

## 2023 Cotton Stakes Cutting Classic

### RULES & REGULATIONS

Futurity classes open to all 3 year old horses

**FUTURITY OPEN:** A contestant may ride unlimited horses in the Open division. There will be three rider levels within the Open Division. The levels are based upon the rider's Total Lifetime Earnings as of January 1, 2023 as reported by the NCHA.

The rider levels are as follows:

OPEN - \$750,000 or more

INTERMEDIATE OPEN - \$200,001 - \$749,999

LIMITED OPEN - Total LTEs of \$0 - \$200,000.

Total added money for the Futurity Open Classes is \$31,000 and is allocated as follows: \$20,000 to Open, \$9,000 to Intermediate Open and \$2,000 to Limited Open. A Rider may enter any level or levels in which he is eligible for, but going to the herd only twice.

The Futurity Open will have two go rounds and a final. 60% will go to 2nd go- round and 25% will go to the finals.

**FUTURITY NON PRO:** A Non Pro may ride unlimited horses in the Non Pro division. There will be three rider levels within the Non Pro Division. The levels are based upon the rider's Total Lifetime Earnings as of January 1, 2023 as reported by the NCHA.

The rider levels are as follows:

NON PRO - Total LTEs of \$500,000 or more

INTERMEDIATE NON PRO - Total LTEs of \$100,001 to \$499,999.

LIMITED NON PRO - Total LTEs of \$0 - \$100,000.

Total added money for the Futurity Non Pro Classes is \$12,000 and is allocated as follows: \$6,000 to Open, \$4,000 to Intermediate Open and \$2,000 to Limited Open. A Rider may enter any level or levels in which he is eligible for, but going to the herd only twice.

The Non Pro Division will have two go rounds with a combined score non-working finals.

### **Derby classes open to all 4 year old horses**

**DERBY OPEN:** A contestant may ride unlimited horses in the Open division. There will be three rider levels within the Open Division. The levels are based upon the rider's Total Lifetime Earnings as of January 1, 2023 as reported by the NCHA.

The rider levels are as follows:

OPEN - Total LTEs of \$750,000 or more

INTERMEDIATE OPEN - Total LTEs of \$200,001 to \$749,999.

LIMITED OPEN - Total LTEs of \$0 - \$200,000.

Total added money for the Derby Open Classes is \$27,000 and is allocated as follows: \$17,000 to Open, \$8,000 to Intermediate Open and \$2,000 to Limited Open. A Rider may enter any level or levels in which he is eligible for, but go to the herd only twice.

The Derby Open will have one go round and a final. 25% will go to the finals.

**DERBY NON PRO:** A Non Pro may ride unlimited horses in the Non Pro division. There will be three rider levels within the Non Pro Division. The levels are based upon the rider's Total Lifetime Earnings as of January 1, 2023 as reported by the NCHA.

The rider levels are as follows:

NON PRO - Total LTEs of \$500,000 or more

INTERMEDIATE NON PRO - Total LTEs of \$100,001 to \$499,999.

LIMITED NON PRO - Total LTEs of \$0 - \$100,000.

Total added money for the Derby Non Pro Classes is \$17,000 and is allocated as follows: \$10,000 to Non Pro, \$5,000 to Intermediate Non Pro and \$2,000 to Limited Non Pro. A Rider may enter any

level or levels in which he is eligible for, but only ride to the herd twice.

The Derby Non Pro Classes will have one go round and a final. 25% will go to the finals.

**DERBY AMATEUR:** An Amateur may ride unlimited horses in the Amateur division. There will be three rider levels within the Amateur Division. The levels are based upon the rider's Total Lifetime Earnings as of January 1, 2023 as reported by the NCHA.

The rider levels are as follows:

AMATEUR - Total LTEs of \$100,000 or more

INTERMEDIATE AMATEUR - Total LTEs of \$25,001 to \$99,999.

LIMITED AMATEUR - Total LTEs of \$0 - \$25,000.

Total added money for the Derby Amateur Classes is \$9,500 and is allocated as follows: \$5,000 to Amateur, \$3,500 to Intermediate Amateur and \$1,000 to Limited Amateur. A Rider may enter any level or levels in which he is eligible for, but only go to the herd twice.

The Derby Amateur Classes will have one go round and a final. 25% will go to the finals.

### **Classic classes open to all 5 and 6 year old horses**

**CLASSIC OPEN:** A contestant may ride unlimited horses in the Open division. There will be three rider levels within the Open Division. The levels are based upon the rider's Total Lifetime Earnings as of January 1, 2023 as reported by the NCHA.

The rider levels are as follows:

OPEN - Total LTEs of \$750,000 or more

INTERMEDIATE OPEN - Total LTEs of \$200,001 to \$749,999.

LIMITED OPEN - Total LTEs of \$0 - \$200,000.

Total added money for the Classic Open Classes is \$27,000 and is allocated as follows: \$17,000 to Open, \$8,000 to Intermediate Open and \$2,000 to Limited Open. A Rider may enter any level or levels in which he is eligible for, but only go to the herd twice.

The Classic Open will have one go round and a final. 25% will go to the finals.

**CLASSIC NON PRO:** A Non Pro may ride unlimited horses in the Non Pro division. There will be three rider levels within the Non Pro Division. The levels are based upon the rider's Total Lifetime Earnings as of January 1, 2023 as reported by the NCHA.

The rider levels are as follows:

NON PRO - Total LTEs of \$500,000 or more

INTERMEDIATE NON PRO - Total LTEs of \$100,001 to \$499,999.

LIMITED NON PRO - Total LTEs of \$0 - \$100,000.

Total added money for the Classic Non Pro Classes is \$17,000 and is allocated as follows: \$10,000 to Non Pro, \$5,000 to Intermediate Non Pro and \$2,000 to Limited Non Pro. A Rider may enter any level or levels in which he is eligible for, but only go to the herd twice.

The Classic Non Pro Classes will have one go round and a final. 25% will go to the finals.

**CLASSIC AMATEUR:** An Amateur may ride unlimited horses in the Amateur division. There will be three rider levels within the Amateur Division. The levels are based upon the rider's Total Lifetime Earnings as of January 1, 2023 as reported by the NCHA.

The rider levels are as follows:

AMATEUR - Total LTEs of \$100,000 or more

INTERMEDIATE AMATEUR - Total LTEs of \$25,001 to \$99,999.

LIMITED AMATEUR - Total LTEs of \$0 - \$25,000.

Total added money for the Classic Amateur Classes is \$9,500 and is allocated as follows: \$5,000 to Amateur, \$3,500 to Intermediate Amateur and \$1,000 to Limited Amateur. A Rider may enter any level or levels in which he is eligible for, but only go to the herd twice.

The Classic Amateur Classes will have one go round and a final. 25% will go to the finals.

There must be at least 20 entries in each class (Open, NP and AMA) or division to have a working finals.

Bonus money may be added to the payout, at the discretion of show management, to increase payouts in any one or all classes.

### **RIDER ELIGIBILITY:**

A rider can compete in whatever division he/she qualifies in as determined by the definitions of an Open, Non-Pro and Amateur rider in the NCHA Rule Book.

The levels within each division are based upon the Rider's Total Lifetime Earnings at the beginning of the NCHA point year. There is NO distinction between Limited Aged Event earnings and Weekend earnings. ALL earnings (i.e. senior, area work-offs, etc.) are now included in a rider's Total Lifetime Earnings.

Revolving Door: If a rider is NOT in the Top 100 money earning riders for the previous point year in ANY division, they may drop back into the Intermediate.

Hall of Fame Riders: Open & Non Pro Hall of Fame riders can NOT drop down into the intermediate level regardless of age or earnings.

Senior Exception: Once a rider turns 60, the rider can drop down into the Intermediate class regardless of earnings.

Earnings Cap: Once an Amateur has won \$250,000 or more in Total Non-Pro LAE and Non Pro Championship Weekend money, they MUST make a choice: to remain an Amateur and compete exclusively in the Amateur Division or to compete in the Non-Pro Division. Once a Non-Pro has won \$250,000 or more in Total Open LAE and Open Championship Weekend Open money, they MUST make a choice: to remain a Non-Pro and compete exclusively in the Non-Pro Division or to compete in the Open Division.

### **ADVANCEMENT FEE:**

There will be a \$175 advancement fee deducted for each horse advancing to the finals of the 3 year old Open and Non Pro, 4 year old Open and Non Pro and 5/6 year old Open and Non Pro divisions. There will be \$175 advancement fee deducted for each horse advancing to the finals in the 4 year old and 5/6 year old Amateur divisions.

### **GELDING DIVISION:**

There will be a Gelding division in the Futurity, Derby and Classic Classes. Entry fee will be \$400. \$350 entry fee, \$50 office charge. Monies will be paid out to the highest advancing horses.

### **SENIOR DIVISION: 60 and over**

There will be a Senior division (class within a class) in the Futurity, Derby and Classic Classes for the Non Pro and Amateur. The entry fee is \$400. \$350 entry fee, \$50 office charge. Monies paid out to highest advancing horses.

### **AMATEUR WITHIN THE NON PRO**

There will be an Amateur division offered within the Non Pro (class within a class) in the Derby and Classic classes. There will be \$2500 added in the top level only. The Intermediate and Limited will be jackpot only. The top level Amateur within the Non Pro will be \$400 EF, \$100 OC. For

the Intermediate and LTD it will be \$350 EF, \$50 OC. Monies will be paid out to highest advancing.

**STALLS:**

Stall fee is \$175. Stall fee is due with final payment.

**ENTRY FORMS:**

Entry forms must be filled out and completed with owner's Social Security number; the entrant must sign the entry form. Entries will CLOSE ON 8/31/2023.

**JUDGES:**

The five judge adjusted monitoring system will be used.