

AQHA Cowboy Mounted Shooting Rules Clarification

As with any new program that melds two organizations of the size and complexity of the AQHA and CMSA there will be challenges. In an effort to clarify the rules pertaining to the AQHA classes within the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association this document, with FAQ, was created. Please read carefully, and if you have any further questions, you may call the CMSA office at 888-960-0003.

AQHA Rulebook 2012 60th Edition Rule on CMSA

479. COWBOY MOUNTED SHOOTING. Is an AQHA approved event. This is a fast-action, timed event over specific courses with a high degree of speed and agility from the horse and skilled shooting from the rider. Competitions will be held at existing Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association events. Approval privileges will be granted or denied by CMSA. All five AQHA divisions *may* be offered which include Open, Amateur (Select Amateur), Youth, Novice Youth and Novice Amateur. Please see the AQHA Official handbook regarding eligibility for each division. Each exhibitor must possess a current AQHA individual membership. Memberships may be sold at the show. Horse must be a registered American Quarter Horse with proper ownership pertaining to each division. Points will be awarded in each division according to the existing AQHA point structure. Points and placing will be recorded on horses' and exhibitors' records. All points are eligible for existing awards including register of merit, incentive fund, year end high-point etc. ***Please see Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association for specific rules governing each class.*** Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association is an AQHA alliance partner.

As listed above, see the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association for specific rules.

CMSA 2012 Rulebook 17th Edition

A. AQHA/CMSA Three Horses entry per Event:

- i. An AQHA contestant may ride up to three horses per CMSA/AQHA Event. All AQHA entries will run after all non-AQHA entries have completed the stage. *A maximum of two horses per AQHA Class, so Open rider's may only enter two horses, but could enter a third if their CMSA main event horse was not an AQHA entry.*
- ii. The rider's first horse will be where his/her main match CMSA score will be derived from. Once the contestant has committed to his first horse it shall remain through the AQHA portion of the event. CMSA contestants may designate their main event scores to be their AQHA scores, BUT THIS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE RIDER TO ENSURE HE/SHE HAS PROPERLY ENTERED THE EVENT.
- iii. If a contestant is caught switching the order of go on his AQHA horses, this may lead to automatic dismissal from both the AQHA event portion as well all the CMSA portions of the event.
- iv. AQHA POINT SCORING CHART
- v. The American Quarter Horse Association tracks horse points as follows; all CMSA points will earned at AQHA/CMSA events will be tracked in the normal fashion.

AQHA POINT CHART										
ENTRIES IN CLASS	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	5TH	6TH	7TH	8TH	9TH	10TH
3-4	1/2									
5-9	1	1/2								
10-14	2	1	1/2							
15-19	3	2	1	1/2						
20-24	4	3	2	1	1/2					
25/29	5	4	3	2	1	1/2				
30-34	6	5	4	3	2	1	1/2			
35-39	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1/2		
40-44	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1/2	
45 & more	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1/2

Additional Rules and Guidelines enforced by AQHA & CMSA

- A. **Every AQHA contestant must check-in prior to competing at an AQHA/CMSA events.**
- B. Must wear your correct AQHA number on the correct horse when competing in AQHA classes.
- C. AQHA has the right to drug test any horse competing in AQHA.
- D. Once you start the year and compete in your first AQHA/CMSA show, that is the class you may remain in for the remainder of the competition year.
- E. Qualification for the AQHA Cowboy Mounted Shooting World Championships will be announced at a later date. In 2012 there will be specific qualification needed.

Classes offered in CMSA

AQHA and CMSA will offer 4 AQHA divisions to compete in: AQHA divisions will not be gender split (All age eligibilities with AQHA are January 1st of each year)

Open: This division is open for anyone to show AQHA horses in. This will be the division for the CMSA Level 5 and 6 competitors, in all AQHA/CMSA events. In addition it the CMSA Level 5 and 6 competitors, the Open is where all professionals who earn remuneration for training, clinics, etc. would show, regardless of CMSA classification.

Amateur: All rules and regulations set by AQHA for amateur eligibility apply. Amateur status would be open to the Level 1, 2, 3, and 4, unless rules or regulations for amateur are not met.

Select Amateur: All rules and regulations set by AQHA for Select Amateur eligibility will apply. At the age of 50 an exhibitor in good standings with AQHA and CMSA may choose to show in the Select Amateur division. This would be all the senior level 1-6 in CMSA, meeting the required rules and regulations of Select Amateur status.

Youth: All rules and regulations set by AQHA for youth eligibility will apply. Due to the nature of the sport of CMSA, the youth division for AQHA/CMSA will be the ages 12 - 18 years of age. Once turning the age of 19, exhibitors will no longer be eligible to compete in Youth Divisions.

Frequently Asked Rule questions that have been misinterpreted.

All examples regarding rules at a CMSA/AQHA match produced by CMSA.

Q. Does it matter what type of bit a competitor competes in?

A. No. In CMSA we do not have guidelines for the use of any bits.

Q. Are braids in the horse's mane allowed?

A. Yes. The CMSA does not have any rules against braids or hair bands in your horse's mane.

Q. Can I wear a dress during a CMSA/AQHA event?

A. Yes. In an event produced by CMSA, our clothing rules apply. If ever at an event produced by AQHA, you must follow their clothing rules.

Q. Why does the AQHA class have to run last?

A. AQHA contestants must run last at the events, due to the fact that each rider has to be checked for their AQHA number by the AQHA official and there has to be an official AQHA Judge in the arena to be Rangemaster.

Q. Can Youth run in Amateur?

A. No, Youth is an age required class. Youth can only show in Youth or Open and cannot ride a stallion.

Q. If someone gets paid to ride horses what class do they compete in?

A. Open. Anyone who receives payment for training, riding, clinics, etc. of ANY sort must compete in the Open division.