed (two hands) on horses of all ages.

Exhibitors are allotted one minute and forty-five seconds to complete the cow work. Time shall begin when the gate closes behind the cow after being let into the arena. When there are 30 seconds left, the announcer will announce, 30 seconds remaining. At one minute and forty-five seconds, the announcer will call for time. Exhibitors are not required to use all the allotted time but must ride until the judge ends the run with a whistle or time expires, whichever occurs first.

There are four parts to the work: boxing the cow; setting up the cow and driving/rating it down the fence to the opposite end of the arena; and boxing it at the opposite end of the arena, and then driving/rating the cow past the middle marker again. There is no expectation that the exhibitor will make a 'fence turn,' rather the drive down the fence demonstrates correct position and control around the corner.

Judge has the discretion to change cattle if the cow is deemed not workable or dangerous. This class has no cash payback but qualifies for year-end GLCHA awards.

7. GLCHA \$1500 Novice Rider Box Drive Class

The class is open to any horse. Open to any rider that has not earned over \$1500 in NCHA or GLCHA competition. Eligibility for the year is based on money earnings of the rider as of 12/31 of the previous year. Riders must be members of the GLCHA. Proper attire should be consistent with NCHA rules.

Two hands are allowed, all bits and bridles are allowed without penalty, but credit is given if one hand is used. Rider must commit to one or two hands throughout the run. Snaffle bits are allowed (two hands) on horses of all ages.

Exhibitors are allotted one minute and forty-five seconds to complete the cow work. Time shall begin when the gate closes behind the cow after being let into the arena. When there are 30 seconds left, the announcer will announce, 30 seconds remaining. At one minute and forty-five seconds, the announcer will call for time. Exhibitors are not required to use all the allotted time but must ride until the judge ends the run with a whistle or time expires, whichever occurs first. There are four parts to the work: boxing the cow; setting up the cow and driving/rating it down the fence to the opposite end of the arena; and boxing it at the opposite end of the arena, and then driving/rating the cow past the middle marker again. There is no expectation that the exhibitor will make a 'fence turn,' rather the drive down the fence demonstrates correct position and control around the corner.

Judge has the discretion to change cattle if the cow is deemed not workable or dangerous. This class has no cash payback but qualifies for year-end GLCHA awards.