



Central California Cutting Club

Rule Book

2016/2017

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FORWARD

The Central California Cutting Club was established in 1966 to provide an organization to promote the sport of cutting. Known as The CCCC (Four C's) the club serves as an information center for its members and the general public on matters pertaining to shows and projects designed to improve cutting and aid the industry. CCCC cuttings give breeders, trainers, and exhibitors the opportunity to compete for awards, and enable the public to see the athletic ability of the cutting horse. Membership in CCCC is available to all persons who apply for membership, subscribe to the objectives of the Central California Cutting Club, and agree to abide by its rules and regulations.

Members are advised to review the CCCC rulebook each season, as some rules may have changed. Members are also advised to familiarize themselves with the NCHA rules and regulations.

This handbook contains the Constitution and Current Bylaws, Show Rules, and Guidelines.

We look forward to cutting with you.....Central California Cutting Club.

INFORMATION RESOURCES

CCCC Information and standings is now published in the West Coast Horsemen's Magazine. Each member in good standing receives a copy by mail each month.

CCCC WEBSITE

The Website is now the official CCCC's Bulletin and the most up to date way to receive information on standings, information on upcoming shows and messages to the members. You can see photos of our past champions and the current standings. Many useful links to other resources are also available. The website is also a way to enter shows and receive messages about show cancellations due to weather conditions.

www.centralcaliforniacuttingclub.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Your board of directors is made up of Cutting Horse enthusiasts like yourself. They are dedicated to promoting the sport of cutting to beginners as well as providing a place for the experienced cutter. They are here to help you... so if you have questions or concerns give them a call or look them up at a show. If you would like to help the board there are many committees you can volunteer for.

NCHA WEBSITE

The National Cutting Horse Association has a website that you can access for many things. The rule book is available for download or printing. There is also a horse and rider earnings look up search engine. The NCHA has partnered with the AQHA to provide a data base of information available for purchase, which includes a complete list of all shows money won and placing's for your horse in NCHA Records. www.nhacutting.com

PCCHA WEBSITE

The Pacific Coast Cutting Horse Association also has a website that is very informative. You can access listings of local Shows and Events. www.pccha.com

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

Section 1:

This Association shall have a Board of Directors consisting of eleven (11) members elected from the members in good standing.

Section 2:

The Association officers shall be elected from within the Board of Directors by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II

Section 1:

There shall be no capital stock in this Association. A list of members who have paid their membership dues and are in good standing is kept on file with the secretary.

CONSTITUTION continued....

ARTICLE III

Section 1:

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at a general membership meeting, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given at a preceding meeting and notices shall have been announced to all members in good standing not less than ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1:

A general membership meeting shall be called at the last show of the year, or at a place **designated** by the board of directors, for the purpose of nomination for the Board of Directors. A list of those nominated will be posted online and a mail-in ballot will be sent to the members, in order to allow a larger representation of the membership to vote for the Board of Directors. When mail-in ballots are sent back to the CCCC, they must include the members printed name and signature for the vote to accepted.

ARTICLE V

Section 1:

Past and future Presidents of CCCC will be made honorary Life-time members and their names will be posted online.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

Section 1:

The officers of the Association shall be President and Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall hold office for a period of one year until their successors are duly elected.

Section 2:

The president shall preside at the General Membership meetings of the Association and Board of Directors. The President shall appoint all special and standing committees and conduct the Association in accordance with the Bylaws and other rules and regulations of the Association in its business. The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of all committees. The President shall notify the Vice-President whenever he/she is unable to attend any meeting.

Section 3:

The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President when the President is absent from any meeting of the General Membership or Board of Directors.

Section 4:

The Secretary shall be elected by the Board of Directors from within the Board of Directors, and shall keep the Minutes of all meetings, keep and safeguard the records of the Association, and shall be ex-officio Secretary of all meetings. The Secretary shall be required to make a report of the activities of the Association for the past year at each annual meeting. The Secretary shall also issue all notices on calls to the directors and members, keep the membership roll, issue membership cards or certificates, conduct, supervise count and record the balloting of the elections and perform such other duties as usually pertain this office, including those especially assigned to the Secretary from time to time by the Board of Directors.

BYLAWS.... Continued

Section 5:

The Treasurer shall be elected by the Board of Directors and shall keep and safeguard records of all funds of the Association. He or she shall be ex-officio Treasurer of all meetings. The Treasurer shall be required to make a financial report at each General Membership meeting. Treasurer's records will be audited by the Board of Directors each year.

Section 6:

A Point Keeper shall be appointed by the Board of Directors from within the general membership for the purpose of keeping and safeguarding the point system and related records.

Section 7:

The Board of Directors shall be governed by the following regulations:

A. The Board of Directors shall manage the affairs of the Association and exercise all duties vested in them by the Bylaws of the Association.

B. The Board of Directors may hold meetings at any time for the purpose pertaining to the welfare of the Association, and at any time upon call of the Board of Directors acting jointly.

C. The Board of Directors Shall actively encourages and sponsors:

1. Discussion of the activities and benefits of the Association.
2. Promote interest in the cutting horse.
3. Obtain publicity.
4. Encourage and promote membership.
5. Maintain close and friendly relations between show management and cutting horse people.
6. The forwarding of new ideas to the Secretary.
7. The contacting of show managers in the district and giving assistance when and where needed.
8. The procuring of suitable trophies, prizes and ribbons needed.
9. The encouragement of novice classes.

D. At each annual general meeting of the membership, eight (8) members are to be elected to the Board of Directors to complete the eleven (11) member board. The three members receiving the largest number of votes will be elected for two-year terms, the other five (5) elected for one year.

E. All Board of Directors must be members in good standing and shall participate in at least one half of the activities of the Association approved shows. It shall be the duty to the President to appoint a director or directors to fill any vacancy that occurs. Only one member of the immediate family (father, mother, guardian, sister, brother, or grandparent) shall serve on the board at the same time.

F. The annual meeting of the Board of Directors of this Association shall be held immediately following the annual membership meeting of the members.

G. At any meeting of the Board of Directors, a majority of those present shall decide any question that may come before the board.

BYLAWS.... Continued

H. The order of Business at all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be:

1. Meeting called to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Reading and disposal of Minutes.
4. Reports of officers and committees.
5. Election (if any)
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.
8. Adjournment.

ARTICLE II

Section 1:

The annual meeting of the members of this Association shall be held during the last show of the year, or at a place designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 2:

Special General Membership meetings may be called by the President at any time and place on reasonable notice to all members.

Section 3:

Fifteen (15) members shall constitute a quorum at any General Membership meeting, and the majority of such quorum shall decide any question that may arise at any meeting. All General Membership Meetings may be adjourned from day to day and from time to time until a quorum appears.

Section 4:

Each member in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote. There shall be no proxy vote in the Association. Family members shall have all the rights and privileges of the regular members.

Section 5:

Any member who shall become a nuisance by constant complaints, fault-finding, harassment, or by un-sportsmanlike conduct may, by two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors, be dropped from membership. If such action is taken, membership fees shall be returned and all privileges of the Association shall be denied thereafter. The CCCC Board of Directors has the right to refuse membership to any individual.

Section 6:

The order of business at any meeting of the General Membership shall be:

- A. Proof of due notice.
- B. Reading of the Minutes
- C. Report of the officers and directors
- D. Election of officers.
- E. Unfinished business.
- F. New business
- G. Adjournment.

BYLAWS.... Continued

ARTICLE III

Section 1:

Any individual application is subject to review by the Board of Directors.

Section 2:

The annual dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors, will be due by November 1st or prior to entering any show during the year. Dues will be due for year effective November 1st through October 31st, and there will be no carry-overs. The only exception to this rule will apply to those who pay dues at the last show of the year prior. Those members will be considered paid in full beginning the following year.

Section 3:

All membership dues will be paid to the Treasurer.

Section 4:

Types of members:

- A. Regular members: Shall have full Association privileges and are entitled to vote at all General Membership Elections.
- B. Family members: Shall have all rights and privileges of regular members.

ASSOCIATION SHOW RULES

Section A: Show Production Rules

A. The CCCC Board reserves the right to make changes to this rule book after the beginning of the show season, if it deemed in the best interest of the club.

AA. Any disciplinary procedures resulting from infractions of the following rules and regulations will be followed by the guidelines in the Zero Tolerance Policy and the rules for Non Profit Organizations. See Section D.

A-1 A show that is approved by the Central California Cutting Club (CCCC) will be judged by the rules of the National Cutting Horse Association and the rules of the CCCC with the exception of the ranch class. Please refer to page 11 Non Pro Ranch Class Rules.

A-2 The owner and rider of each horse exhibited must be members in good standing to be eligible to show and earn points.

A-3 A copy of the original registration certificate for registered horses or a notarized bill of sale showing ownership must be presented to the show secretary. A copy of said papers will be kept on file of all horses currently showing in the CCCC. Horses must be shown under their legal registered name only.

SHOW RULES..... Continued.

A-4 A Contestant shall not enter the arena or loping pen at any time at a CCCC cutting contest with any kind of abusive training device or gimmick of any nature. Any humane equipment will be permitted on turn back and herd holding horses.

A-5 Contestants and herd help are required to wear a western hat and appropriate western apparel while in the show pen. Riders in the warm up arena are encouraged to wear western hats and long sleeve shirts, however it is not mandatory. No tank tops or shorts will be permitted in the warm up arena by any rider.

A-6 A system has been set up to provide a representative of the Board of Directors or a liaison person to work between the Board of Directors and the show host. The decisions of the show representatives will be final on the day of the show. The judge shall be chosen by the show representatives or by the Board of Directors.

A-7 An individual engaged to judge a CCCC Cutting shall not be allowed to judge any entry he or she has ridden or coached on cattle thirty (30) days prior to the show, or judge any member of his or her family. In the event such a situation occurs, the judge shall step down for that class and an alternate judge be substituted. The choice of substitute judge will be at the discretion of the show representatives. If no qualified substitutes are available, the two show representatives will judge the class and their scores will be averaged

A-8 Under no circumstances will a judge be permitted to enter a contest for which said individual was engaged to judge.

A-9 Judges shall not visit with owners, trainers, exhibitors, or agents while the class is being judged, and shall talk only to representatives of show management, beyond the exchange of normal greetings, until the entire show is completed.

A-10 Any comments about the performance of the horse working, or the judge shall not be made within hearing distance of the judge.

A-11 In the event the show representative has to leave the show grounds for any reason, he/she shall appoint a representative in his/her place during his/her absence

A-12 A judge shall present, in writing, any grievance he/she may have against contestants or show management to an officer or director of the CCCC within one week of the occurrence and his or her case will be reviewed by the Board of Directors

A-13 The show representatives, without exception, have the right to disqualify or refuse entry to any contestant for any action of misconduct, including harassment of the judge, show management or employees.

A-14 Complaints regarding the show must be in writing to the CCCC and must be filed with the Secretary within one week of the closing date of the show involved.

A-15 Horses are to be judged on performance only, regardless of conformation, age, sex, color, appearance, or breed.

A-16 After a horse is called twice and has not responded; the horse will be dropped from the class and not allowed to show. Entry fee will not be refunded.

SHOW RULES..... Continued.

A-17 Pre-entries will be required for All Classes (excepting the Non Pro Ranch Class) in order to provide an adequate number of cattle without unnecessary expense. Entries will be closed the Wednesday prior to the show at 8pm. Entrants may enter by phone or on the Pre Enter page at the Central California Cutting Club website. Entries made after entries have closed on Wednesday at 8pm will be placed at the end of the class. Cattle will be added only if they have not already been ordered.

A-18 In the case of a withdrawn entry, prior to the draw, the contestant will be refunded based on whether the cattle order has or has not been placed. If cattle have been ordered, the contestant will be responsible for the cattle charge and a \$10 office charge.

A-19 The CCCC may assess an office charge as designated by the Board of Directors and reserves the right to adjust entry fees during the course of the show year.

A-20 The Show Representatives of any show have the right to cancel or combine any class that does not have three (3), or more entries.

A-21 *Show cancellation policy:* In the event of poor weather conditions, the club president will consult the weather channel 24 hours prior to the start of the show. If the weather channel predicts poor conditions (Example: high winds, rain) the president has the right to cancel the show. Notice will be posted to the membership on the CCCC website and CCCC Facebook page. In the event that a member does not have access to a computer, they may call any board of director to receive information. It is the responsibility of the member to determine if a show has been cancelled.

A-22 Any person mounted on a horse at a CCCC show must sign a waiver of liability.

Section B: Class and Division Descriptions and Award System

<u>Divison</u>	<u>Class Year End Awards</u>	<u>Division Top 8 Award System</u>
<u>Open Division</u>		<u>Top Eight Open- Saddle to Champion</u>
Open	Yes	Pick two classes from this division to show in, and register them with the show secretary before your 1st show. Only points from the selected classes will count towards the Top Eight Awards. This award is given to the horse.
25K Novice Horse	Yes	
5 K Novice Horse	Yes	
<u>Non-Professional Division</u>		<u>Top Eight Non-Pro- Saddle to Champion</u>
Non-Pro	Yes	Only Points from these classes will count towards the Top Eight Awards. This award is given to the rider. The rider must be a non-professional.
35K Non-Pro	Yes	
<u>Intermediate Non-Pro Rider Division</u>		<u>Top Eight Intermediate Non-Pro Rider- Saddle to Champion</u>
2K Limit Rider (Any horse)	Yes	Only Points from these classes will count toward the Top Eight Awards. This award is given to the rider. The rider must be a non-professional and must own the horse they are competing on to compete for the saddle or top eight.
1K Limit Non-Pro Rider	Yes	
<u>Youth Division</u>	Yes	There are no Top Eight awards for the Youth Division. Youth <u>class</u> awards are given to all youth riders who attend 60% of the shows.
<u>Non-Pro Ranch Class</u>	Yes	There are no Top Eight award for this Division. <u>Class</u> Champion and Reserve Champion awards are guaranteed. Number of places are awarded as per rule...B3

Section B: Class and Division Descriptions and Award System - Continued....

B-1 The Board of directors reserves the right to make changes to the awards program at any time during the year.

B-2 The following Point System is for Year-End individual class awards and Top Eight Open, Non-Pro, and Intermediate. Total number of entries in a class determines the number of points awarded to the class. Every rider receives points.

Example:

First place receives the total number of entries plus 1 point. (If there are 10 entries in the class, first place would receive 11 points).

Second-Tenth Place receives 1 point for him/herself and 1 point for every horse they place above. (If there are 10 entries in the class, second place would receive 9 points).

All classes use the same formula.

B-3 The number of Year End awards given in any class will be based on the number of average entries participating in that class during the calendar show year. One award for every 4 average entries through-out the year.

B-4 Description of classes...

Open-Jackpot	Open to professional and Non Professional riders. Points or monies earned go to the horse. There are no earnings limits on the horse or rider.
25K Novice Horse	Open to professional and Non-Professional riders. Points or monies earned go to the horse. The horse cannot have won more than 25,000 dollars in NCHA monies or equivalent points.
5K Novice Horse	Open to professional and non-professional riders. Points or monies earned go to the horse. The horse cannot have won more than \$5,000 dollars in NCHA monies or equivalent points.
Non-Pro-Jackpot	***The rider must conform to NCHA guidelines for Non-Professional. Rider must own horse. Points and money earned go to the rider. The rider may only show 1 horse in any given class, but may show different horses throughout the year for year-end awards.
35K Non-Pro	*** See Non Pro Class... in addition the rider cannot have won more than \$35K in weekend NCHA monies or equivalent points.
2K Limit Rider (Any Horse)	This class is for the Non-Professional Rider who has not earned more than \$2K in NCHA monies or equivalent points weekend or aged event. The rider may ride a horse that they do not own. Points or money earned go to the rider.
Youth	Age of a youth rider is under 18 for show purposes as of the date of the first show of the year. The rider may ride a horse that they do not own. Points or money earned go to the rider. A youth may only show one horse per class, but may show different horses throughout the year for year end awards.
1K Limit Non-Pro Rider	*** See Non Pro Class... In addition the rider cannot have won more than \$1K in weekend NCHA monies or equivalent points. There is no earnings limit on the horse.

Non Pro Ranch Horse Division

Non Pro Ranch Class Rules

- This class is open to all non-pro/amateur riders (open riders are not permitted in this class).
- Riders may use two hands on reins only if using an NCHA approved smooth snaffle bit.
- Riders using any approved shanked bit, will be limited to using one hand on the reins. Use of second hand on reins will be penalized according to NCHA rules.
- Romel reins are acceptable in this class.
- Points accumulated will count towards the horse, not the rider.
- Riders are eligible to show multiple horses in this class. For riders showing multiple horses..... Please have help on hand in the event you are up back to back, so you do not hold up the show.
- Please do not abuse the integrity of this class, this class is an entry level class for beginner riders, unfinished cutting horses, reined cow horses, ranch horses and those that do not cut or are learning to cut. Horses that do not fit this criteria will be removed from the class.

Ranch Class Description

- Jackpot ranch class. \$65 entree fee, \$15 goes back into the jackpot.
- Entrees will be open until 12:00 pm the day of the show. Pre entrees are still welcome and recommended.
- 3 head of re-run cattle per cutter.
- Top Eight awards will be given in this class. A year end champion buckle will be awarded in this class unless the club is able to provide a saddle, in which case the champion buckle is replaced with the champion saddle.
- Open to all non-pro/ amateur riders.

Section B: Class Descriptions and Award System - Continued....

B-5 Points awarded for placing in any given class will be based on the number of entrants in the class; Riders with a score of zero will not receive points, but will be counted as an entrant for point keeping towards the rest of the class.

B-6 In the event of a tie, points are divided equally among the horses involved. When there is a tie for an award (**if any**), the co-winners (2) will decide by the flip of a coin or in the case of a 3 or more way tie, for a multiple day circuit award, the highest scoring horse on the last day will win the award.

B-7 All Top Eight Riders must show in at least sixty percent (60%) of the shows to be eligible for Top-Eight year end awards. All riders and or horses must show in at least sixty percent (60%) of their respective classes for the total shows to be eligible for class year-end awards.

B-8 It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to declare all NCHA horse and non-pro rider earnings before showing for the first time in a calendar CCCC show year to the horse show secretary.

B-9 A horse and/or rider has officially graduated from a CCCC class at the end of the show year based on earnings and/or points accumulated prior to the first show of the subsequent show year.

B-10 Riders in the Non Pro Ranch Horse class may rein without penalty.

B-11 Horses may be shown with two hands in the Non Pro Ranch Horse Class, if shown in a ring smooth snaffle or hackamore. Any horses shown in a NCHA Approved bridle, the rider must use one hand on the reins.

B-12 Horse earnings are based on earnings for weekend events. Aged event earnings are not to be counted against the horse.

Section C: Graduation to other classes... all other divisions.

C-1 A horse and/or rider has officially graduated from a CCCC class at the end of the show year based on earnings and/or points accumulated prior to the first show of the subsequent show year.

C-2 Points earned in the CCCC by the horse or rider will be converted to 1 point equals one (\$1) dollar in NCHA earnings and in this rule book are called equivalent earnings. Other club or associations point will be assessed by the board and given an equivalent Earnings amount. AQHA Points are valued at \$100. Per point.

C-3 At the beginning of every calendar show year, the rider/horse owner must tabulate their earnings and equivalent earnings for the prior show year, and show in the classes that correspond to their current earnings. It is the rider/owner's responsibility to keep a record of the points accumulated, or money earned in any association or club. Failure to report the correct amount of points will result in review by the CCCC board, which could result in suspension of CCCC privileges. Points earned in other associations or clubs, which are not NCHA, affiliated, will be reviewed and assessed a dollar amount by the CCCC board of directors.

SECTION D: ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

D-1 Any person found guilty of inhumane treatment or abuse of any horse(s) may be fined fifty dollars (\$50) for the first offense and suspended from the CCCC if found guilty for the second offense. Any accusations of inhumane treatment must be in writing and supported by, at least two individuals. That should include the accusing party and one witness.

D-2 Abuse includes excessive jerking, cueing, whipping, use of lip wire or similar device, or any other act intended to cause trauma or injury to a horse. Any act of abuse, or intent to abuse a horse, in the show arena or on the show grounds which could also potentially endanger the safety of other persons or animals.

D-3 Using a bit in such a way that a horse is caused to bleed from its mouth or face.

D-4 Using any object held in the rider's hand to hit a horse; This includes such acts occurring not only in the show arena but also those occurring anywhere on the show grounds—the warm-up area, practice pen or any other location.

D-5 Any member who willfully causes trouble inside or outside the ranks of the CCCC by excessively complaining, willfully causing disturbances, unsportsmanlike conduct or behavior, or unnecessarily aggravating CCCC members, can be fined up to two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) and/or suspended from the club.

D-6 Any member of the CCCC who threatens, or actually inflicts bodily harm or injury to another person based upon that person's actions, conduct, or decisions while acting in any official capacity for the CCCC or for any CCCC sponsored or approved event can be fined up to two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) and shall be suspended from membership in the CCCC for a period of not less than one (1) year.

D-7 There will be no excessive drinking in public before, during, or after a contest. Any person believed to be intoxicated at a CCCC show may be asked to leave by the show representatives. Nor will the CCCC tolerate excessive profanity in or around the cutting event. Infractions of this rule may result in a fine or disqualification of the rider.

D-8 Any person presenting a check that is returned for insufficient funds, there will be a \$25.00 office charge and that member will not be allowed to show until the check and office charge are redeemed.