

# **RULES & REGULATIONS**

**Extreme Mustang Makeover  
Colorado State University – Fort Collins, CO  
June 11-13, 2010**

**\$12,500 Estimated Purse**

**American Mustang League Coached by Al Dunning  
VS  
Patriots Mustang League Coached by Ken McNabb**

## **OVERVIEW:**

- Fifty horse trainers will be selected.
- Trainers will compete in three areas which are “entry level” competition elements - Reining, Trail Course and Cow Work.
- Trainer scores from these areas will count towards INDIVIDUAL and TEAM awards.
- Team coaches, Al Dunning and Ken McNabb, will draft trainers onto their respective team upon arrival at event. Coaches will designate 3 trainers per competition element whose scores count towards team score. High scoring team wins prizes for entire team.
- Coaches will provide personal direction, assistance and motivation during the event.
- Coaches will not be judges.
- Included in this competition is an online voting bracket where fans can vote for their favorite trainers and Mustangs. The top two trainers and Mustangs determined by online voting will perform on Friday night for cash or prizes.
- The rules for this competition have been adapted from the American Stock Horse Association and the Stock Horse of Texas Association. The Mustang Heritage Foundation greatly appreciates the work and education provided by these organizations.

## **CONCEPT OUTLINE**

1. Trainers apply for event – Deadline for application is February 1, 2010.
2. 50 Trainers will be selected – 25 to a team.
3. Trainers are placed on teams by the “Draft” held after trainer check in on Thursday (6/10). Coaches alternate on their decision to pass or play each trainer. If Coach A passes on a trainer, Coach B must accept him/her. Trainer will enter arena “a foot” and is given 30 seconds to talk about him/herself – trainer then will mount Mustang and have 90 seconds to show their stuff.
4. Friday 7:30 AM – “Coaches Workout”. Trainers have the opportunity to work with their team and coach to determine the strong points of each member. Coach will designate 3 trainers per competition element (reining, trail & cow work) to count towards team score.
5. Friday 1:00 PM – Individual Competition in Reining and Trail courses. Trainers receive individual scores. Designated trainer scores will count toward team score.
6. Saturday 7:30 AM – “Coaches Workout”. Coaches and trainers practice and plan second day of competition.
7. Saturday 1:00 PM – Individual competition in Cow Work. Trainers receive individual scores. Designated trainer scores will count toward team score.

8. Saturday 7 PM - Top 10 Finals Performance & Team Event. The top ten individuals come back, clean slate, for no holds barred finals. All team members will also participate in a team event to be determined by event manager.
9. Sunday – Adoption Auction. Adoption by public auction starting at 10 AM.

#### **EXTREME MUSTANG MAKEOVER OVERVIEW:**

The mission of the Mustang Heritage Foundation is to increase the adoption of Mustangs to good homes. In keeping with the mission of the Foundation, the Extreme Mustang Makeover will occur during various events across the United States that attract thousands of horse enthusiasts and promote horse ownership. The goal of the event is to promote adoption through showcasing Mustangs' value and trainability through competition.

Wild Mustangs will be brought to a designated Bureau of Land Management facility to be picked-up for the competition. The Mustangs will be as uniform in size and age as possible. Mustangs will be between 4-6 years of age with current vaccinations and hooves trimmed.

Approved horse trainers will pick-up their Mustangs at the designated BLM equine facility. Mustangs will be pre-assigned to the trainer by computer draw prior to pick -up so that appropriate health papers may be created for trainers' home states. Trainers must meet all requirements listed below for hauling and stabling their Mustang. Trainers will have from the day they picked-up their Mustang until the day they arrive at the event to train and work with their Mustang. During the event trainers will compete in three areas – Trail, Reining and Cow Work. Trainers will receive a score for the physical condition of their horse as part of the Trail Competition.

A panel of accomplished horsemen and/or horsewomen will determine winners.

The competing Mustangs will then be up for adoption through a live bid process on the final day of competition. In addition to prize money, trainers competing in the event will receive up to \$700 in reimbursement for reasonable training and veterinary expenses and 20% commission (over the \$200 adoption fee) on horses adopted for \$200 or more. Every effort will be made to promote participating trainers during the event.

#### **REQUIREMENTS:**

***Participation in this event is by invitation only; therefore The Board of Trustees of the Mustang Heritage Foundation has the unqualified right to determine eligibility and can, at any time, remove an applicant or contestant from a Mustang Heritage Foundation program and/or competition for any reason or for no reason.***

1. All trainers must complete the application and postmark to P. O. Box 979, Georgetown, TX, 78626 by **February 1, 2010**.
2. Trainers must be 18 years of age or older.
3. If there is a need for a substitution or replacement of approved trainer the horse may be shown but not scored.
4. Any applicant or selected trainer may be removed from the selection process or competition at any time if found to have any alleged history of cruelty to animals or humans. Applicants must

meet all BLM Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Requirements. Removal of any trainer from the application process or competitions is at the discretion of the Mustang Heritage Foundation's Board of Trustees.

**5.** The Mustang Heritage Foundation Board of Trustees may at any time conduct a criminal background check on applicants and remove any applicant from the process for any reason or for no reason.

**6.** "Canon City Pick Up Requirements: Each individual (trainer, trainer representative, travel partners, families, etc.) entering the Canon City prison for Mustang pick up must submit his/her drivers license number and birthday ahead of time for clearance. Individuals with felony records will not be allowed into the prison. More information regarding this procedure will be provided to each trainer selected for the Extreme Mustang Makeover."

**7.** Trailer requirements: You must provide transportation for your Mustang from the BLM facility to your facility. While someone else may transport the animal, all trailers must meet these minimum standards: covered top, sturdy walls/floors, and a smooth interior free from any sharp protrusions; ample head room; removable partitions or compartments to separate animals by size and sex, if necessary; floor covered with a non-skid material; and, adequate ventilation. The BLM requires stock-type trailers with rear swing gates to transport adopted animals. Drop ramp, divided two-horse trailers, and trucks with stock racks are not acceptable.

**8.** Facility requirements: Facility can consist of a corral/paddock/stall/round pen. Facility must be a minimum of 400 square feet (20 feet x 20 feet) and at least 6 feet high. Facility must be sturdy and constructed of materials such as poles, pipes, or planks (minimum 1.5 inch thickness) without dangerous protrusions. Barbed wire, large-mesh woven, stranded and electric materials are unacceptable for fencing. You should not release the Mustang into a large open area, such as a pasture, since you may not be able to recapture the animal for training or to provide veterinary care. However, once the animal is gentled, you may release it into a pasture or similar area. You must provide shelter from inclement weather and temperature extremes for your Mustang. Shelters must be a two sided structure with a roof, well drained, adequately ventilated, and accessible to the Mustang. The two sides need to block the prevailing winds and need to protect the major part of the bodies of the horse or burro. Tarps are not acceptable. Contact your administering BLM office for shelter requirements in your area.

**9.** Mustang training must be humane and compassionate. "Least resistance" techniques are encouraged.

**10.** Trainers are responsible for all care related costs from the day the Mustangs are picked up until they are adopted at the event. Trainers that complete the training and compete in the Extreme Mustang Makeover will be reimbursed up to \$700 for veterinary, farrier, hauling or feeding costs. Receipts must be submitted in order to receive reimbursement no later than 30 days after the event.

**11.** Should the Mustang be deemed untrainable, the trainer must notify the Mustang Heritage Foundation's office no later than 30 days after the Mustang is picked up by the trainer in order to be eligible for reimbursed expenses.

**12.** Trainers that notify the Mustang Heritage Foundation that they are not participating in the event as a result of an injury to trainer or Mustang will be eligible for reimbursed expenses. The trainer must submit a letter from a physician and/or veterinarian stating the injury in order to be considered for reimbursement of expenses. **TRAINERS THAT DROP OUT OF THE EVENT FOR ANY REASON OTHER THAN INJURY TO SELF OR HORSE WILL NOT RECEIVE THE \$700 REIMBURSEMENT.**

**13.** For any and all reasons, the trainer is responsible for returning the Mustang to the BLM facility nearest the trainer.

**14.** *The purpose of this event is to showcase the talent and trainability of Mustangs; therefore the goal is for all trainers to participate in the event and adoption.*

**15.** Trainers may ONLY adopt their Mustang during the event through the public bid process on the final day of the event. Trainers must complete a separate BLM adoption application and be approved by the BLM prior to bidding on their Mustang.

**16.** Trainers are required to sign releases so that all photos and filming may be used to promote the event and will be the property of the Mustang Heritage Foundation.

**17.** Trainers are required to provide a digital head shot photo of themselves and short bio with their applications.

#### **RULES:**

**1.** Fulfill all requirements related to hauling, stable facilities, care and training.

**2.** Trainer applications for the Extreme Mustang Makeover must be postmarked on or before February 1st. Applications may be printed from [www.extrememustangmakeover.com](http://www.extrememustangmakeover.com) and mailed (P. O. Box 979, Georgetown, Texas, 78626).

**3.** Trainer selection will be made based on experience and geographic location. Alternate trainers will also be notified should one of the selected trainers be unable to pick up their Mustang.

**4.** BLM and Mustang Heritage Foundation employees and their spouses are not eligible to compete.

**5.** Trainers are responsible for hauling the Mustang from the BLM Facility to their training stable and from their training stable to the competition.

**6.** Bedded stalls will be provided for Mustangs at the competition.

**7.** Arenas will be available for warm up and scheduled practices – (schedule and location of arenas to be announced). Please refer to [www.extrememustangmakeover.com](http://www.extrememustangmakeover.com) for the competition dates for each Extreme Mustang Makeover event.

**8.** Winners will be announced following the competition.

9. Trainers are asked to demonstrate their Mustangs during the adoption on the final day of the Extreme Mustang Makeover event. Trainers interested in adopting their Mustang must complete the BLM adoption application and bid during the adoption auction.

#### 10. Conduct:

*Participation in this event is by invitation only; therefore The Board of Trustees of the Mustang Heritage Foundation has the unqualified right to determine eligibility and can, at any time, remove an applicant or contestant from a Mustang Heritage Foundation program and/or competition for any reason or for no reason.* Conduct shall be orderly, responsible, sportsmanlike and **humane in the treatment of Mustangs**, such as to promote the implementation of the event and promote fair competition. This includes, but is not limited to: conduct while trainers have Mustangs in their possession; conduct on the show grounds; conduct while trainers are wearing Extreme Mustang Makeover logo wear off the show grounds; and includes the conduct of individuals traveling with trainers, spectators or event managers and all other person being present on show grounds. Any alleged unsportsmanlike or irresponsible conduct or any other form of misconduct, such as illegal, indecent or profane, and the **inhumane treatment of horses are prohibited** and shall be grounds for the disciplinary action against offending individuals. Further, event management may immediately expel offenders from the competition or show grounds in order to preserve the decorum of the show.

#### 11. Sponsorships

The Mustang Heritage Foundation has entered into corporate sponsorship agreements with a variety of companies. The Foundation asks that trainers honor those sponsorships.

A. The Mustang Heritage Foundation may supply shirts with sponsor logos for trainers to wear during the event. Trainers will not be required to wear Mustang Heritage Foundation event shirts during the actual competition, but may be required to wear shirts during promotional and adoption events.

B. Trainers will be restricted from wearing apparel or equine products during the competition that have logos that are larger than 4 inches wide and 2 inches tall.

C. Trainers may not hang banners of any size in the stall area promoting any sponsors. Trainers may have brochures or small printed materials available in their stall areas to promote their training business and their sponsors during the event.

#### 12. Drugs:

No person shall administer drugs internally or externally to a Mustang, either before or during the Extreme Mustang Makeover competition or adoption, any medication, drug mechanical device or artificial appliance, which is of such character as, could affect its performance or appearance at the event.

*If a Mustang is receiving medication for therapeutic purposes, the trainer must submit a letter from their veterinarian to the Extreme Mustang Makeover event manager as to the reason for medication and the prescribed amount.* THE EXTREME MUSTANG MAKEOVER MANAGEMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DRUG TEST ANY MUSTANG IN THE COMPETITION.

13. Trainers will receive 20% commission of the adoption price (over the \$200 adoption fee) if the Mustang they trained is adopted for \$200 or more. Commissions will be mailed with reimbursed expenses.

#### **COMPETITION RULES:**

These rules have been adapted from the American Stock Horse Association. The Mustang Heritage Foundation greatly appreciates the support of the American Stock Horse Association in allow this competition to use adapted rules.

#### **A. Body Condition Score**

A body condition score of 1-5 (with halves) will be determined and added as bonus points to the overall preliminary score.

#### **B. Trail Competition**

##### **50% of Score**

##### **Trail Class**

The trail class, as the name implies, tests the horse's ability to cope with many situations encountered in everyday ranch work. The horse is ridden through a pattern of obstacles which should nearly approximate those found on the ranch during the course of everyday ranch work. The horse is judged on the cleanliness, neatness and promptness with which the obstacles are negotiated, ability to negotiate obstacles correctly and attitude and mannerisms exhibited by the horse while negotiating the course. Emphasis on judging should be on identifying the well-broke, responsive, well-mannered horse which can correctly negotiate the course. Management, when setting courses, should keep in mind that the idea is not to trap a horse, or eliminate it by making an obstacle too difficult. All courses and obstacles are to be constructed with safety in mind so as to eliminate any accidents.

##### **Course:**

##### **A. Course will include no less than six and no more than ten obstacles.**

It is mandatory that the horse be asked to walk, trot and lope during the course. Walk – can be part of obstacle score and scored with approaching obstacle. Trot – at least 35 ft and scored with approaching obstacle. Lope - at least 50 ft and scored with approaching obstacle and be lead specific.

**B.** Care must be exercised to avoid setting up of any obstacles that may be hazardous to the horse or rider.

**C.** Judges must walk the course and have the right and duty to alter the course if it is not in keeping with the intent of the class. Judges may remove or change any obstacle they deems unsafe, non-negotiable, or unnecessarily difficult.

**D. The actual trail course will be made available to exhibitors and posted the evening before the competition. Basic components of the trail course will be available for practice the evening before and during the Coach's Workout.**

**E.** The course may be walked on foot by the exhibitor.

### **Trail Class Obstacle Requirements:**

**A.** Course must be designed using the mandatory obstacles and maneuvers plus optional obstacles. Combining of two or more of any obstacles is acceptable.

**B. Prohibited obstacles:** Tarps, water obstacles with slick bottoms, PVC pipe used as a jump or walk over, tires, rocking or moving bridges, logs or poles elevated in a manner that permits such to roll in a dangerous manner. Animals (live or stuffed) should only be used which would normally be encountered in a ranch setting and which are not used in an attempt to “spook” a horse.

### **C. Mandatory obstacles or maneuvers:**

1. **Ride over obstacles on the ground** – usually logs or poles at a walk or trot in any configuration.
2. **Ride over wooden bridge.** Bridge should be sturdy, safe and negotiated at a walk only.
3. **Backing obstacles** – Backing obstacles are to be spaced a minimum of 28” spacing.
4. **Serpentine obstacle** – walking or trotting through Serpentine or zig zags.
5. **Catch & release** – Trainers will be asked to release Mustang in a small pen by removing halter and distancing themselves from the horse. After achieving a suitable detachment, trainers will then be asked to rehalter the Mustang.

## **B. Reining (Entry Level Pattern)**

### **Mustang Reining Pattern**

#### **30% of Score**

For pattern visit <http://www.extrememustangmakeover.com/extremeteam.php>.

### **Maneuvers will include:**

**A. SITTING TROT**

**B. TWO-TRACK** (Two-track is moving the horse forward and laterally simultaneously with bit contact. The horse’s body is kept pointing straight in the direction indicated with the horse yielding laterally and forward to leg pressure.)

**C. TROT**

**D. EXTENDED TROT**

**E. STOP**

**F. BACK**

**G. PIVOT**

**H. LOPE**

**I. LEAD CHANGE** (simple or flying)

**J. ROLL BACK** using wall as assistance

**K. SPIN**

## **C. Mustang Makeover / Working Cow Horse Class (Entry Level)**

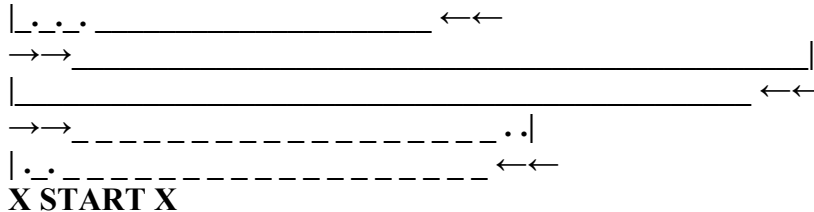
### **20% of Score**

A versatile western stock horse must also be a cow horse and this class has been designed to demonstrate and measure a horse’s ability to do cow work. Holding the saddle horn is permitted in this class. **This class has been developed for Mustang Makeovers as an entry**

**level working cow horse class.** The rider will enter the arena and perform the cow horse pattern. After calling for the cow, the rider will have 1 minute to work the cow. At 1 minute, the announcer will call time. The judge may blow a whistle at anytime for the contestant to cease work for safety reasons. Judge will give credit for what they have seen. The work in the cow horse class will consist of the following two parts.

**Part One – Cow Horse Pattern –** The rider shall trot into the arena, trot to first cone and start pattern. Marker placement shall be a minimum of 20 ft from the wall.

**PIVOT 90 DEGREES TOWARD COW**



Enter arena at trot and trot to first cone

1. Extended Trot to second cone; Stop; Back two steps; Rollback or turn to right
2. Extended Trot back to first cone; Stop; Back two steps; Rollback or turn to left
3. Lope to second cone; Stop; Rollback or turn to right
4. Lope to first cone; Stop; Rollback or turn to left
5. Lope past center; Stop, Back; Pivot 90 degrees toward cattle and call for cow to be worked.

**Part Two – Boxing the Cow –** The rider shall signal for their cow to be turned into the arena. Upon entry into the arena, the cow shall be controlled on the entry end of the arena for one minute to demonstrate the horse’s ability to “hold” the cow. If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate his horse’s ability to drive and block the cow on the entry fence.

**Scoring Mustang Working Cow Horse Class**

The Cow Horse Pattern is 35% of the Working Cow Horse Class.  
Boxing the Cow is 65% of the Working Cow Horse Class.

**Scoring for Part One – Cow Horse Pattern**

- Credits:
- + Good Hard Straight Stops
  - + Correct Rollbacks
  - + Correct Gaits

- Deductions:
- Failure to complete pattern as described
  - Poor stops
  - Poor turns
  - Poor backing

**Scoring for Part Two – Boxing the Cow**

- Credits:
- + Expression by the horse and making moves with little rider assistance
  - + Holding and controlling the cow

+ Amount of work actually done and the degree of difficulty of the work

- Deductions:
- Missing the cow badly on turns
  - Horse having to be handled excessively
  - Letting the cow escape

#### **D. Individual Finals**

1. The top ten Mustangs with the combined highest total scores will return for a finals performance. In the event of a tie, the tie-breaker judge will determine the top ten Mustangs. Only ten Mustangs will compete in the finals performance.
2. Competitors will come into the finals with a “clean slate”. No previous scores will be counted toward the final placing.
3. Trainers will have four minutes to perform during the finals.
4. Trainers will have four minutes prior to their performance to stage or set the arena
5. Finals will require the following maneuvers to be incorporate into the performance.
  - a. Walk, trot and lope or canter
  - b. Stop and back
  - c. Lope or canter circle to the left or right – then simple or flying lead change and lope or canter circle in the opposite direction.
  - d. Pivot or spin 360 degrees to the right and left.
6. Trainers will be scored on required maneuvers and receive a score on artistic/creative performance and overall athletic ability.
7. Trainers are encouraged to use music and theatrics during their final performance. The event planners will provide sound system and operator for finals music.
8. Trainers must provide their own props and assistance for arena set up.
9. One cow will be available for those finalists requesting one.
10. In the event of a tie for 1<sup>st</sup> place, the tying Mustangs will compete in a smackdown performance to determine the winner. Ties for 2<sup>nd</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> will be broken by the tie-breaker judge.

#### **E. Team Final**

1. Each team’s coach will pre-designate 3 trainers per competition element whose scores will count towards the team score.
2. The high scoring team will win prizes for the entire team.

#### **AWARDS:**

1. All trainers competing in the event will be eligible for \$700 in reimbursed expenses and 20% commission (over the \$200 adoption fee) of the adoption price of the Mustang they trained is adopted for \$200 or more.

2. Overall Winners: The Top Ten trainers scoring the highest points in the overall competition will be awarded prize money. Please refer to [www.extrememustangmakeover.com](http://www.extrememustangmakeover.com) for purse money amounts awarded in each Extreme Mustang Makeover event. Purse money amounts are determined by the total number of entries. The \$12,500 payout is based on 50 competitors.

3. Team Winner: The Top Team will receive awards for each team member.

### **ADOPTION DAY**

Trainers are REQUIRED to present their horse during the adoption. We ask that trainers ride their horses into the adoption area and tell the audience about their horse. Trainers receive 20% commission (over the \$200 adoption fee) on horses that adopt for \$200 or more.

**For more information on this Extreme Mustang Makeover event, please contact Kyle Heine at [kyleheine@hotmail.com](mailto:kyleheine@hotmail.com).**