



## **EQUITANA 2024 CRITERIA**

### **QUALIFYING EVENTS**

1. All committees wishing to run a qualifier are to have applied to the ABHA by the close of business on 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2023.
2. The ABHA Board of Directors will then select committees to run qualifying events.
3. Selection will be taken with consideration to
  - a. Arena surface
  - b. Location of other qualifiers
  - c. Location to Melbourne (and the probability of competitors attending Equitana)
4. All qualifiers must be held before the 13<sup>th</sup> of September 2024.
5. Ground must be raked (with a tractor) after every 5 competitors during a qualifier.
6. Qualifying events may hold exhibitions, however there will be no opportunity to ride in the arena prior to competition at Equitana.
7. Competitors are permitted to roll over their Equitana qualifier time to their divisional barrel race provided they selected 1 run option in the divisional barrel race if applicable.

### **COMPETITORS – SELECTION PROCESS**

1. Qualification is based on the rider.
2. Riders can only run one horse at a qualifier, but they may attend more than one qualifier. Once a rider has qualified, they are not permitted to enter any other qualifier event.
3. Once a horse has qualified a rider it is ineligible to be ridden at further qualifiers.
4. Reserves – if a withdrawal notice has been received, the reserve rider with the next highest run from that qualifier that the withdrawal was received from will be offered the position. E.g.: if competitor Jane Doe who qualified at CWBHC (who had been allocated 3 qualifying spots) withdraws, the rider who qualified 4<sup>th</sup> at that qualifier will be offered the spot.

### **Equitana Dates**

1. Equitana 2024 will be run over 2 rounds:  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024 12pm-1:30pm  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2024 5pm-6:30pm (dates subject to change)
2. Competitors are required to commit to competing in both rounds.

## **Entry Fees**

1. Affiliate qualifier event entry fee is set at \$50 with \$35 add-back.
2. Equitana entry fee is set at \$120 gst inclusive.

## **COMPETITORS – ENTRY PROCESS**

1. All competitors who qualify are required to pay a \$50 entry fee deposit within 2 weeks of the qualifier event they qualified at. Failure to pay the deposit will result in the forfeit of their entry and the spot will be offered to the reserve rider.
2. This deposit is nonrefundable unless a vet or doctor certificate is supplied.
3. Balance of entry fee to be paid by 13th October 2024.
4. Stabling requirements must be booked & paid when balance of entry fee is payable.
5. Stables are \$50pn + \$10 Equitana Admin Fee.

## **COMPETITORS – WITHDRAWAL**

6. If a competitor, prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2024, is unable to attend the event, they must inform the secretary of the ABHA ASAP
7. Their place shall then be offered to the first reserve from their qualifying event. This person shall have 24 hours to decide if they wish to accept.
8. There will be no refund of entry fees after the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 without a vet or medical certificate
9. If any competitor withdraws after the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 to attend another event (e.g. rodeo or clinic) they shall be ineligible to enter the Equitana Barrel Race for the next two years.

## **GROUND RULES**

1. All competitors are to follow directions set by Equitana Officials and ABHA Board Directors.
2. The top six competitors are to present themselves for trophy presentations at the end of the event and also to return to the ABHA booth to perform a “meet and greet.”
3. Only horses and riders that are warming up to compete are permitted in the warm-up arena.
4. All competitors are to remain in the warm up area until you are called up into the competition marshalling area.
5. Only the next 5 horses and riders waiting to compete are permitted in the competition marshalling area, once you have completed your run, please leave the marshalling area.
6. All other ABHA rules apply.