

# Ranch Cutting Rules

This class is judged on the ability of the horse rider team to read the herd and select a cow of the rider's choice to drive from the herd and work in the center of the arena. Once the rider has demonstrated the horse's ability to work the cow, the rider will "quit" the cow and then cut another cow of his or her choice from the herd. Credit will be given to those horses who demonstrate excellence in their herd work, working the center of the arena, and the degree of difficulty of the cows selected.

1. Rider will have the assistance of two turn back riders and two herd holders.
2. There will be a 2 1/2 minute time limit with a one minute warning.
3. Show management may supply the turn back and herd holders or rider can choose their own.
4. If an exhibitor is a turn back rider or herd holder he or she may use the horse that they are competing on or may use a different horse.
5. In the event of excessive disturbance of the herd during competition, the herd may be resettled before the next rider begins their work, at the discretion of the judge.
6. A rider may hold the horn at any time during the ranch cutting without penalty.
7. Herd settlers, herd holders, and turn back riders do not have to be exhibitors but must be dressed appropriately.

Please refer to the National Cutting Horse Association rules for minor and major penalties.