

# 2009 Today's Horse West Fest Clinic & NVRHA Competition Entry Form

**Location:** Besler's Cadillac Ranch, St. Onge, SD • **Contact:** Deb Black, 605-716-5000

**Send Entries To:** Today's Horse West Fest

c/o Today's Horse Magazine, PO Box 539, Rapid City, SD 57709 or fax to 605-716-7669

## Class Descriptions:

For the **Ranch Cutting class**, competitors earn points in each of the following maneuvers: herd entry, driving cow from herd, setting up for cutting, degree of difficulty, courage/cow-sense, working center of arena, eye appeal, setting up for driving, driving to pen, and penning.

Maneuvers are scored as follows: +3 points, excellent; +2 points, very good; +1 point, good; 0 points, correct; -1 point, needs improvement; -2 points, poor; and -3 points, very poor. Points are then added or subtracted from a basis score of 70.

The **Working Ranch Horse class** is scored with the same procedures and point earnings. This class combines the ability of the working ranch horse to rein, handle cattle, and put its rider in the position to rope and stop a cow. Points are awarded in three areas: reining, cow work, and roping.

The **Ranch Riding class** shows the horse's ability to move at working speeds with a rider in the following gaits: walk, trot, extended trot, lope, and extended lope. Points are given for traveling with its head held in a normal position, ears alert, and moving at a natural speed for the gait requested. Smooth transitions between gaits, keeping the correct lead and maintaining gait until the judge asks for a change helps earn higher points. The rider must ride with one hand on the reins unless the horse is five-years-old or younger and being shown with a hackamore or snaffle bit.

## Division Definitions:

The schooling competitions at ranch horse events separates riders into Professional, Advanced Amateur, Intermediate Amateur, Novice Amateur, Advanced Youth, and Novice Youth Divisions, based on each horse/rider team's skill level, and points/scores earned in at least two previous competitions. The horse/rider team will be placed in the classification that is within the point range of his/her prior scores/points.

- 1. Professional:** Professional riders and riders as described in the AQHA handbook as open riders. (Receives remuneration for training, teaching, etc.) Can be held if there are 3 or more horses. If less, the Professional riders may be incorporated into the Advanced Amateur Division and exhibited for training/practice but will not be awarded placement points or awards.
- 2. Advanced Amateur:** Horse/Rider Team with advanced riding skills, and a score of 301 plus.
- 3. Intermediate Amateur:** Horse/Rider Team with a score range of 201 - 300.

## Horse Showcase:

Want to sell the horse you are riding during the Saturday & Sunday Competition? Agreement is between buyer and seller. Forms are also available on our web site ([www.todayshorse.net](http://www.todayshorse.net)). The cost is \$50 per horse.

The **Ranch Trail class**, consists of 10 possible, realistic obstacles and is used to show the horse's ability and willingness to perform the tasks asked of him. Horses are judged on three gaits, walk, trot, and lope determined when the judge chooses the pattern. Higher points are awarded for keeping the correct lead while performing the gaits with an alert attitude.

There are three mandatory obstacles including: opening, passing through and closing a gate; dragging a log in a straight line or around a set pattern. The third required obstacle requires the horse to remain quiet while the rider dismounts, removes the bit from the mouth and rebridles, then picks up all four of the horse's feet. Other obstacles may include water hazards, crossing a bridge, or being hobbled or ground tied.

The **Ranch Conformation class** is judged on "form to function." Sixty percent of the score is based on the ranch horse's form "structural correctness and balance." The remaining 40 percent covers the ranch horse's "function," measured by the scores achieved in the other four classes. This insures a well-conformed horse must possess the heart, athletic ability, and trainability to place well in the Ranch Conformation class.

At the end of the event, the horse/rider team's scores from each class are tallied and then placed into the correct division: Novice Division is less than 200 points; Intermediate, 200-300 points; and Advanced, 300 or more points.

- 4. Novice Amateur:** Horse/Rider Team with a score of 200 or less.
- 5. Advanced Youth:** Horse/Rider Team with a score of 251 or above.
- 6. Novice Youth:** Horse/Rider Team with a score of 250 or less.

At clinics having a Schooling Competition, prior to beginning clinic instruction, first time eventers and new horse/rider teams will be identified to the clinicians. After observation during the clinic by the clinician, the clinician will specify the most appropriate division for the Schooling Competition. The horse/rider team's first event score will determine their division for their second event. The average score for their first two (2) events will determine the division placement for the year. Should a first time eventer or new horse/rider team not attend the clinic prior to the Schooling Competition, he or she will be assigned to the Advanced Division and be eligible for placement points and awards and NVRHA Championship points.

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**Rider's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Horse's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Horse's Owner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**One Entry form per horse/rider.**

**Waiver must accompany entry form. One waiver per person.**

**Clinic: Friday, June 26, 2009 • 9:00 a.m.**

**NVRHA Competition: Saturday, June 27, 2009 • 9:00 a.m.**

**Limited Enrollment - First Come, First Served. Deposit of \$150 due by June 10, 2009.**

**Non-Subscriber Clinic & Competition:** \$375/Rider ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Subscriber Clinic & Competition:** \$350/Rider ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Versatility Competition Only:** \$200/Rider ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Horse Showcase:** Want to sell the horse you are riding during the Saturday & Sunday Competitions? Agreement is between buyer and seller. \$50/Horse ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Subscription: Special West Fest Price!!**

1 year Subscription \$20 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2 year Subscription \$40 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Sent Before June 10 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due June 26 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Great prizes to all-around winners in each division.  
Ribbons & rosettes in each class**

**Make check or money order payable to:**

Today's Horse Magazine

**Pay with Visa or Mastercard:**

16 digit card number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

4 digit expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**

Today's Horse West Fest

c/o Today's Horse Magazine

PO Box 539, Rapid City, SD 57709

**For Office Use Only:**

Date Received:

Contestant # Assigned:

Payment Received:

Stall # Assigned:

Waiver Signed:

The South Dakota State Veterinarian can request spot checks, anywhere, anytime. Health papers are required, even when transporting horses in-state. Coggins and brand papers are required on any horse coming from out-of-state.