

## **Tarleton State University**

### **Stock Horse Team Membership Requirements 2023-24**

The Tarleton State University Stock Horse Team is comprised of students dedicated to showing their horses in the collegiate divisions with the Stock Horse of Texas (SHTX), American Stock Horse Association (ASHA) and National Reined Cow Horse Association (NRCHA). Shows consist of Ranch Pleasure, Ranch Trail, Ranch Reining, and Working Cow Horse classes in the Novice, Intermediate, Limited Non-Pro, and Non-Pro divisions.

Team members are provided the opportunity to represent Tarleton State University in Ranch and Stock Horse competitions. Members of the team receive tremendous opportunities to improve their horsemanship skills, meet influential people in the equine industry, and learn more about fundamental stock horse techniques along with skills that will ultimately prepare them for their future careers.

#### **Rider Eligibility**

- Undergraduate students must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 hours.
- Graduate students must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 hours.
- Students must be in good academic standing with the university and maintain a minimum of 2.0 cumulative GPA.

#### **Competitive Team Members**

**As a member of the competitive stock horse team you are committing to the team by fulfilling the following:**

- Participate in Team Try-outs
- Secure required sponsorship. Currently \$850/semester
- Attend all Tuesday night team practices.
- Attend all team meetings (~1/month).
- Attend a minimum of 50% of Wednesday or Thursday night practices.
- Attend a minimum of 75% of organized Stock Horse Team activities.
- Commit to representing the Stock Horse Team at all Stock Horse Team Competitions (~3-4/semester).
- Assist with the production of the Stock Horse of Texas show in Hamilton, TX.
- Commit to the helping at the 6666's Return to the Remuda Sale

#### **Member Sponsorship covers:**

- Hotel room
- Stall/Shavings
- Show entries

## Non-Competitive Members

**\*Competitive Team Members will have priority for stalling at the Practice Facility (Ag Annex). After Competitive Team will go by seniority.**

**To be considered for membership as a non-competitive member and be eligible to keep horse at the on-campus practice facility you must participate in Team Try-Outs and commit to fulfilling the following:**

- Attend all Tuesday night team practices.
- Attend all team meetings (~1/month).
- Attend a minimum of 50% of Wednesday or Thursday night practices.
- Attend a minimum of 75% of organized Stock Horse Team activities
- Assist with the production of the Stock Horse of Texas show in Hamilton, TX.
- Commit to attending SHTX World Show (Fall) and NIRSHA Collegiate Championship (Spring) to support the team and learn
- Commit to attending either one or both of the following competitions FWSS Bridles & Brains and NRCHA Collegiate Challenge to support the team and learn (Fort Worth, Spring)

*\*As a non-competitive team member you are eligible to travel with the team if you fulfill all the expectations listed above as well as secure \$150 Sponsorship to cover travel expenses.*

## Schedule 2023-24 School Year

### Fall 2023 Schedule and Show Dates:

August 26	Team Tryouts (TSU Ag Annex Practice Facility)
September 7-11	*SHTX Hamilton, TX
September 28 – October 1	SHTX Bryan, TX
October 6-7	**6666's Return to the Remuda Horse Sale (Guthrie, TX)
October 2	**NRCHA Futurity – Help set-up (Fort Worth, TX)
October 25-29	*SHTX World Show (Abilene, TX)
November ???	**Team Work Day (Team Facility)
November ???	**Erath County 4-H Clinic

### Spring 2024 Schedule and Show Dates: *Dates are tentative*

January 13	Team Tryouts (TSU Ag Annex Practice Facility)
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February 1-3?	*FWSS Bridles & Brains (Fort Worth, TX)
February 10	*NRCHA Celebration of Champions Collegiate Challenge (Fort Worth, TX)
March 1-3	SHTX Bryan, TX
March ???	**Team Work Day (Team Facility)
April 5-7	SHTX Lubbock, TX
April 14-18	*NIRSHA Championship Show (Amarillo, TX)
May 18-19	**4-H Clinic

\*Designates required events for Non-Competitive Members

\*\* Organized Team Activities. Additional activities will present themselves throughout the semesters. Examples would include club fairs/events, outside clinicians to help team, additional networking opportunities.

## **Description of classes included in the competitions:**

### **Stock Horse Pleasure:**

The Stock Horse Pleasure Class measures the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from one ranch task to another. The horse should be well-broke, relaxed, quiet, soft, and cadenced at all gaits. The horse should be ridden on a relatively loose rein with light contact and without requiring undue restraint. The horse should be responsive to the rider and make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner. The horse should be soft in the bridle and yield to contact. The ideal stock horse should have a natural, levelheaded carriage at each gait.

### **Stock Horse Trail:**

The Stock Horse Trail Class, as the name implies, tests the horse's ability to cope with situations encountered in everyday riding. The horse is ridden through a pattern of obstacles which should nearly approximate those found during the course of everyday work. The horse/rider team is judged on the correctness, efficiency, and pattern accuracy with which the obstacles are negotiated and the attitude and mannerisms exhibited by the horse. Judging emphasis is on identifying the well-broke, responsive, well-mannered horse which can correctly navigate and negotiate the course.

### **Stock Horse Reining:**

This Stock Horse Reining Class measures the ability of the stock horse to perform basic handling maneuvers. SHTX has several recognized regular patterns (please see "Patterns" in the SHTX Handbook). Each pattern is a combination of maneuvers and these maneuvers include stops, spins, rollbacks, circles, back up, hesitate, lead changes and run downs.

### **Working Cow Horse:**

The ideal stock horse must also be a cow horse and this Class demonstrates and measures the horse's ability to do cow work. The SHTX working cow classes have varying requirements

depending upon the division:

Open/Non-Pro complete a traditional working cow horse pattern consisting of boxing, taking the cow down the fence and executing at least one turn in each direction, and then circling the cow in each direction. Riders have the option of roping instead of circling the cow.

Limited, Intermediate, Junior and Youth divisions demonstrate their ability to control a cow by boxing on one end, driving the cow to the opposite end and boxing on the opposite end.

Novice and Novice Youth divisions box only.

## Eligibility Rules (NIRSHA, SHTX)

### Academic Eligibility

1. Undergraduates must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 hours of classes and graduate students in a minimum of 9 hours. Graduating students may enroll in fewer hours during the semester of graduation.
2. Students must be in good academic standing with their school, defined as at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA.
3. Students will be limited to 5 years or 8 semesters (whichever comes first) of collegiate eligibility to compete, including both graduate and undergraduate years.
4. Proof of eligibility requirements should be presented as an unofficial transcript or other document from the registrar's office confirming full time student status, including minimum 2.0 GPA at the first NIRSHA show of each semester that the student participates.
5. NIRSHA collegiate members must designate eligibility for divisions. Any college or university student who can furnish proof of meeting the eligibility requirements may compete in a NIRSHA Collegiate show whether their college has a team or not. **If a school has an official or recognized ranch or stock horse team and/or club, only the designated coach(es) and/or club representative(es) may approve and sign the Collegiate team and Collegiate individual entry forms.**

### Division Eligibility

An applicant for membership should accurately mark the divisions – Open/Non-Pro, Limited/Intermediate Non-Pro, and Novice for which they are eligible to compete. Coaches/Representatives must abide by these eligibility requirements when placing collegiate members on a team **whether competing as a Collegiate team member or Collegiate individual**. All collegiate riders must purchase a \$15 individual membership in order to be eligible to show. Memberships will expire August 31st of each academic year.

Riders must verify their division eligibility through the yearly membership form. If a rider wishes to be reviewed for novice eligibility, a membership application must be submitted at least 60 days prior to entry deadline for the competition.

1. Open Division Eligibility: The Open Division is open to any professional or nonprofessional member in good standing with any horse regardless of past winnings.
  
2. Non-Pro Division Eligibility: The Non-Pro Division is open to any nonprofessional member in good standing with any horse regardless of past winnings and subject to the following:
  - i. The rider has not received payment directly or indirectly for riding, training, assisting in training, or showing horse(s) at any time during the past five years. **Students while enrolled in an equine program as part of an educational curriculum are eligible to be a Non-Pro provided the horses they train or accept remuneration for are part of the educational program. Individuals may accept remuneration as part of participation in a collegiate internship program provided they comply with all the requirements of the program. They can retain their Non-Pro status provided they comply with all other Non-Pro eligibility requirements.**
  - ii. The rider has not received payment directly or indirectly for instructing another person or conducting a seminar in riding, training, driving or showing a horse any time during the past five years.
  - iii. The rider has not had any expenses (including lodging, transportation, mileage, etc.) paid by someone other than family members.  
  
**EXCEPTIONS for “ii” and “iii” above:**
    - a. A Non-Pro who otherwise qualifies under these rules may conduct clinics provided the only remuneration they receive is for reasonable expenses. If questions are raised about Non-Pro eligibility, the contestant must be able to document any remuneration.
    - b. Collegiate members who are enrolled in an equine program or as part of an educational curriculum are exempt from items ii) and iii) above.
    - c. Certification as an instructor in equine therapy by Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH) or similar organizations recognized by national equine associations are exempt from ii) and iii) above, provided the instructor ONLY teaches students enrolled with the recognized organization or rehabilitation prescribed by a medical doctor.
  - iv. Premium money won is not considered remuneration.
  - v. A Non-Pro rider may show in the Open Division without losing Non-Pro eligibility as long as requirements for a Non-Pro are still met.
  
3. Limited Non-Pro Division Eligibility: Exhibitors who qualify as Non-Pro riders may choose to show in this division because of class routine or other personal choice. Exhibitors may also show in the Open or Non-Pro divisions without losing their eligibility in the Limited Non-Pro division. Riders in this division will work a modified version of the working cow horse class

that will not involve turns down the fence, or circling or roping. (See LTD Non-Pro class rules for specifics on rules for this division.)

4. Intermediate Division Eligibility and Restrictions: The Intermediate Division is reserved for individuals with moderate riding and showing experience.
  - i. The rider must meet all Non-Pro eligibility requirements listed above. Additionally, **if individuals accept remuneration for horse training as part of participation in a collegiate program or accept remuneration for interning/working for an equine professional loping horses or assisting with other aspects of training while primarily horseback as part of participation in a collegiate program, the individual is not eligible for Intermediate. They can retain their Non-Pro and Limited Non-Pro status provided they comply with all other Non-Pro eligibility requirements listed above.**
  - ii. The rider has not won any combination of 2 champion or reserve champion titles in Intermediate, Limited Non Pro, Non Pro, Open, Youth, Junior Horse at any show or 2 cumulative year-end awards in SHTX, ASHA, **State 4-H All Around titles** or other NIRSHA recognized associations; more than 10 points in any breed association (AQHA, APHA, AQHA VRH All Around, etc.); or \$500 in a national organization (NCHA, NRCHA, NRHA, RHAA, etc.) in any western performance discipline (western pleasure, working cow horse, reining, cutting, trail, etc.)
  - iii. If a member loses Intermediate eligibility through competition, he or she may finish that year as an Intermediate rider. Thereafter, the member is eligible only for Limited Non-Pro, Non-Pro or Open Divisions.
  - iv. Riders in this division will work Limited Non-Pro reining patterns and cow horse patterns. (See Limited Non-Pro Reining and Working Cow Horse class rules for specifics on rules for this division.)
  - v. Stallions are prohibited in this division.
5. Novice Division Eligibility and Restrictions: The Novice Division is reserved for individuals with limited riding and showing experience. Eligibility for the Novice division is as follows:
  - i. The rider must meet all Non-Pro eligibility requirements listed above. **Additionally, if individuals accept remuneration for horse training as part of participation in a collegiate program or accept remuneration for interning/working for an equine professional loping horses or assisting with other aspects of training while primarily horseback as part of participation in a collegiate program, the individual is not eligible for Novice. They can retain their Non-Pro and Limited Non-Pro status provided they comply with all other Non-Pro eligibility requirements listed above.**
  - ii. The rider has not won more than two champion or reserve champion all-around titles at any show or cumulative year- end award in a division with more than 15 entries or

three champion or reserve champion titles with less than 15 entries within SHTX, ASHA, **State 4-H All Around titles** or other NIRSHA recognized associations; more than 5 points in any breed association (AQHA, APHA, AQHA VRH All Around, etc.); or \$250 in a national organization (NCHA, NRCHA, NRHA, RHAA, etc.) in any western performance discipline (western pleasure, working cow horse, reining, cutting, trail, etc.) Novice/Level 1 class points are NOT included.

- iii. A rider has not won two Collegiate champion or reserve champion all-around titles at any show with more than 15 entries or three Collegiate champion reserve champion titles with less than 15 entries the division at SHTX, ASHA, NRCHA or other similar NIRSHA recognized collegiate competition. A rider has also not won any Collegiate Year End or cumulative Collegiate SHTX, ASHA, NRCHA or other similar NIRSHA recognized collegiate competition World Show champion or reserve champion all-around titles.
- iv. If a member loses novice eligibility through competition, he or she may finish that year as a novice rider. Thereafter, the member is eligible only for Limited Non-Pro, Non-Pro or Open Divisions.
- v. Riders in this division will work a Novice Working Cow Horse Pattern (boxing only). The cow horse pattern is a shortened version of cow work that will not involve turns down the fence, circling or roping. (See Novice Working Cow Horse class rules for specifics on rules for this division.)
- vi. Stallions are prohibited in this division.

*\*Division eligibility and restrictions are in accordance with the National Intercollegiate Ranch & Stock Horse Association and Stock Horse of Texas Handbooks. For a complete set of rules and class descriptions please visit the SHTX handbook at [stockhorseoftexas.org](http://stockhorseoftexas.org), or [NIRSHA.org](http://NIRSHA.org)*

# TSU STOCK HORSE TEAM MEMBERSHIP FORM

## RIDER INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Classification: Fr So Jr Sr  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

## HORSE INFORMATION

**Horse #1 Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: MARE GELDING  
Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
Coggins Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Accession #: \_\_\_\_\_ Lab: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Horse #2 Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: MARE GELDING  
Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
Coggins Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Accession #: \_\_\_\_\_ Lab: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* Please attach a current copy of the above horse(s) current negative coggins with this document upon submission to the team.\*\***

## MEMBERSHIP SELECTION

Club Membership (All members must pay) - \$50/semester

Competitive Team Membership - \$850 Sponsorship/semester

Non-Competitive Travel with Team (no horse) - \$150 Sponsorship/Semester

### Competitive

One Semester: \_\_\_\_\_

One Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash/Check

Amount still owed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$\$\$ Accepted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Non-Competitive

One Semester: \_\_\_\_\_

One Year: \_\_\_\_\_

## RIDER EVALUATION

I certify that I have read the division eligibility rules for the NIRSHA and SHTX and am eligible for the division I am entered. I understand if I am not eligible, I forfeit all entry fees and awards:

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

Parent Signature if Minor: \_\_\_\_\_



**For Non-Pro, Limited Non-Pro, Intermediate and Novice riders:** I certify I have not received money or compensation for riding, training or showing horses or given lessons and that I meet all other requirements for my respective division.

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

Parent Signature if Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing below, I hereby acknowledge that I understand the requirements specified above for the Tarleton State University Stock Horse Team and agree to these requirements set for each member of the Tarleton State University Stock Horse Team. The Tarleton State University Stock Horse Team is not responsible for any accidents at team sanctioned practices or events

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