



NORTHERN INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION
(406) 256-2495 ♦ FAX (406) 256-2494 ♦ www.thenile.org ♦ P.O. BOX 1981 ♦ BILLINGS, MT 59103

2008 NILE RANCH HORSE CHALLENGE

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Finals for South Central Montana Ranch Horse Competition

Ranch Horse Competition has become a very popular event in recent years. It gives good cowboys the opportunity to bring their great horses to town and show them against other ranch horses in various classes to demonstrate how well they are trained and how they can do everyday ranch work. This year's Ranch Horse Challenge will be open to the world, but will also be the year-end finals for exhibitors who have shown at other ranch horse events during the 2008 show season (1/1/08 to 10/14/08). Points will be accumulated at other events plus a horse's placing at NILE will determine the year-end champions. Special awards will be awarded to year-end champions in all classes. The NILE will offer 3 areas that are essential to the work of a good ranch horse. There will be a dry work or reining section that will demonstrate the willingness of the horse to be guided, showing various speeds and maneuvers. The horse will then have to demonstrate its "cowiness" or its ability to hold and turn a cow, controlling her every move. Finally the horse and rider will rope the cow. The horse will be judged on its ability to track and rate the cow over the head, stop and hold the animal.

When: Monday, October 13, 2008 and Tuesday, October 14, 2008. 9:00 am at the Super Barn (contestant meeting at 8:30) both days.

Entry Deadline: Entries due by October 1, 2008. Entries after October 1 until show time at 1 ½ times the entry fee. Mail to: NILE, P.O. Box 1981, Billings, MT 59103 – All fees (Entry Fee, Judge's Fee and Cattle Fee) must be included with the entry form. Complete entries will have a completed and signed entry form, copy of registration papers (if applicable) and check or money order made out to NILE. NO phone entries accepted.

General Information: NILE phone number is (406) 256-2495 and the fax number is (406) 256-2494. The website is www.thenile.org. Stalls will be available at \$20 each and they do not include bedding. Please call the NILE to reserve a stall. Contact person is Heather Pfancook (406) 256-2495, heather@thenile.org.

JUDGE: To Be Announced

Classes Offered: Ladies, Youth and \$500 limited (classes will run on Monday) Junior Horse, Bridle Horse and the Ranch Horse Challenge (classes will run on Tuesday). Please see the rules for the ranch horse challenge.

Reined Work Portion

The horse will be judged on its ability to perform six basic sets of maneuvers: circles, lead changes, stopping, back, turn-arounds (spins) and rollbacks. A pattern, which allows all of these elements to be performed, will be posted prior to the beginning of the show.

Cow Work Portion

Once the reining portion is completed, the rider will then signal for a cow. When the cow is turned out, the rider must box the cow at the end of the arena. Then the rider will allow the cow to run down the fence, turning the cow in both directions.

Roping Portion

Once the turns have been made, the rider will rope the cow. Judging will consist of three different segments: 1. Speed 2. Rate and tracking 3. Dallying and stop. The rider is allowed two (2) throws and there is no dragging. After stopping the cow, the rider must return the cow to the stripping chute or pen as part of the score. Do not let your rope drag. Handle it and show that you are a cowboy/cowgirl.

Ladies Ladies can show one-or two-handed in any legal bit. However, if ladies show in a shank bit, they must show one-handed. If a lady rides with a snaffle or a bosal, she must ride two-handed. Any age horse is allowed to be shown in a snaffle (without shanks) or a bosal. Roping is NOT required or allowed.

Youth is open to anyone who is 18 and under by the show date. Youth can show one or two-handed in any legal bit. However, if a youth shows in a shank bit, he/she must show one-handed. If a youth rides with a snaffle or a bosal, he/she must ride two-handed. Any age horse is allowed to be shown in a snaffle (without shanks) or a bosal. Roping is NOT required or allowed.

500 Limited is open to any Non-Pro or Amateur who has not won more than \$500 in reining, cutting or reined cowhorse events. Rider also may not have won more than 2 points in AQHA shows (or any other breed association) in Ranch Horse Versatility, Reining, Cutting or Working Cowhorse. Rider may show one or two-handed in any legal bit. However, if the rider shows in a shank bit, he/she must show one-handed. If a rider shows with a snaffle or a bosal, he/she must ride two-handed. Any age horse is allowed to be shown in a snaffle (without shanks) or a bosal. Roping is NOT required or allowed.

Junior Horse (\$250 added money) is open to 3–5 year old horses. The horse must be shown in a snaffle bit or hackamore. The Junior Horse will be ridden with two hands. When roping and opening/closing gates, a rider is allowed to put the reins in one hand. If the horse is not registered and there is any question to age, a vet chosen by the NILE horse committee will be asked to mouth the horse.

Bridle Horse (\$250 added money) is open to any horse shown in a shank bit. A curb, half breed or spade is permissible. Reins will be held in one hand and cannot be changed during the performance except to rope or to open/close a gate.

NILE RANCH HORSE CHALLENGE

The top 3 horses from the JUNIOR HORSE and the top 3 horses from the BRIDLE HORSE will have a chance to compete in the NILE RANCH HORSE CHALLENGE! The challenge will consist of four events: **1. Working Ranch Horse Reining 2. Cow Working 3. Roping and 4. Ranch Cutting.** There is an additional entry fee of \$40 each and the entire \$240 will be jackpotted to the 1st - 3rd place horse (50-30-20 split). **\$500 IS BEING ADDED BY THE NILE TO THE CHALLENGE for a total of \$740, which will be split among the top 3 horses!!!**

Working Ranch Reining

Each contestant will have six minutes to perform the pattern. Each horse will be led into the arena saddled. After entering the arena, the exhibitor must remove the bit completely from the horse's mouth and re-bridle. Rider must pick up an off-side foot (front or hind). Rider must then mount the horse and begin performing the pattern. The pattern work must include speed definition in circles, a change of leads in each direction, 4 spins each direction, a rollback each direction, a good working trot and walk, and a stop and back. The pattern will be posted before the Ranch Horse Challenge.

Cow Working and Roping

This portion has a 5-minute time limit. Keep in mind that your score will depend on your ability to read a cow and work it to its ability. Do not run a cow down to where you have nothing to work with. Upon entering the arena, the exhibitor must call for his/her cow to be turned into the arena. After receiving the cow, the contestant shall hold the cow at the prescribed end of the arena for a sufficient amount of time to demonstrate the ability of the horse to contain the cow. When holding ability is proven, the contestant shall take the cow down the fence, making at least one turn each way on the fence. Circling the cow in the middle of the arena is a plus but not required. The contestant must then rope the cow around the neck and bring it to stop. The rider is allowed two throws and there is no dragging. Again the rider is scored on his/her ability to help return the cow to the stripping chute or pen.

Ranch Herd Work

The contestant will approach the herd with no hesitation, weaving or reluctance on the part of the horse. The rider will enter the herd deep enough to show his/her ability to make a cut. The horse shall work quietly, but alertly, causing very little disturbance to the herd or the animal brought out. Credit will be given for driving cattle, clearing the herd by a sufficient distance and setting up a cow while holding it in a working position as near the center of the arena as possible. The degree of difficulty, eye appeal and the amount of courage in staying on a tough cow will be taken into consideration. A single numbered cow is cut from the herd and the horse must demonstrate its ability to work the cow. When satisfied that the horse has proven its cutting ability, the horse and rider must then pen the cow at the far end of the arena. Contestants will have 4 minutes to cut and pen the designated cow from the herd. Horses will be penalized for reining during the cutting portion and should display the horse's natural cow ability. There will be two turn back people for this event. You can ask whoever you choose to turn back for you. There are no herd helpers in this competition.

Some of the above-mentioned events are subject to change at the judge's discretion.

Fees are as follows:

Entry Fees

Ladies \$70 per horse

Youth \$70 per horse

500 Limited \$70 per horse

Junior Horse \$90 per horse

Bridle Horse \$90 per horse

Ranch Horse Challenge is an additional \$40 for the top 6 returning horses with the entire portion jackpotted back.

Office/Judge's Fee

\$25 per horse

Cattle Fee

\$45 per horse

ENTRY FORM

USE ONE ENTRY FORM PER HORSE (MAKE COPIES)

ENTRY FEE/OFFICE FEE/CATTLE FEE ENCLOSED ____\$140 OR ____\$160. NO INCOMPLETE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED - NO PHONE ENTRIES. ENTRIES DUE OCTOBER 1, 2008 AT THE NILE OFFICE.

CLASS (ES) ENTERED _____

OWNER'S NAME _____ Phone _____

ADDRESS _____ Cell _____

RIDER'S NAME _____ Phone _____

ADDRESS _____ Cell _____

HORSE: _____ BREED _____ YR FOALED _____

SEX: G ___ M ___ S ___ REGISTRATION # (IF APPLICABLE) _____

SIRE: _____ DAM: _____

STALLS \$20 PER NIGHT (Bedding is not furnished but may be purchased at the show)

of stalls needed _____ # OF NIGHTS _____

RELEASE AND WAIVER

I/We, the undersigned, hereby release the NILE, Metra Park, Yellowstone County, Ward Fenton and any other NILE horse committee member, their officers, employees, members, agents or any person helping put on this competition from all claims, demands, action or cause of action, of any kind or nature whatsoever whether now known or ascertained, or which may hereafter develop or accrue me in favor of ourselves, our heirs, representatives, or dependents, on account of, or by reason of, any injury, loss or damage which may be suffered by me or them or any of them to any property, animate or inanimate belonging to me or used by me, because of any matter, thinking or condition of negligence of default whatsoever. I hereby assume and accept the full risk of danger of any hurt, injury or damage which may occur through or by any reason or condition of negligence or any default of any person whatsoever.

Rider's Signature _____ Date _____

Owner's Signature _____ Date _____

Entries close October 1, 2008 and must be mailed to the NILE, P.O. Box 1981, Billings, MT 59103

General Show Rules

- It is mandatory to wear your number at all times when competing. Each horse entered will be assigned a separate number. Failure to exhibit the proper number for the entry being shown may result in disqualification.
- An owner may enter more than one horse and/or rider may ride more than one horse. A horse may be entered in more than one division.
- Any show rule that is not covered in the printed material provided to exhibitors, or the interpretation of the printed rules will be decided by the NILE Horse Events Committee, Ward Fenton, Chairman.