
Quarter Horse Association

One of the implicit goals of the NC Amateur Quarter Horse Association is to encourage participation and recognize success in Amateur events and activities. Towards this end, the NC Amateur Quarter Horse Association (NCAQHA) will provide this award to encourage participation in pattern classes.

Participation in pattern classes provides unique opportunities for riders to refine the communication link with their horses and to further develop their equestrian skills. The following classes have been selected by the NCAQHA as representative pattern classes:

- Showmanship at Halter (*Amateur, Novice Amateur, or Select Amateur*)
- Hunt Seat Equitation (*Amateur, Novice Amateur, or Select Amateur*)
- Western Horsemanship (*Amateur, Novice Amateur, or Select Amateur*)
- Western Riding (*Amateur, Novice Amateur, or Select Amateur*)
- Trail (*Amateur, Novice Amateur, or Select Amateur*)
- Reining (*Amateur, Novice Amateur, or Select Amateur*)

To qualify for this award, individuals must obtain at least 5 state points in a minimum of four (4) of the above listed classes in the Amateur and Novice Amateur Divisions, or in a minimum of two (2) of the above listed classes in the Select Amateur Division. The qualifying NCQHA amateur, novice amateur, and select amateur horse and rider combination that receives the most state points for the year (as calculated by the point's secretary) in the above listed classes will receive special recognition and an award from the NCAQHA at the annual meeting. Additional awards will also be presented to the runners up in these classes for each division (amateur, novice amateur, and select amateur).

It is hoped that by providing this award on a yearly basis, Amateurs will be inspired to further develop their riding skills and to participate in these challenging classes at NCQHA shows.