

Cutting Horse Competition

Cutting Horse Competition — The cutting horse has always been and will continue to be a ranch necessity with the objective being to separate a particular cow from the herd. In competition the objective is the same except for the rider and horse are being judged on the agility and athleticism of the horse and how well they demonstrate their ability to control the cow, maintaining proper position with the cow, and keeping it from getting back to the herd. Once the cow is cut from the herd the reins are no longer used and the horse is guided only from the rider's leg pressure. Horses move from side to side, swinging both front feet from the left side to the right side, never moving their hind legs at times.



Horse Show Competition

Horse Show Competition — Probably the most common competitive riding activity because there is something for every rider, from beginner to the advanced. Horse Shows have a variety of classes such as Western which can include pleasure, horsemanship, trail, reining, cutting, working cowhorse, versatility, and various speed events. English classes can include hunter, equitation, jumping, pleasure driving, and dressage to name a few. Also there are halter and equestrians with disabilities classes. The rider usually has a predetermined pattern of maneuvers with emphasis placed on ability to ride with quality and precise control of the horse. The horse is usually evaluated on his conformation, balance, structural correctness, and degree of muscling. The horse should be guided with little or no resistance.

