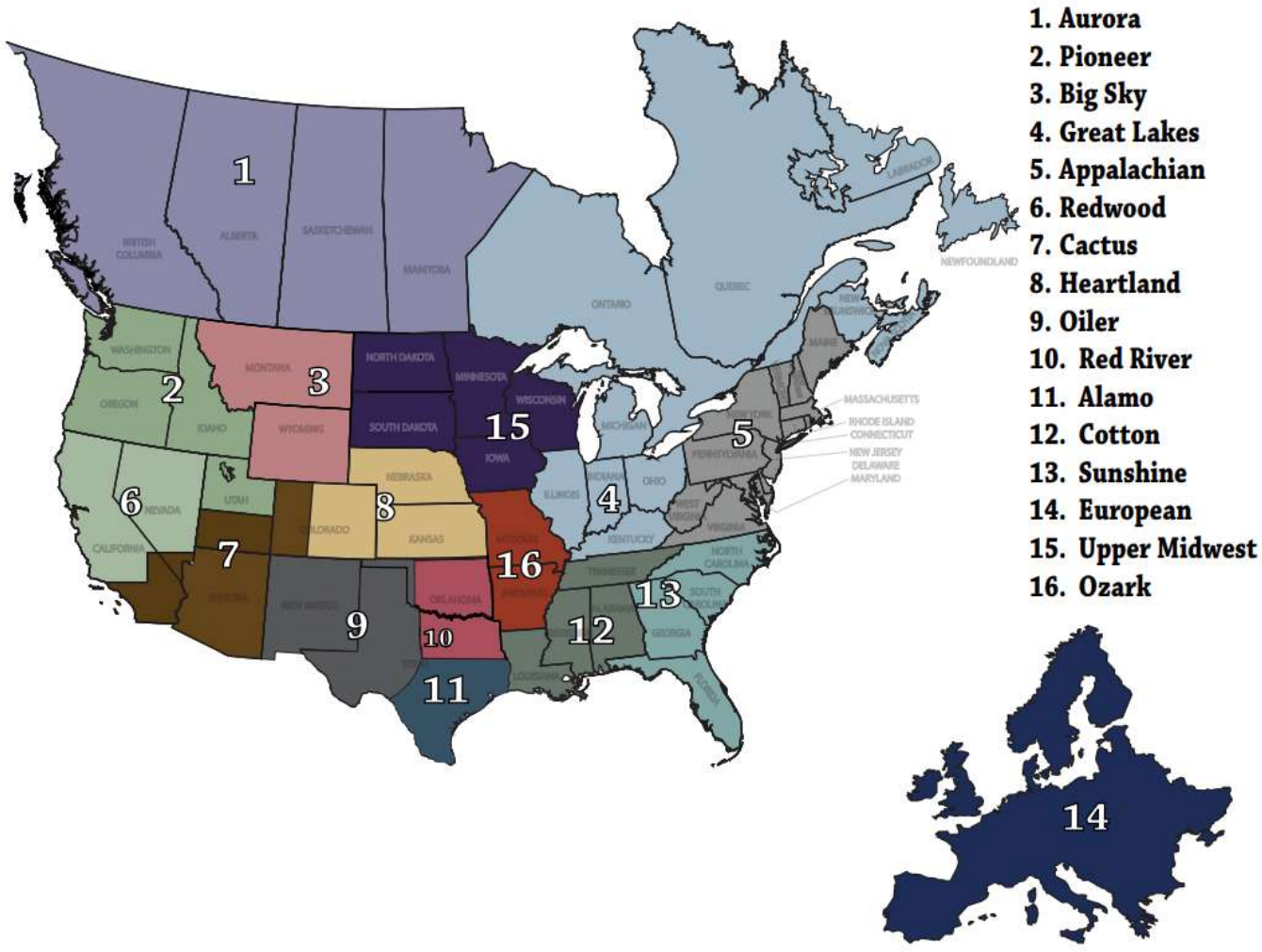
NCHA DAYS POLICIES & PROCEDURES

2027 POINT YEAR

NCHA Days is an event inside the International Circuit Program that celebrates the weekend cutter. During the month of May, each of NCHA's sixteen (16) circuits may hold one exclusive event that is the only NCHA-approved event within the circuit. NCHA Days is a historic and prestigious event utilizing a fresh, circuit-centric approach. Each NCHA Days event is hosted by a local NCHA affiliate or show producer chosen by the NCHA directors inside each circuit.

Cutters competing at their appropriate circuit's NCHA Days event may earn double points, awards, including custom buckles by Gist Silversmiths (in select classes) and NCHA-sponsored added money. Competing at your circuit's NCHA Days is an important component when calculating local circuit championship qualification, international circuit championship qualification and circuit year-end standings.



1. Event Overview
    a. Each circuit selects one weekend during the Month of May. NCHA Days may not be held on dates outside of **May 1, 2027,** to **May 31, 2027,** for any reason.
    b. NCHA Days must be hosted by a current NCHA affiliate or show producer.
    c. NCHA Days will be at least one (1) but no more than two (2) NCHA championship show(s) consisting of a full slate of all 13 NCHA-approved classes.
    d. NCHA Days may not be held with NCHA challenger shows.
2. Host Selection Process
    a. The NCHA directors living inside of each circuit may be responsible for selecting the host and dates of their respective local circuit championships. NCHA has the final approval of the selected host and dates.
    b. Cancellation / Postponement - If a selected host must cancel their NCHA Days event due to an extreme, unforeseen circumstance, the host must immediately notify the NCHA office.
        i. In the event of cancellation more than 40 days prior to the close of entries, NCHA will give all in-circuit affiliates and show producers the opportunity to host the event. Selection of a new host will be done in the same method as the original selection.
            1. Under no circumstances will the event be approved to conclude after **May 31, 2027.**
        ii. In all instances, the NCHA office will have final approval of any change of event dates and host selection.
3. Host Rules
    a. Show Structure
        i. No other NCHA-approved event may be held inside the circuit on the specified circuit's selected dates.
        ii. NCHA Days must be at least one (1) but no more than two (2) NCHA championship show(s) consisting of all 13 NCHA-approved classes.

iii. The selected host may offer more than two NCHA-approved championship shows, but no more than two can be designated part of the NCHA Days event.

iv. If two shows are designated for an NCHA Days event, those shows should be held on Saturday and Sunday. When necessary, due to increased entries, two shows may be held over three days.

v. Senior World Tour and Novice Youth shows are encouraged.

vi. Small Limited Age Event show(s) may be held in conjunction with NCHA Days provided the scheduling of the classes follows the scheduling options below for the number of days being used for NCHA Days classes:

1. Two-day NCHA Days Schedule (Saturday / Sunday)

    i. LAE shows scheduled, held and completed on days prior to the start of NCHA Days classes. Example, full LAE on Thursday and/or full LAE on Friday. NCHA Days on Saturday and Sunday.

    ii. ONE LAE show may be held on Saturday and/or Sunday AFTER NCHA Days classes conclude. All show days must begin with championship classes and each day must complete the full slate of approved classes prior to the start of the LAE. Championship classes may not be split across days.

2. Three-day NCHA Days Schedule (Friday / Saturday / Sunday)

    i. LAE shows scheduled, held and completed on days prior to the start of NCHA Days championship classes. Example, full LAE on Wednesday and/or full LAE on Thursday.

    ii. LAE show may be held BEFORE Friday's NCHA Days classes but once the designated championship show classes begin on Friday, no additional LAE classes are permitted for the rest of the NCHA day event.

    iii. LAE classes may NOT be held on Saturday or Sunday.

3. Shows that run two pens during the designated championship show(s) will be treated like a three-day show.

b. Circuit Points in NCHA Days Designated Championship Show(s)

i. Non-Youth Classes

1. Horses and/or riders competing in their automatically assigned or designated circuit will receive double circuit program points.
2. Out-of-circuit horses and/or riders receive zero circuit points.
3. See International Circuit Program rules for additional information on how circuit points are awarded.

ii. Youth Classes

1. No double points will be awarded.
2. Youth points earned at NCHA Days will count towards the NYCHA World Finals standings.

c. Media / Marketing

i. Banners and/or artwork provided by NCHA must be displayed in the competition arena(s) and prominent areas when necessary.

ii. Scripts provided by NCHA must be read consistently by announcer.

iii. Social Media – Hosts and attendees are encouraged to tag #NCHADays as much as possible on all Social Media posts both before during and after the event.

iv. All digital photos of NCHA Days must be submitted to the NCHA communications department following the event. Additional marketing materials may be needed by NCHA to promote each circuit's NCHA Days event.

d. Added Money

i. NCHA-Sponsored Subsidy

1. NCHA may provide a maximum $4,000 subsidy to selected host to be used as added money only.
2. The NCHA-sponsored subsidy may only be used in the added-money classes in the championship show(s) designated as NCHA Days.
3. NCHA reserves the right to award the added-money subsidy at its sole discretion. If a host violates the current NCHA Day policies and procedures and/or NCHA rule book, the NCHA-sponsored subsidy may be in jeopardy.

ii. Added money may not exceed $750 for any one class in any designated championship show during NCHA Days.

e. Awards

i. Awards – NCHA will provide Gist custom buckles for champion and reserve champion to be awarded in the non-added money classes:

1. $50,000 Non-Pro, $25,000 Amateur, $4,000 Limit Rider, Senior Youth and Junior Youth.
2. If the Youth Senior and Youth Junior are combined, the host should still award the Youth Senior buckles and Youth Junior buckles accordingly.
3. No additional awards are available for ties. All ties must be broken at the event. (see below)
4. NCHA-sponsored Gist custom buckles must be awarded at the event.

ii. Award Calculation

1. All awards will be given based on total score from the two (or one) NCHA Days designated championship show(s). Only in-circuit riders/horses are eligible for NCHA Days awards.

i. If one (1) designated show – Total score is the score from the one class.

ii. If two (2) designated shows – Total score is determined by adding the scores from the two NCHA-Days designated shows together.

2. Exhibitors/Horses must walk to the herd and receive a minimum score of 60 in their respective class (both days when 2 shows) to receive awards. Zero scores do not count.

3. In rider classes, exhibitors do not need to show the same horse both days to be eligible for awards. In horse classes, horses need not be exhibited by the same rider both days to be eligible for awards.

iii. Ties – if there are ties for champion or reserve champion in the non-added money classes for the NCHA-sponsored buckles, they must be broken during the event using pre-established methodology. A tie-breaking methodology must be submitted to the NCHA office, published in show information and communicated

to all participants prior to the show. Event hosts must select from the following options:

1. NCHA developed methodology
    i. Total money won in the class for the event's designated NCHA Days show(s).
    ii. Circuit points earned for the event's NCHA Days designated show(s).
    iii. For events with two shows, the score from the first day.
    iv. For events with two shows and more than one judge
        i. A designated tie breaker judge's combined score.
        ii. Designated tie break judge's score from the first day.
    v. If still tied, a coin toss between the tied riders. If there are 3 or more riders tied for a buckle, riders will flip in pairs based on alpha last name pairing with the flip winner advancing until there is a winner.
        i. *If the tie is for champion, the tie breaker winner receives the champion buckle, the next rider in the tie based on tie breaker rules receives the reserve champion buckle. If there are more than two riders tied for champion, additional tied riders will break a tie for the reserve champion buckle.
        ii. *If the tie is for reserve champion, the tie breaker winner receives the reserve champion buckle and the remaining rider(s) in the tie do not receive a buckle.