

How do I make sure my horse is eligible to compete in a Ranching Heritage Challenge event?

When purchasing your next horse from a Ranching Heritage Breeder, make sure you look for foals, weanlings and older horses that are nominated into the Ranching Heritage Challenge. If you're not sure, ask the ranch or you can call AQHA Customer Service at (806) 376-4811. At any time, as long as the horse was bred by an eligible Ranching Heritage Breeder, you can nominate the horse into the program, so long as ownership and horse requirements are met and you pay any necessary fees. For 2013, you can nominate an eligible horse for a fraction of the cost of what it will cost in future years.

Ranching Heritage Challenge enrollments will begin with the 2011 foal crop and the payment schedule will apply to 2011 and subsequent foal crops. All older Ranching Heritage-bred horses will be eligible to compete in events on an entry-fee basis.

- **Weanling - \$10**
- **Yearling - \$50**
- **2-year-olds - \$100**
- **3-year-olds - \$150**

Starting with 2011 foals, the penalty for missing a payment is double the missed payments, along with the current year's payment.

Young Horse Development Program

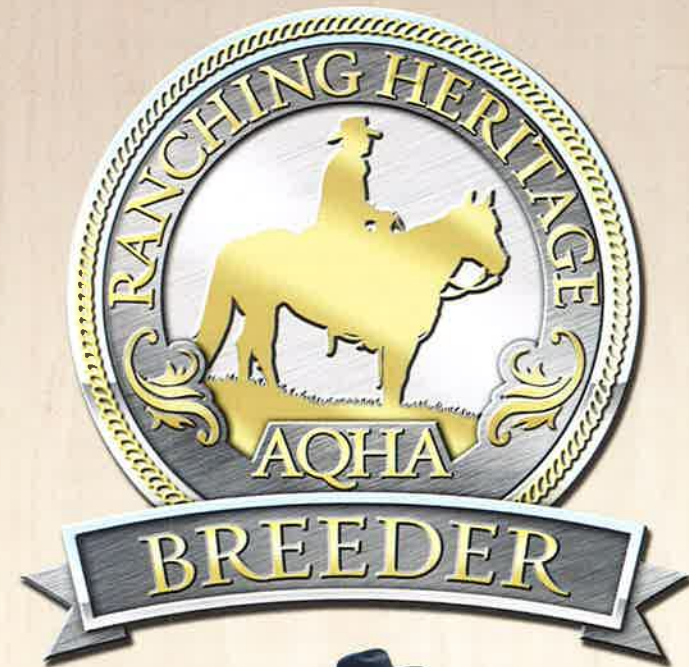
This project showcases the stock being bred and raised by AQHA Ranching Heritage Breeders. Additionally, it provides an opportunity for youth to be engaged in the horse industry at a fundamental level in a fun and educational way.

The program was created to give AQHYA members, between the ages of 12 to 18, an opportunity to participate in hands-on horse training that will teach the fundamentals of horsemanship. The youth have the chance to showcase the skills and knowledge acquired at designated events where they compete to earn scholarships and prizes.

AQHYA members have the chance to receive a free weanling from several generous AQHA Ranching Heritage Breeders. Participating Ranching Heritage Breeders will offer young horses for members to judge, select, purchase, raise and train. The rancher's job is to mentor these young horsemen and teach responsibility and goal-setting, important components of equine ownership.



For more information about the Ranching Heritage Breeders program, call AQHA at (806) 376-4811 or log onto aqha.com/ranchingheritage.



Representing longevity, honesty and integrity in raising quality American Quarter Horses, while upholding the ranching heritage.

What is the Ranching Heritage Breeders Program?

Ranching Heritage Breeders are AQHA member-owned ranches and individuals who represent longevity, honesty and integrity in raising quality American Quarter Horses, while upholding the ranching heritage. Ranching Heritage Breeders must own and breed a minimum of five American Quarter Horse mares used to produce ranch horses and must maintain a remuda of horses used to operate a working cattle operation.

What does it mean to own a Ranching Heritage Bred horse?

The horses that come from Ranching Heritage Breeders uphold the tradition, integrity and heritage of the working cattle ranch. From the earliest days of Western cattle ranches, cowboys needed a horse that could handle the strain and hardships of working cattle each day -- from sorting to branding. The American Quarter Horses raised by Ranching Heritage Breeders uphold the true definition of ranching heritage. When you purchase a horse from a Ranching Heritage Breeder, you become part of that great tradition.

What is the Ranching Heritage Challenge?

The Ranching Heritage Challenge is a competition for horses bred by a Ranching Heritage Breeder. They are a series of added-money, regional events that showcase the abilities of ranch-bred American Quarter Horses to

- Perform a reining pattern
- Hold and turn a cow on the fence in both directions
- Rope a cow
(Amateur and Novice Amateur will have the option to circle instead of rope)

Each competitor will have a maximum of six minutes to complete all of the maneuvers.

In addition, the Ranching Heritage Challenge will feature an Amateur trail trials competition where horse and rider can show their abilities to navigate obstacles that would be encountered on the trail.

What are the qualifications for the Ranching Heritage Challenge?

- Horse must be bred by an eligible Ranching Heritage Breeder
- Horse must be nominated and paid into the Ranching Heritage Challenge

What are the classes in the Ranching Heritage Challenge?

- Open Ranch Horse Class for 4-year-old horses. Anyone can own or ride. The horse must be bred by a Ranching Heritage Breeder.
- Limited Open Ranch Horse Class for 4-year-old horses. This division is for AQHA members with less than \$10,000 lifetime earnings in any of the following: NCHA, NRHA, NRCHA, RHAA, etc. or less than 25 AQHA or American Paint Horse Association Open Points in Reining, Cutting or Working Cow Horse within the previous 10 years.
- Cowboy Class for 4-year-old and older horses. This class is designed for working ranch cowboys and full-time employees of Ranching Heritage Breeders. The rider of the horse must be either an owner, family member or full time employee of the Ranching Heritage Breeder that owns the horse. Employees must be employed for a minimum of 90 days prior to competing in the Challenge.
- Amateur for 5-year-old and older horses. Riders must meet AQHA Amateur eligibility and ownership requirements as described in the AQHA Handbook of Rules and Regulations and possess or purchase an AQHA amateur card.
- Novice Amateur. Novice amateurs must not have won more than 25 points in AQHA or APHA cutting, working cow horse or versatility ranch horse competition or won more than \$500 in National Reined Cow Horse Association, National Cutting Horse Association, National Reining Horse Association, American Cutting Horse Association, Ranch Horse Association of America, American Stock Horse Association or Stock Horse of Texas earnings.
- Amateur Trail Trials for 5-year-old and older horses. To promote the versatility of ranch-raised American Quarter Horses, the Challenge will also feature trail trials for exhibitors who would like to show off their horse's ability on the trail. Amateur rules will apply.

