

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2025	5/5/2025	

## Rule Change Intent

Cow horse classes have been declining; and the goal is to increase the opportunity for riders of multiple skill levels to participate in a variety of VRH Limited Cow Work events. The VRH grouping of classes has become popular in the working western industry as a whole and there is great interest for expansion of this division in the Arabian Breed. It is in the best interest of the Arabian breed and AHA Association to facilitate classes that increase participation and marketability of Arabian and Half Arabian/Anglo-Arabian horses. The Box Drive in Reined Cow Horse class is a component specific of that class and should not be confused with the VRH Box-Drive-Box-Drive class.

AHA Resolution 10-24

Proponent Details	Contact Information
AHA	Ashton Street  astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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## Arabian

**Draft 1:** Recommends Approval 03/10/2025

**Draft 1:** Approved pending official draft two of PRC to include "or roping" to AR275.1's definition of "down the fence".

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

## SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

### AR235 Reined Cow Horse and Herd Work Class Specifications

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3. Boxing/Limited Reined Cow Horse, and Box Drive (**Reined Cow Horse**) classes are for non-pro/amateur exhibitors. Boxing/Limited Reined Cow Horse and Box Drive (**Reined Cow Horse**) classes are for amateur and junior exhibitors who have not shown down the fence for 3 runs in any judged classes or events with the exception of horse sales. Exhibitors who have not shown in any cowhorse class down the fence for 5 years are eligible for the class. Being entered in a class that includes the fence work will be counted as going down the fence regardless if the exhibitor boxed the cow and pulled up before the run was completed. This class is also open to approved Non-Pro Limited riders who comply with all eligibility rules (See NRCHA Non-Pro eligibility rules/Federation Amateur rules). After Non-Pro competitors reach the age of fifty (50), they may fall back into the Non-Pro Boxing/Limited class (Boxing/Limited Reined Cow Horse).

The Non-Pro Boxing/Limited Competitors

- a. May not go down the fence again in any judged class(es) or event(s), with the exception of horse sales.
- b. May return back into the Non-Pro Limited Reined Cow Horse division/class only once.
- c. Versatility Ranch Cow Work Classes affect the eligibility of an exhibitor to compete in the Boxing/Limited Reined Cow Horse classes and vice versa as follows: Exhibitors in the Boxing/Limited Reined Cow VRH Limited amateur and VRH Limited youth Ranch Cow Work may not have shown more than three times down the fence in any Cow Horse class, Reined Cow Horse class or VRH Cow Work class.
- d. A Non-Pro exhibitor may show in both the Reined Cow Horse and Box-Drive (**Reined Cow Horse**) classes or both the Boxing/Limited Reined Cow and Box-Drive classes (**Reined Cow Horse**), but not both the Reined Cow and Boxing Classes.

### AR275 VRH Limited Ranch Cow Work Amateur/Youth (Box-Drive-Box-Drive) General

Note: "Open VRH Limited Ranch Cow Work" classes may be held at the AHA Local and Regional level (not an AHA National Level class). **Open, Amateur (Adult/Youth), Amateur Restricted (Adult/Youth), Jr Horse classes may be offered at Local, Regional, and National level.**

1. Exhibitors in the VRH Limited amateur and VRH Limited youth Ranch Cow Work (**Box - Drive - Box - Drive**) **Amateur (Adult/Youth)** may not have shown more than three times have previously shown down the fence (**meaning: this is a specific class where a rider boxes the cow at the end of the arena, followed by guiding the cow along side the arena fence, making a turn in each direction, and lastly, circling or roping the cow in the middle of the arena**) in any Cow Horse class, Reined Cow Horse class or VRH Cow Work class.
2. Exhibitors in the VRH Limited Amateur and VRH Limited Youth Ranch Cow Work (**Box - Drive - Box - Drive**) **Open and Junior Horse** may have previously shown down the fence in any Cow Horse Class, Reined Cow Horse Class, or VRH Cow Work Class.
3. Exhibitors in the VRH Limited Amateur and VRH Limited Youth Ranch Cow Work (**Box - Drive - Box - Drive**) **Amateur Restricted (Adult/Youth)** cannot have shown more than three (3) times down the fence in any Cow Horse, Reined Cow Horse Class, or VRH Cow Work Class.
4. Exhibitors in any VRH Limited Amateur and VRH Limited Youth Ranch Cow Work (**Box-Drive-Box-Drive**) classes may not cross enter in any (down the fence) Cow Horse class, Reined Cow class at the same show with the same horse. However, exhibitors may cross enter Herd Work and Limited Reined Cow Horse Classes.  
**EXAMPLE: Rider A may show Horse A in "Down the Fence classes", Rider A may not show Horse A in any Box-Drive classes at the same show. However, Rider B may show Horse A in the Box-Drive Classes at the same show.**

AR276 VRH Limited Ranch Cow Work Amateur/Youth (Box-Drive-Box-Drive) Class Specifications

1. ~~Limited Ranch Cow Work~~ Exhibitors are allotted one minute and forty-five seconds to complete the work. When there is 50 seconds left, the announcer will announce, "50 seconds remaining." At one minute and forty-five seconds, the announcer will call for time.

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AR277 VRH Limited Ranch Cow Work Amateur/Youth (Box-Drive-Box-Drive) Scoring

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5. The following penalties will be applied to each occurrence and be deducted from the final score:
  - a. VRH Ranch Limited Cow Work **(Box-Drive-Box-Drive)** Penalties – VRH Ranch Limited Cow Work **(Box-Drive-Box-Drive)** Penalties must follow the current AQHA penalties with the following exceptions:

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