

## 2020 KIT KAT SUGAR/ NCHA SUPER STAKES/ NCHA SUPER STAKES CLASSIC

1. To be held in Fort Worth, TX- Will Rogers Coliseum
2. All owners and riders of entered horses must be members in good standing of the National Cutting Horse Association.
3. Super Stakes: For four (4) year old (foals of 2016), all breeds. All horses must be enrolled in the Super Stakes Stallion and Foal Program.  
Super Stakes Classic: For five & six (5-6) year old (foals of 2015, 2014), all breeds. All horses must be enrolled in the Super Stakes Stallion and Foal Program.
4. The 2020 NCHA Super Stakes will be held in three divisions: Open, Non-Pro, and Amateur. Within each division there are 3 levels. Entry in the Open Super Stakes shall be made by horse. Entry in the Non- Pro & Amateur shall be made by rider. A horse may be entered in all three divisions. If a rider chooses to enter all three levels in one division, they must combo one of the classes so that a horse will only be shown two times in the same division. Note: Owners may enter an unlimited number of horses in the Open Division.
5. Rider eligibility levels within each division are based upon the Rider's Total Lifetime Earnings within each division as of December 28<sup>th</sup> or the previous year. All earnings are included in a rider's Total Lifetime Earnings. There is no distinction between Limited Aged Event earnings and Weekend earnings. If eligibility limits are surpassed during the show, the exhibitor can complete the show in that specific class or division.

Levels within each division are defined as follows:

| <b>Division</b>      | <b>Rider Lifetime Total Earnings</b> |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Open                 | \$750,000 or more                    |
| Intermediate Open    | \$200,001 - \$749,999*               |
| Limited Open         | \$0 - \$200,000                      |
|                      |                                      |
| Non-Pro              | \$500,000 or more                    |
| Intermediate Non-Pro | \$100,001 - \$499,999*               |
| Limited Non – Pro    | \$0 - \$100,000                      |
|                      |                                      |
| Amateur              | \$100,000 or more                    |
| Intermediate Amateur | \$25,001 - \$99,999*                 |
| Limited Amateur      | \$0 - \$25,000                       |

\*See Intermediate Level Exceptions Below

Senior Exception: Open, Non-Pro or Amateur leveled riders 70 and older can enter down into the Intermediate class regardless of earnings or rider rankings. There is no exception that allows a rider to return to the Limited class.

Revolving Door Exception: Open, Non-Pro or Amateur leveled riders not in the Top 100 money earnings riders for the previous point year in any division, may enter down into the Intermediate class. There is no exception that allows a rider to return to the Limited class.

Earnings Cap: An Amateur competitor who is under age 60 that has won \$250,000 or more in lifetime Limited Age Non-Pro earnings (excluding shows with less than \$10,000 in added money), must declare to remain an Amateur and compete exclusively in the Amateur Division or to compete in the Non-Pro Division exclusively for the remainder of the point year. An Amateur competitor who is 60-69, if he or she qualifies under Amateur rules, may compete in the top tier Amateur class regardless of Limited Age Non-Pro earnings. Competitors 70 and older do not have an earnings cap per NCHA Amateur Rules.

A Non-Pro competitor that has won \$250,000 or more in Total Open LAE (excluding shows with less than \$10,000) must declare to remain a Non-Pro and compete exclusively in the Non-Pro Division or to compete in the Open Division exclusively for the remainder of the point year.

- Riders may ride a maximum of three (3) horses, two (2) of any sex and one (1) eligible Gelding or may ride up to three (3) eligible gelding horses in each of the Super Stakes (4yo) classes. A Gelding that a rider shows as a third horse must be entered in a gelding class (subclass). All open riders at the Super Stakes who have a third horse will be required to submit rider changes/ additions by 5:00 pm the day before the open division first go-round begins.

Riders may ride a maximum of four (4) horses in each of the Super Stakes Classic (5/6yo) classes. Any violation of this rule will cause the rider to be disqualified from the contest, with possible additional disciplinary action.

- Entry Fees- Each Division:** Person paying entire entry fee in Open or Non-Pro division on or before January 27, 2020 will receive a 10% discount on the Jackpot portion of the entry fee.

**OPEN**

|                                 | Total          | Jackpot | Office | Medication | NCHA | Processing |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------|--------|------------|------|------------|
| Open                            | <b>\$2,700</b> | \$1,975 | \$515  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Intermediate Open               | <b>\$1,800</b> | \$1,205 | \$385  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Limited Open                    | <b>\$1,270</b> | \$775   | \$285  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Intermediate-Open Combo         | <b>\$3,905</b> | \$3,180 | \$515  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Limited-Intermediate Combo      | <b>\$2,575</b> | \$1,980 | \$385  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Limited-Open Combo              | <b>\$3,475</b> | \$2,750 | \$515  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Open-Intermediate-Limited Combo | <b>\$4,680</b> | \$3,955 | \$515  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |

\*Open includes optional \$100 PAC Fee

**NON PRO**

|                                    | Total          | Jackpot | Office | Medication | NCHA | Processing |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---------|--------|------------|------|------------|
| Non Pro                            | <b>\$2,700</b> | \$1,975 | \$595  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Intermediate Non Pro               | <b>\$1,800</b> | \$1,205 | \$465  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Limited Non Pro                    | <b>\$1,270</b> | \$775   | \$365  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Intermediate-Non Pro Combo         | <b>\$3,905</b> | \$3,180 | \$595  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Limited-Intermediate Combo         | <b>\$2,575</b> | \$1,980 | \$465  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Limited-Non Pro Combo              | <b>\$3,475</b> | \$2,750 | \$595  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Non Pro-Intermediate-Limited Combo | <b>\$4,680</b> | \$3,955 | \$595  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |

\*Non Pro includes optional \$20 PAC fee

## AMATEUR

|                                    | Total          | Jackpot | Office | Medication | NCHA | Processing |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---------|--------|------------|------|------------|
| Amateur                            | <b>\$1,500</b> | \$1,005 | \$365  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Intermediate Amateur               | <b>\$1,290</b> | \$795   | \$365  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Limited Amateur                    | <b>\$895</b>   | \$400   | \$365  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Intermediate-Amateur Combo         | <b>\$2,290</b> | \$1,795 | \$365  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Limited-Intermediate Combo         | <b>\$1,695</b> | \$1,200 | \$365  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Limited-Amateur Combo              | <b>\$1,890</b> | \$1,395 | \$365  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |
| Amateur-Intermediate-Limited Combo | <b>\$2,690</b> | \$2,195 | \$365  | \$25       | \$50 | \$35       |

\*Amateur includes optional \$20 PAC fee

## Senior\* Subclass offered with all classes

|                                 | Total        | Jackpot | Office | Medication | NCHA | Processing |
|---------------------------------|--------------|---------|--------|------------|------|------------|
| On/ Before Feb 15 <sup>th</sup> | <b>\$535</b> | \$450   | \$50   |            |      | \$35       |

## Gelding\* Subclass offered with all classes

|                                 | Total        | Jackpot | Office | Medication | NCHA | Processing |
|---------------------------------|--------------|---------|--------|------------|------|------------|
| On/ Before Feb 15 <sup>th</sup> | <b>\$535</b> | \$450   | \$50   |            |      | \$35       |

**\$10,000 Novice\*** Subclass offered with 4-Year-Old top tier Open, Non-Pro and Amateur class entries only

|                                 | Total        | Jackpot | Office | Medication | NCHA | Processing |
|---------------------------------|--------------|---------|--------|------------|------|------------|
| On/ Before Feb 15 <sup>th</sup> | <b>\$535</b> | \$450   | \$50   |            |      | \$35       |

**Entries must be received with post mark of due date. Penalties apply the day following the deadline on all payments.**

A one percent (1%) deduction will be made for the NCHA special Events Fund.

**Payouts in all classes at NCHA produced events will be made to the owner on record at the time of the show.**

If a rider chooses to enter more than one level in a class, a horse will not be drawn twice in the same set. If a rider chooses to enter all three levels in one division, they must combo one of the classes so that a horse will only be shown two times in the same division. A horse may be entered only once per class.

Combination entries will ride to the herd one time, the score will be counted in all levels entered.

**Refunds:** Entry Fees may be refunded due to the death of the entered rider, owner or an immediate family member of the rider or owner as defined in NCHA Rule 50.4.d; 30 days or less before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the event. Requests for refunds shall be accepted from the estate executor/executrix and refunds will be made payable to the estate of the rider/owner as determined appropriate by Probate Court. Any refund request shall be accepted until 48 hours after an event completed to file a request for a refund. There will be no refunds for any other reason. Novice class is exception\*.

**PAC Fees:** Under Texas Election Code, Chapter 253, the Political Action Committee (PAC) fee is a voluntary contribution. Funding the PAC is important to be able to maintain state funding at the NCHA Triple Crown. Your contribution will provide critical assistance to the NCHA with this effort. To opt out of the PAC fee, submit your payment without the amount indicated as the PAC fee for your class.

**Late Entries:**

**a. Entries must be received with post mark of due date. Penalties apply the day following the deadline on all payments.**

| Date                                 | Applicable Fee   |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| After January 27, 2020               | 50% of original entry fee, plus remaining fees due through February 15 |
| After February 15, 2020              | 50% of original entry fee, plus remaining fees                         |
| After draw- 1 <sup>st</sup> Go Round | 2x Original entry fee  |
| *Intermediate Open                   | Entry Fee + \$250 for horses entered in another class                  |

- b.** Issuance of a check that is not honored for any reason or credit card payment that is declined for any reason to cover an entry fee shall constitute no payment. To prevent late penalty, the entry and payment must be made and received in the office by the due date.
- c.** All entries made after the draw will be required to work last in the herd of cattle. Additional cattle will not be added for late entries with the exception of Intermediate Open entries made after the 1<sup>st</sup> go of the Open.
- d. Intermediate Open entries:** The option to make a late Intermediate Open entry will be available to horses who were previously entered into any division. Entries for the Intermediate Open will close one hour after the last horse competes in the Open/Limited Open 1<sup>st</sup> Go. Open entries that advance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> go in the Open and are an Intermediate Open Combination entry will run once during the 2<sup>nd</sup> go and have their score counted for both divisions.  
Open entries that advance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> go in the Open and are a stand-alone Intermediate Open entry have the option to run twice during the 2<sup>nd</sup> go. If entries opt to run twice, their 1<sup>st</sup> draw will be for the Intermediate Open 1<sup>st</sup> go and their 2<sup>nd</sup> draw will be for the Open 2<sup>nd</sup> go. Stand-alone entries may choose to consolidate their runs and have one score count in both classes. If two sets of NCHA fees have been paid one will be subject to a refund. Intermediate combination entries that do not advance to the Open 2<sup>nd</sup> go, or Limited Finals will still have the opportunity to go to the herd within the Intermediate 1<sup>st</sup> go.

**Failure to pay fees:** All entry fees will be made payable to the National Cutting Horse Association in United States funds or its equivalent and received in the office by the due date. All fees including late penalties must be paid on or before dates specified or entry will be cancelled without refund.

**II. Open Divisions**

**Super Stakes Open:** Entry in the Open shall be made by horse.

**Super Stakes 4 Year Old:**

| Open             | Advancement Criteria                      | Stipulations   |
|------------------|---|----------------|
| Second go- Round | Top 60% from 1 <sup>st</sup> go plus ties | Max 180        |
| Semi-Finals*     | Top 20% composite scores plus ties        | Min 45- Max 60 |
| Finals           | Top 20 horses plus ties from semi finals  |                |

- a. d. 40% of the purse to be paid in semi-finals and 60% in the finals.

| <b>Intermediate &amp; Limited Open</b> | <b>Advancement Criteria</b>            | <b>Stipulations</b> |
|--|--|---------------------|
| Finals                                 | Top 20% horses plus ties from Go Round | Min 6 – Max 20      |

**Super Stakes Classic 5&6 Year Olds:**

| <b>Open</b>      | <b>Advancement Criteria</b>               | <b>Stipulations</b> |
|------------------|---|---------------------|
| Second go- Round | Top 60% from 1 <sup>st</sup> go plus ties | Max 120             |
| Finals           | Top 20% horses plus ties from Go Round    | Min 10 – Max 25     |

- a. 15% of purse to be paid on combined go-round scores down through 40<sup>th</sup> place plus ties.

| <b>Intermediate &amp; Limited Open</b> | <b>Advancement Criteria</b>            | <b>Stipulations</b> |
|--|--|---------------------|
| Finals                                 | Top 20% horses plus ties from Go Round | Min 6 – Max 25      |

- a. All other horses will be dropped from further competition.
- b. Scores made in the trials and semi-finals to be disregarded, with scores made in the super stakes finals only to determine final placings.
- c. In the event there are less than 25 entries in the Open intermediate or Open limited levels at draw time, there will not be a working final. Payout will be made according to the NCHA mandatory payout.
- d. All entries made after the draw will not dictate the advancing number of entries to the second go, semi-finals, nor finals.
- e. Only scores of 181 or higher will advance to the second round.

**III. Non-Pro Divisions**

A Non- Pro has two options on entering the Super Stakes

- i. You may name your horse when you send in the first payment.
- ii. You may enter under you name (slot).

**Super Stakes 4 Year Old:**

| <b>Non-Pro</b>   | <b>Advancement Criteria</b>               | <b>Stipulations</b> |
|------------------|---|---------------------|
| Second go- Round | Top 60% from 1 <sup>st</sup> go plus ties | Max 120             |
| Semi-Finals*     | Top 20% composite scores plus ties        | Min 45- Max 60      |
| Finals           | Top 20 horses plus ties from semi finals  |                     |

- a. 45% of the purse to be paid in the composite and 55% in the finals.

| <b>Intermediate &amp; Limited Non Pro</b> | <b>Advancement Criteria</b>            | <b>Stipulations</b> |
|---|--|---------------------|
| Finals                                    | Top 20% horses plus ties from Go Round | Min 6 – Max 20      |

**Super Stakes Classic 5&6 Year Olds:**

| <b>Non-Pro</b>   | <b>Advancement Criteria</b>               | <b>Stipulations</b> |
|------------------|---|---------------------|
| Second go- Round | Top 60% from 1 <sup>st</sup> go plus ties | Max 120             |
| Finals           | Top 20% horses plus ties from Go Round    | Min 10 – Max 25     |

- b. 20% of purse to be paid on combined go-round scores down through 40<sup>th</sup> place plus ties.

| <b>Intermediate &amp; Limited Non Pro</b> | <b>Advancement Criteria</b>            | <b>Stipulations</b> |
|---|--|---------------------|
| Finals                                    | Top 20% horses plus ties from Go Round | Min 6 – Max 25      |

- c. All other horses will be dropped from further competition.
- d. Scores made in the trials and semi-finals to be disregarded, with scores made in the super stakes finals only to determine final placings.
- e. In the event there are less than 25 entries in the Non pro intermediate or Non pro limited levels at draw time, there will not be a working final. Payout will be made according to the NCHA mandatory payout, to the highest advancing horse.
- f. All entries made after the draw will not dictate the advancing number of entries to the second go, semi-finals, nor finals.
- g. Only scores of 181 or higher will advance to the second round.

## V. Amateur Divisions

- A. An Amateur had two options on entering the Super Stakes.
  - i. You may name your horse when you send in the first payment.
  - ii. You may enter under your name (slot).

| <b>All Amt Classes</b> | <b>Advancement Criteria</b> | <b>Stipulations</b> |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Semi-Finals*           | Top 30% plus ties           | Max 60              |
| Finals                 | Top 20 plus ties            |                     |

- A. In the event there are less than 150 entries in a class, there will be no semifinals and will consist of one go-round plus finals for the high scoring twenty-five (25%), with a minimum of ten (10) maximum of thirty (30).
- B. All entries made after the draw will not dictate the advancing number of entries to the second go, semi-finals, nor finals.

### **Selling of slots:** A Non-Pro or amateur rider's name (slot) may be sold to another Non-pro or Amateur.

- a. A non-pro or amateur may sell their slot or named entry after the draw but before the beginning of the first scheduled go-round. The buyer will be required to submit horse registration papers, a completed transfer with original horse papers, or a bill of sale showing proof of ownership of an unregistered horse.
- b. When a Non-pro or amateur sells a slot after the draw they cannot repurchase another slot in that class. They may however buy a horse from another non-pro or amateur which is entered in that class and show the purchased horse in the slot which has been assigned to that horse. (A completed transfer with original papers will need to be included with such slot purchase in office.)
- B. OPEN Division: If a veterinary certificate is received stating that a horse entered will be unable to work, the owner will be allowed to substitute another horse by paying one-half (1/2) again as much as has been paid on original entry. No substitution will be allowed after the beginning of the division's first go-round. A horse that has been substituted in the open will be unable to be shown in any other division for the remainder of the show. No substitution will be allowed after the beginning of a division's first go-round. After the draw any horse that is in the Open Division may sell their draw position if a veterinary certificate is received stating that the horse entered is unable to compete. The buyer of that draw position will be required to pay NCHA an additional \$2,000. (\$1,000 jackpot, \$1,000 office charge). Horse registration papers must be submitted to NCHA for the new entry. This transaction must be completed before the beginning of the divisions' first go-round to be able to compete. A horse that has had their

draw position sold will be eligible to show in other divisions that were previously entered, or classes not yet past entry deadline, after two letters have been received by NCHA from licensed veterinarians confirming the ability of the horse to compete.

- C. If, at the time the final entry payment is made, the horse or horses to be ridden are not named, you have the option to withhold this information until 5pm the evening before the event for additional charge of \$400. Any slot entry that is not complete by 5pm the evening before the start of the go-round (rider change, horse name, fees paid or slot sale) will be charge \$500.
  - a. Horses that are not named before the go- round starts and has a draw (rider name) the second day or later in such go-round may be named by paying double the entry fee as a late naming fee prior to the first horse riding to the herd that day.

**Naming Fees**

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| After Draw- 5pm night prior to go round | \$400                |
| After 5pm – Start of class              | \$500                |
| After start of class                    | Double the Entry Fee |

- D. Each Non-Pro or Amateur Super Stakes entry shall name the horse or horses to be ridden. If a Non -Pro or Amateur rider doesn't name their horse or horses before the draw, the working order will be drawn in the name of the rider; if two horses are entered, they shall work in alphabetical order. A rider who names one horse will work in the first assigned draw and the other draw will be left vacant.
- E. A Non-Pro & Amateur must send proof of ownership of horse as required by NCHA standing rules with accompanying entry.
- 1. **\$10,000 Novice horse entries:** This is for 4-year-old horses only. This is a subclass where the horse entering must have a corresponding Open, Non-Pro or Amateur entry.
  - a. This is a non-working finals class
  - b. Novice Horse Class will be limited to horses with lifetime earnings (monies won in all classes will count against a horse's eligibility total) of \$10,000 and less as of February 15, 2020. All Limited Age Events & weekend shows received in office by February 25, 2020 will determine horse's eligibility.
    - i. Riders may ride three (3) horses if one of them is entered in the gelding class.
    - ii. If a rider has attempted to compete in these classes and the horse is found to be ineligible, disciplinary action may be taken. The burden of proof of eligibility is upon the rider.
    - iii. By February 25, 2020 if horse is known to be ineligible of competing in the \$10,000 novice class and has already entered. Monies paid in will be refunded.
  - c. Payout will be made according to the NCHA mandatory payout, to the highest advancing horses.
  - d. In the event there are less than three (3) entries at the start of the go round for the OPEN, NON PRO, or AMATUER- entries will be refunded and class will not be held.
- 2. **Senior class:** This is for all classes to be held at the 2020 NCHA Super Stakes. This is a subclass where the rider entering must have a corresponding entry in any division.
  - a. This is a non-working finals class

- b. 2020 NCHA Super Stakes senior classes will be limited to riders who are 60 years of age or older at the time entry is due.
    - i. Riders may ride three (3) horses if one is entered in the gelding class.
    - ii. Date of birth will be required at date of entry.
  - c. Payout will be made according to the NCHA mandatory payout, to the highest advancing horses.
  - d. In the event there are less than three (3) entries at the start of the go round for all levels- entries will be refunded and class will not be held.
3. **Gelding class:** This is for all classes to be held at the 2020 NCHA Super Stakes. This is a subclass where the horse entering must have a corresponding entry in any division.
- a. This is a non-working finals class.
  - b. 2020 NCHA Super Stakes gelding class will be limited to gelding horses that are entered in the NCHA Super Stakes.
    - i. Riders may ride three (3) horses, provided at least one horse is entered in the gelding class.
    - ii. All open riders who have a third horse will be required to submit rider changes/ additions by 5pm the day before the open divisions first go-round begins.
  - c. Payout will be made according to the NCHA mandatory payout, to the highest advancing horses.
  - d. In the event there are less than three (3) entries at the start of the go round for all levels- entries will be refunded and class will not be held.

#### IV. Rules applicable to all entries

- 1. Premium money will be paid to all finalists.
- 2. **Double entry & Transfer Privileges:** Entry Made in a Non- pro rider's name (slot) may not be transferred to the open division.
  - a. Any horse paid up to date in Open or Non-pro division on or before the Feb 15 payment may enter in the either division without late penalty. If you have a non-pro "slot", you must name your horse at this time.
  - b. A non-pro may transfer to the Open division only if their horse was named on the first payment entry form.
  - c. A horse (not a slot) may be transferred to or from any division on or before Feb 15 without penalty. A transfer after the final payment but before the draw will be required to pay \$1100 transfer fee.
  - d. A horse (not a slot) may be transferred to or from any level within a division on or before Feb 15 without penalty. A transfer after the final payment but before the draw will be required to pay \$250 transfer fee.

#### Transfer Fees

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| After payment #2 to a new division (Open, NP, Amt)                        | \$1,100           |
| After payment #2 to a level within the same division                      | \$250             |
| *Intermediate Open Entries previously entered in Open or Ltd Open         | Entry Fee + \$250 |
| *Late Intermediate Open Entries in another class that has not yet started | Entry Fee + \$250 |

**3. Substitutions:**

- a. All Divisions: The owner will be allowed to substitute another horse by paying \$500. No substitution will be allowed after the beginning of the division's first go-round.
- b. Horse registration papers must be submitted to NCHA for the new entry. A horse that has had their draw position sold will be unable to re-enter the original class.

**4. Change of Ownership:** An entry may change ownership and retain eligibility under the new owner, provided the National Cutting horse Association Limited Age Events Committee is advised and the new owner keeps up all payments when due.

**5. Declining Entries:** Entries to this contest are received subject to the right of the National Cutting Horse Association Limited Age Events Committee to refuse the entry or acceptance of a transfer of any entry without notice to the subscriber. The decisions of the Committee shall be final in all matters.

The National Cutting Horse Association reserve the right to cancel this event without notice at any time prior to the contest without liability to them, but in such event, return all entry money to subscribers.

**6. Draw Time:** The draw will not take place more than twenty-one (21) days prior to the beginning of the first schedule go-round. Only those horses & riders for which payment has been received in the NCHA office will be drawn. There will be no exceptions.

- a. If a horse properly entered is left out of the draw, a redraw will not be held. To establish a working order for this entry, one number will be drawn based on the original draw numbers and they entry inserted in the behind the entry drawn.

**7. Ties:** In the event of a tie for the championship in either division, a work off will not be held to determine the winner.

- a. If two ties, first and second place premiums will be added together and split fifty percent equally. (There will be co-champions)
  - i. The winner of the tie breaker for awards will be determined by adding up all five scores from the finals. If still tied, the scores from the previous semifinals and go-rounds will be added. If still tied, the winner will be determined via a coin toss with the riders/owners. The winning horse will select first from the pool of awards, with remaining prizes being selected in alternating fashion.
- b. If more than two ties, all premiums will be split equally. The work-off will be prizes and the title.

## **V. Identification of Horses**

1. A photocopy of the registration (at the time of entry) certificate of a registered horse must be provided prior to being shown. Must be NCHA office by Feb 15, 2020. If the horse being entered is unregistered\* please see note below.
  - a. **\*Unregistered horse:** Unregistered horse application (this can be found on [nchacutting.com](http://nchacutting.com)) needs to be accompanied by a bill of sale, a vet statement attesting to

the horses age, and photos of the horse front & back & both sides- this needs to be sent into the NCHA office no later than Feb 15, 2020.

If Registration papers are received between Feb 15 and thirty days before the trials, a \$100 fee will be assessed. Horses entered after Feb 15, 2020 must furnish this identification upon entry. Failure to comply will cause all fees to be forfeited and entry disqualified.

2. A horse is not eligible to participate in the National Cutting Horse Super Stakes, if its age, as determined by examination of its teeth, exceeds the age shown on its registration certificate on registered horses or the notarized statement of age and description required for unregistered horses. Such determination by dentition examination to be made in accordance with *The Official Guide for Determining the Age of the Horse* as currently published by the American Association of Equine Practitioners. However, if the horse has received a dental examination by the NCHA at the Futurity and received a favorable result, that horse will not be retested for age at the Super Stakes.
3. Examination Procedures: During the NCHA Super Stakes, each horse will be examined by a licensed equine veterinarian appointed by the NCHA, in its sole discretion, to inspect the horse's teeth for age qualification. The guidelines used for this dental examination will be those set forth by the AAEP (American Association of Equine Practitioners) in effect at that time.
  - a. If the dental examination reveals that the horse's age appears to exceed that of the AAEP qualifying age guidelines, the NCHA veterinarian will immediately notify the Director of Shows that there is a potential issue concerning the age the horse.
  - b. Upon such notification, the NCHA Director of Shows will immediately contact the owner or the trainer of the horse in question prior to initiating any further testing procedures on the horse.
  - c. By entering a horse in the Super Stakes, the owner agrees that both the owner or trainer of the horse are fully authorized, individually, to consent to or decline to consent to the additional testing procedures on the horse. These additional testing procedures outlined below.
    - i. These additional testing procedures may include, but are not limited to, radiographs, photos and videos of the horse's mouth, including molars.
    - ii. Further, these additional testing procedures may include sedation of the horse in question in order to perform the tests.
  - d. The owner or trainer of the horse has the option of either immediately withdrawing the horse from any further competition in the Super Stakes or allowing the horse to immediately undergo the additional testing described herein.
  - e. If such additional testing procedures are consented to and performed, they will be done at the owner's sole expense.
  - f. If the owner or trainer consents to allow the horse to undergo such additional testing procedures but fails to immediately make the horse available for such additional testing procedures, the horse will be disqualified from further competition in any class at the Super Stakes.
  - g. The records from those additional testing procedures, if any, will be submitted to a veterinary expert on horse teeth, determined by the NCHA in its sole discretion, whose

credentials include that of being a Diplomat of American Veterinary Dental College, certified in Equine, for a second opinion as to the horse's age.

- h.** All costs associated with that expert's examination of the horse will be at the owner's sole expense.
- i.** This process must be completed, and a favorable opinion rendered as to the age of the horse for the horse to continue to compete at the Super Stakes. Should there be an unfavorable opinion rendered as to the age of the horse, the horse will be immediately disqualified from competing in any classes at the Super Stakes.
- j.** By entering a horse in the Super Stakes, the owner and trainer agree that the opinion of that expert as to the horse's age will be final and binding for all future NCHA limited age events.
- k.** Should a horse be disqualified after the above process, all fees shall be forfeited for that horse at the Super Stakes and the horse will be disqualified from further competition at the Super Stakes. However, if that horse is listed in a Non-Pro or Amateur entry, the contestant will have the opportunity to substitute a horse or sell their slot according to NCHA rules.

### **VIII. Judges & Judging**

- 1.** Separate judges will be used to officiate the Open & Non-Pro divisions of the NCHA Super Stakes/ Super Stakes Classic.
- 2.** NCHA Judging Rules set forth in the Handbook will apply
- 3.** The NCHA Adjusted Monitor System, and all rules and policies set forth by that system will be used.
- 4.** Each horse is allotted two and one-half (2 ½) minutes to work during a run. The working time starts when the rider crosses the official timeline.
  - i.** As soon as the horse, owner and rider's name are called to the herd by the announcer (the "rider announcement"), the announcer will start the 1-2 ½ minute clock to let the rider know how much time the rider must cross the official time line and begin the rider's run.
  - ii.** If the rider has helped the contestant immediately preceding the rider's run or has drawn back to back un the working order, the rider will have 2 ½ minutes from the rider announcement to cross the official timeline and start their run.
  - iii.** If the rider has not helped the contestant immediately preceding the rider's run or has not drawn back to back in the working order, the rider will have 1 minute from the time of the rider announcement to cross the official timeline and start their run.
  - iv.** If the rider fails to cross the official timeline in the time allotted under the 1-2 ½ minute clock, a buzzer and an additional minute will be added to the 1- 2 ½ minute clock. (this is the only warning that the rider will receive relating to the 1- 2 ½ minute clock)
  - v.** If the rider receives any additional buzzers relating to the 1-2 ½ minute clock at any time during that show, it will result in a \$500 fine per occurrence. (i.e.- second buzzer is \$500 fine, third buzzer is an additional \$500 fine, etc.)
  - vi.** All fines assessed under this rule must be paid prior to the rider's exhibiting a horse in any future NCHA produced show.

5. All NCHA produced events will use the 1-2 ½ minute clock as described above in each class, including the finals.
6. These Rules are subject to change by action of the Executive Committee only.