

## CoWN Specific Rules

CoWN follows the Stock Horse of Texas (SHTX) rule book. However, there are a few exceptions where CoWN differs from our parent organization or where we have adopted additional awards from SHTX. These changes are listed below.

### Eligibility

As a board, we have decided to follow the SHTX rules for class eligibility. This rule change will align CoWN with the rules of other associations as well as with the goal of reducing confusion. To be clear, the SHTX rule book states:

**Novice** riders have “...not won any champion titles or reserve champion titles at any show or cumulative year-end award...”.

**Intermediate** riders have “...not won any combination of 2 champion or reserve champion titles in Intermediate, Limited Non-Pro, Non-Pro, Open, Youth, Junior Horse at any show or 2 cumulative year-end awards...”.

**Novice Youth** riders have “...not won any combination of 2 champion or reserve champion titles at any show or 2 cumulative year-end awards...”

In short, Novice riders will move out of the class after one (1) champion or reserve champion win, Intermediate riders will move out of the class after two (2) champion or reserve champion wins, Novice Youth riders will move out of the class after two (2) champion or reserve champion wins. We have created a list of individuals who are no longer eligible for Novice, Intermediate, and Novice Youth classes. In a select few cases where this rule change would affect riders this year, those riders have been grandfathered in for the year (2022). Please see the website for these eligibility lists. If you find you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

### **Exceptions:**

Over the course of a year (show season) where there are 3 or fewer riders in a class, that show will not count towards the tally of champion or reserve champion wins. For example: if in a show season, an intermediate rider wins reserve champion in an overall class of 6 and champion in a class of 3, this will only count as 1 title, not two. Thus, this rider will not have to move to non-pro the following year. However, if said rider competes all year and is champion or reserve champion for year end awards, they must move up.

### **Novice Youth**

Rule change effective for the 2022 show season for Novice Youth.

The new rule will allow 2 novice youth to ride the same horse as long as the horse is owned or leased by the same family.

## **Level 1 Novice**

Effective 2023, the Level 1 Novice Division will be added to the CoWN Divisions and aligns with the SHTX rule book with one exception: In the case where there are fewer than 10 riders in the all-around, the show will not count toward Level 1 Novice eligibility.

### **New 2024:**

L1 Novice Cow work

CoWN Specific Rule (SHTx does not follow this rule).

To further foster growth in our L1 Novice riders, CoWN has developed a rule aimed to boost confidence in the cattle class. We recognize that this class can be intimidating to new riders. Thus, our hope is that with the addition of this rule, riders will build confidence in the show pen.

### **New Rule:**

L1 riders are allowed to bring an assistant rider (can be a coach or non-pro) into the show pen to help them with their run. This person is allowed to do the following ONLY: 1) coach the rider, 2) help catch a lost cow – exhibitor must lose the cow, the assistant cannot prevent the loss or help box, 3) assistant rider must stay 20 feet behind the exhibitor. Ideally, the assistant will stay in the center of the pen unless to catch a lost cow. The assistant rider must maintain a safe position in relation to the rider and the cow. This is a CoWN only rule and is applicable to CoWN only. If you show at a SHTx show in Texas, this rule does not apply.

## **Additional CoWN classes:**

Open novice horse: Open to all riders to show horses over 6 years old (as of January 1 of the current show year) who have no show experience. This provides these older horses to have a chance to acclimate to the show arena and not compete against aged peers. To qualify, this horse cannot have won any points in any association, won over \$250, or won year end champion or reserve in any association. There are no awards for this class.

Non-pro Junior Horse: This is a similar class to Open Jr. Horse, however it is limited to Non-Pro riders such that they do not compete against open riders.

## **Year-end Awards**

Riders must participate in 3 CoWN sponsored shows to qualify for year-end awards for each division.

## **Class Fees**

Pre entries: If a rider must scratch before the start of the show, but after they have pre-registered, they will only be responsible for the office and cattle fees.

Late entries: If a rider registers for a class late, they will be charged a late registration fee and have no guarantee of fresh cattle.

No show: If a rider does not show for their classes or contact show management, they are responsible for class, office, and cattle fees.

Adding classes: If a registered rider chooses to add a class before the start of the class, there is no additional office or late add charge other than the charge for the class.

Scratching classes: If a registered rider scratches before the start of the class, there is no class fee. However, they will be responsible for cattle fees.

All of the above are subject to the discretion of the board. Exceptions will be considered in such cases where a veterinary release is available to document the necessity to scratch or no show.

### **Merit Awards**

It has come to our attention that we have overlooked the Merit program through SHTX (see section GR-230). These awards are given to horse/rider combinations in Open and Non-Pro divisions. Superior Awards are given to those who have accumulated 100 points. Supreme Awards are given to individuals who earned at least 200 points. Novice riders will also qualify for the Novice Achievement Award provided they earn 300 points. Winners of these awards will be honored at the year-end banquet and a record will be placed in their association file. This information will also be posted on the website and updated periodically.

### **Spirit of CoWN Awards**

Four NEW annual awards were recently approved by the Board of Directors. The new “Spirit of CoWN” honor will be presented to riders who exemplify our association’s culture of encouraging inclusivity, honesty, integrity, respect, sportsmanship, and family values. Is there someone always encouraging you at the gate? Cheering for everyone no matter how their own run went? Offering a helping hand to new members and making them feel welcome? This award is to recognize those individuals! Awards will be presented in the following divisions: • Novice / Intermediate • Limited / Non-Pro / Junior non pro riders • Open / Level 1 Open / Junior open riders • Youth / Novice Youth Members will nominate individuals and a final voting process by the membership will determine the honorees. Awards will be presented at the annual awards celebration.

### **Ranch Riding Jackpot**

In years where a ranch riding jackpot is held, the following rules will apply:

- 1) Riders must be members of CoWN, regardless of level.
- 2) Rules will follow AQHA guidelines.
- 3) All breeds welcome.
- 4) Fee structure: 33% to club, 33% to show payout, 33% to year end payout.
- 5) Riders must show in at least 3 shows to qualify for year end pay out.
- 6) Payouts will follow SHTX guidelines.
- 7) Top four scores will apply to year end points (subject to change per year).