

The Run For A Million

2027 Qualification Process



Reining Events

Million Dollar Reining

5 Qualifiers (No Ties) from The Shootout at The Run For A Million 2026

These Five Riders qualified for the The Run For A Million 2027 in The Shootout.
Qualified:

Casey Deary
Gabriel Borges
Luca Fappani
Jason Vanlandingham
Peter Defreitas

10 Qualifiers from The Qualifier at Bosque Ranch

Ten Riders will qualify for TRFAM 2027 at The Qualifier at Bosque Ranch on May 22. (Any ties that would advance more than 10 riders will be run off.)

\$200,000 Added
\$2,500 Entry Fee

\$250 Judges Fee
Category 11
Pattern #9

1 Qualifier from Brazil

One Rider (ties will be run off) from the Qualifier in Brazil will be held in Avare, São Paulo, Brazil, May 24–31, 2027. The qualifier with \$1 Million Brazilian Reais added will take place in conjunction with an event hosted at the Alameda Dante Teza venue and will be managed by the Associacao Nacional Do Cavalo De Redeas.

New For 2027 – It will be necessary to Qualify for The Shootout at TRFAM

The top 30 Riders in The Qualifier will qualify for The Shootout at The Run For A Million 2027. Each Qualified Rider may show up to 3 horses in The Shootout.

The top five riders in The Shootout at The Run For A Million 2027 will qualify for the 2028 TRFAM. (Ties will be run off.)

Non Pro Reining Challenge

Top 10 Non Pro Riders (No Ties) at The Qualifier will qualify for the Non Pro Challenge at The Run For A Million 2027 in Las Vegas without competing at the Semi-Finals at the 2027 NRHA Derby.

Non Pro Qualifier

May 19

\$100,0000 Added,

\$1,250 Entry Fee

\$200 Judges Fee

Category 11

Pattern #9

The next ten Non Pros plus ties will qualify directly for the Semi-Finals at the 2027 6666 NRHA Derby presented by Markel.

Other Non Pro riders will qualify for the Semi Finals by finishing in the top 5 of qualifiers around the country or by finishing in the top five at the Last Chance Qualifier at the 6666 NRHA Derby.

At the 6666 NRHA Derby presented by Markel TRFAM Semi-Finals, the top 25 scores and ties will advance to The Run For A Million 2027. These scores will come from the Non Pro (2) class on June 20, or from the preliminary round of the Non Pro Derby.

Non Pro riders who have qualified for the **6666 NRHA Derby Non Pro Semi-Finals presented by Markel** may choose to compete at the Semi-Finals on their Derby-entered horses in the Non Pro preliminary round OR by competing in the Non Pro [2] on Sunday, June 20, as their Semi-Finals. The designation must be made before the start of the Non Pro Derby preliminary round.

The Top 25 scores (plus ties) for Semi-Final riders across both the Non Pro Derby Preliminary and the Non Pro [2] will advance to the 2027 TRFAM.

Rookie 1, Rookie 2 & Youth Reining Challenge

Step 1 — Qualify for the TRFAM Semi-Finals

Rookie and Youth Divisions

- **When:** Qualifying begins in 2026 and closes May 31, 2027, except for the 2027 NRHA Derby Last Chance Qualifier.
- **Where:** TRFAM Semi-Final Qualifying Events nationwide (during the qualifying period from 2026–27). This will include the “Last Chance” Semi-Final Qualifying Events at the 2027 NRHA Derby.
 - *The first slate of Rookie 1, Rookie 2, and Youth classes at the NRHA Derby will serve as the Last Chance Qualifier for those divisions. All other rules apply.*
- **How:** TRFAM Semi-Final Qualifiers will run concurrently with the corresponding ancillary classes at shows around the US, with all exhibitors required to be entered in the corresponding NRHA class. The top five riders from each slate in each division (plus ties) advance to the Semi-Finals at the 2027 NRHA Derby.
- **Important Considerations:** *Eligibility for the Semi-Final Qualifying Events is based on NRHA Eligibility at the time of the event. However, eligibility to compete at the 2027 TRFAM Semi-Finals is based on the eligibility of the rider as of January 1, 2027.*
 - For example, a rider may compete in and qualify for the Rookie 1 Semi-Finals in 2026 but be ineligible for Rookie 1 in 2027 due to earnings. This rider would be ineligible to compete in the Rookie 1 at the 2027 TRFAM Semi-Finals. ***It is the responsibility of the contestant to monitor earnings.***

Step 2 — Semi-Finals at the 2027 NRHA Derby (Oklahoma City)

Semi-Final runs will take place concurrently with the corresponding NRHA Derby ancillary classes, with all exhibitors required to be entered in the matching NRHA class.

- Youth Semi-Finals – Runs with Unrestricted Youth [2]
- Rookie 1 Semi-Finals – Runs with Rookie Level 1 [2]
- Rookie 2 Semi-Finals – Runs with Rookie Level 2 [2]
- Non Pro Semi-Finals – Runs with Non Pro [2] and the first round of the NRHA Derby

Riders advancing to the TRFAM in Las Vegas include:

- **Rookie 1:** Top 20 + ties
- **Rookie 2:** Top 20 + ties
- **Youth:** Top 10 + ties
- **Non Pro:** Top 25 + ties

Step 3 — The Run For A Million (August 2027, Las Vegas)

Finalists will face off in Las Vegas on one of reining's most prestigious stages, competing for record payouts, career-defining recognition, and a place in TRFAM history.

2027 Qualification Process



Cutting Events

\$250,000 Cutting Challenge

15 Qualifiers from The Brazos Bash at Bosque Ranch

Top Fifteen Riders (no ties) qualify for The Run For A Million 2027

Brazos Bash, September 28 – October 13, 2026

The Cutting Challenge Qualifier for the 2027 The Run For A Million is held at the 2026 Brazos Bash. Any age horse is eligible. If the horse is 3, 4, 5/6 or 7 & Up, their first go round score in the open will be counted as their qualifying run. *The riders with the top 15 scores entered in the qualifier will advance to the 2027 The Run For A Million.*

The tie breaker will be calculated by adding the scores of all five judges together. If there is still a tie, a runoff will be held. Entry fee for the qualifier will be \$1,500. No monies will be paid out at the Brazos Bash in the qualifier.

After riders qualify, they will be sent information on how to enter The Run For A Million.

\$125,000 Non Pro Cutting Challenge

15 Qualifiers from The Winter Bash at Bosque Ranch

Top Fifteen Riders (no ties) qualify for The Run For A Million 2027

Winter Bash, January 27-February 10, 2027

The Winter Bash (held at Bosque Ranch) is the Non Pro Cutting Qualifying event for The Run For A Million 2027. Only the top 15 riders from the Winter Bash competition earn a spot to compete in the \$125,000-added Non Pro Cutting Horse Challenge at The Run For A Million.

Riders qualify through designated classes (such as the 4-Year-Old Non Pro and 7 & Up Non-Pro go-rounds) held during the Winter Bash.

After you qualify, you will be sent information on how to enter The Run For A Million.

2027 Qualification Process



Cow Horse Events

\$250,000 Cow Horse Challenge

Qualifying Events:

NRCHA Hackamore Classic in Tulsa, OK, in July 12-18, 2026

Ryan Gallentine, Matt Koch, Boyd Rice, Lee Deacon and Cayley Wilson Qualified

National Stock Horse Association Futurity & Derby in Las Vegas, NV August 18-23, 2026

Must enter either the Open Bridle Entry or World's Richest. Only Rein Work and Cow Work count for final placings. **Shane Steffen, Phillip Ralls, Ron Emmons, Shadd Parkinson and Corey Cushing Qualified**

NRCHA Derby in Scottsdale, AZ, May 26 – June 6, 2027

Riders must enter the NRCHA Open Bridle class to be eligible to enter the TRFAM Open Bridle Qualifier at the Qualifying Event(s).

There shall be no ties in the top five qualifiers. In the event of a tie:

The rider with the higher cow work score will be ranked higher. If a tie still remains, a cow work-only runoff will determine the final placing.

Youth Cow Horse Challenge

Qualifying Event

TRFAM Youth Qualifying Event at the 2027 NRCHA World's Great Youth Horseman Finals

The TRFAM Youth Qualifying Event is held at the NRCHA World's Greatest Youth Horseman Finals in February 13-27, 2027, in Fort Worth, Texas.

To qualify for the TRFAM Youth Cow Horse Challenge, youth riders must reach the Finals of the NRCHA World's Greatest Youth Horseman.

Ties in the TRFAM Youth Qualifying Event will be accepted, and all finalists—including those tied—qualify to compete in the TRFAM Youth Cow Horse Challenge.

2027 Qualification Process



Cowboy Heritage Ranch Challenge

Ten 10 Invited Ranches send their best cowboy.

The Cowboy Heritage Ranch Challenge presented by Markel brings ten cowboys, one per ranch, from some of the most storied heritage ranches in North America to the 2026 Run For A Million.

These are working cowboys on ranch horses, not show-pen specialists. Each competes a traditional reining and cow work run, then stops a steer, with \$30,000 on the line and a ranch's name on every ride.