

## **2014 NRHA EUROPEAN AFFILIATE CHAMPIONSHIP CONDITIONS**

This program is designed for the NRHA European affiliates and gives them the freedom necessary to structure shows responsive to the needs of their members and location. In addition, this program provides a format by which the local champions can compete against their European competitors for NRHA awards. It is the aim of the NRHA and the NRHA International Committee for this program to increase and promote the "grass roots" reining and continue to promote our sport at all levels.

*The NRHA Board of Directors reserves the right to interpret, modify or amend conditions for the 2014 NRHA European Affiliate Championships. If requiring immediate attention, those rights will be deferred to the Executive Committee.*

### **GENERAL SHOW CONDITIONS**

1. The qualifying period will be May 1, 2013 – April 30, 2014.
2. A country must have an NRHA affiliate to participate.
3. If a rider or the owner of a horse wishes to participate but resides in a country that does not have an NRHA affiliate and has less than 20 NRHA members, that rider or owner may join an NRHA affiliate in another country and participate in that country's qualifying shows, however the rider and horse will represent their country of residence at the European Affiliate Championships.
4. An affiliate must be an NRHA Affiliate member in good standing prior to January 31, 2014 in order to participate in the 2014 European Affiliate Championship.
5. A country must hold a minimum of two (2) shows to qualify riders during the qualifying period. All shows must be NRHA approved and meet the requirements for approval as stated in the *NRHA Handbook*.
6. The European Affiliate Championships will offer the following classes: Open, Intermediate Open, Limited Open, Rookie Professional Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, Youth 13 & Under, Youth 14-18, and **Rookie (see #14 for details on Rookie class qualification)**.
7. It is not mandatory for a show to offer all classes, but a class must be offered in at least two (2) qualifying shows within each country to qualify riders for the European Affiliate Championships.
8. In the event a corporate sponsor is procured, the management of the European Affiliate Championships must agree to abide by contract stipulations between the NRHA and said sponsors.
9. The National Reining Horse Association reserves the right to amend these conditions at any time with immediate notice of such changes being made to the recognized affiliates.

### **QUALIFICATION**

1. A rider in the Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, Youth 13 & Under, Youth 14-18, or **Rookie (see #14 for details on Rookie class qualification)** class may only qualify in the country in which they reside (live) at end of each qualifying period. Residence will be determined by the address as recorded in the NRHA database.
2. In Open, Intermediate Open, Limited Open, and Rookie Professional, the horse must qualify in the country in which the owner of the horse resides at the end of the qualifying period, as determined by the mailing address recorded in the NRHA database.
3. **Owners and qualifying riders must be members of an NRHA affiliate and the NRHA to qualify and show in the European Affiliate Championships. Any monies earned prior to obtaining these memberships will not be counted for qualifying purposes.**
4. If a rider or the owner of a horse wishes to participate but resides in a country that does not have an affiliate and has less than 20 NRHA members, that rider or owner may join another affiliate and participate in that country's qualifying shows, however the rider and horse will represent their country of residence at the European Affiliate Championships.
5. Points will be awarded based on the number of horses actually competing in the class, i.e. if fifteen (15) horses compete, first place will be awarded 15 points, 2<sup>nd</sup>-14 points, etc. Points will be calculated on horses actually competing excluding the horses entered but scratched. Zeros and no scores will not be awarded points.

6. A horse/rider combination may only qualify to European Affiliate Championships if at least one (1) point has been earned during the qualification period. Horse/Rider combinations not earning at least one (1) point will not be eligible to qualify to the European Affiliate Championships.
7. The points are to be awarded on a "one horse-one rider" combination in the Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, Youth 13 & Under, Youth 14-18, and Rookie. The points in the Open, Intermediate Open, Limited Open, and Rookie Professional are to be awarded to the horse.
8. A horse/rider must have participated in the specific class in at least two of the qualifying shows offered in the country of residence. When this requirement is met, ALL points earned at NRHA approved shows in Europe throughout the qualifying period will count toward his/her qualifying total for that class.
9. The top ten (10) qualified placings plus ties at 10<sup>th</sup> in each class offered during the qualifying period from each country will qualify to attend the European Affiliate Championships.
10. **Money earned in European shows will determine**, the 20 highest money earning, European owned horses in each open class and the 20 highest money earning Non Pro and the 20 highest point earning Youth horse and rider combinations will also qualify to participate in the European Affiliate Championships. **All other affiliate membership conditions must also be met (see #3).**
11. A qualified Youth or Non Pro rider may substitute a horse for the European Affiliate Championships if the qualified horse is deceased or has been sold. **A substitution fee of 250€ will be charged for any substitution made. Payment must be submitted to the NRHA office prior to European Affiliate Championships.** In the instance that a horse has been sold, a transfer must be completed with the NRHA office. **If the transfer is not available then either a bill of sale or a letter from the agent providing proof of purchase to the new owner must be submitted to the NRHA office.** If a horse is deceased, the original NRHA competition license must be returned to the NRHA office to be marked "Deceased".
12. Show management will be responsible for reporting a complete list of entries in each show to the NRHA office with its NRHA show results. The NRHA will be responsible for determining class qualifiers by calculating NRHA approved monies and points earned. **Show results NOT RECEIVED by May 15, 2014 will not be used for determining qualifiers.**
13. Those entries qualified for the European Affiliate Championships may enter only the European Affiliate Championship classes in which they have qualified, even if they are no longer eligible for that class at the time of the European Affiliate Championships. **Category 1 eligibility will be used to determine rider eligibility.** Riders qualified in Non Pro classes including Rookie must have current NRHA Non Pro status to enter any Non Pro classes including the Rookie class.
14. **Rookie class qualification for the top ten riders from each country will be based on the combined points earned in Rookie II (May 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013) and Rookie I (January 1, 2014 through April 31, 2014).**
15. A horse may qualify in more than one class and a rider may qualify more than one horse per class. However a rider may show only three (3) horses per class at the European Affiliate Championships.
16. An open rider may represent more than one country at the European Affiliate Championships.
17. Each affiliate is responsible for reporting to the NRHA Office/International Committee **monthly updates** in their membership list, **in order to verify eligibility of qualified riders. These lists will be combined with the results and will produce the current list of riders on the website. Failing to submit a membership list will result in the affiliate standings being left off the website.**

#### **AFFILIATE TEAM RECOGNITION**

1. The European Affiliate Championships will offer a Team Competition between affiliates.
2. Each country sending riders to the European Affiliate Championships is eligible to participate.
3. Winners will be calculated based on points, not money earned.
4. Points will be awarded based on the number of horses placing below the rider plus one (1) point. For instance, a rider who placed first in at class of 15 will be awarded 15 points; the second place rider will be awarded 14 points, etc.
5. The top three point earners per class for each country will be used for the Teams total points per class.
6. Special awards will be presented to the highest placing team.