

## GLOBAL CHAMPIONS ARABIANS TOUR

### RULES FOR THE 2026 SEASON

1. ABU DHABI - JANUARY
2. DOHA - FEBRUARY
3. MUSCAT - MARCH
4. RIYADH - APRIL
5. KUWAIT - APRIL
6. VALKENSWAARD - JUNE
7. CÔTE D'AZUR - JULY
8. WARSAW - SEPTEMBER
9. FINALE OF GCAT 2026 - OCTOBER

#### CONDITION OF ENTRIES:

Horses and handlers are eligible to participate in all GCAT Shows. Participants may register an unlimited number of owned horses for each GCAT Show; however, the number of leased horses is limited to one per participant per season.

Entries are open to horses registered in any WAHO-recognized studbook by the closing date of entries. The registration fees are QAR 4,000 for each horse per event, while late entry fees are QAR 10,000. Registration fees are non-refundable and non-transferable after the published closing date. Owners withdrawing their horses 10 days prior to the show day without a valid medical reason and authorised medical certificate will receive a penalty of QAR 20,000. Medical certificates must be submitted within 48 hours through the official GCAT registration portal only. If the portal is inaccessible, documents may be submitted by email to [support@gcarabianstour.com](mailto:support@gcarabianstour.com) with time-stamped proof. GCAT, in accordance with the show organizer, reserves the discretion to accept or decline applications and may reject entry forms as needed.

#### QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Only open halter classes will be considered. Yearlings must be weaned, and they may not be shown under the age of six (6) months. Horses, except yearlings, should have qualified for the GCAT event as follows:

1) **ECAHO-affiliated Shows:**

- a) 1st - 5th place at the World Championship, a Title, a GCAT, an A, or a B Show
- b) 1st - 3rd place at a National Championship, a C International or a European Show
- c) 1st place at a Specific Origin or C National Show

2) Non-ECAHO countries:

- a) 1st - 5th place at a GCAT Americas Show
- b) Champion or Reserve Champion or top 10 at the US Nationals
- c) Champion or Reserve Champion or a 1st place in class at the Scottsdale Show
- d) Champion or Reserve Champion in Regional Shows
- e) Champion or Reserve Champion, or 1st - 3rd place in an official National Championship
- f) 1st - 3rd place at the Arabian Breeders World Cup show

3) AHO Shows:

- a) Champion or Reserve Champion or a 1st place in class at AHO international shows

**QUALIFYING CLASSES:**

The total number of entered horses is determined based on the final accepted and paid entries as of the closing date. This number is fixed for the purpose of determining class structure and will not change even if withdrawals occur.

The classes in order of age division for the 2026 GCAT Shows where the total number of entered horses is **more than 180** are as follows:

**Yearling Fillies**

Born in 2025

**Fillies 2 years old**

Born between 01/01/2024 and 31/12/2024

**Fillies 3 years old**

Born between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023

**Mares 4 to 6 years old**

Born between 01/01/2020 and 31/12/2022

**Mares 7 to 10 years old**

Born between 01/01/2016 and 31/12/2019

**Mares 11 years old and over**

Born before 31/12/2015

**Yearling Colts**

Born in 2025

**Colts 2 years old**

Born between 01/01/2024 and 31/12/2024

**Colts 3 years old**

Born between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023

**Stallions 4 to 6 years old**

Born between 01/01/2020 and 31/12/2022

**Stallions 7 to 10 years old**

Born between 01/01/2016 and 31/12/2019

**Stallions 11 years old and over**

Born before 31/12/2015



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The classes in order of age division for the 2026 GCAT Shows where the total number of entered horses is **less than 180** are as follows:

**Yearling Fillies**

Born in 2025

**Yearling Colts**

Born in 2025

**Junior Fillies**

Born between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2024

**Junior Colts**

Born between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2024

**Senior Mares**

Born before 31/12/2022

**Senior Stallions**

Born before 31/12/2022

**RULES FOR TIES IN QUALIFYING PLACES:**

In the event of a tie in the qualifying places of a class, the higher place will be given to the horse with the most points for type. If there is still a tie, the higher place will be given to the horse with the most points for movement. If the highest and lowest points are eliminated, only the remaining points for type and movement are considered in the tiebreak. Failing a decision on either of these, one judge chosen by ballot whose class scores will be used to break the tie.

**RULES FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

In a GCAT show where the total number of entered horses is **less than 180**, the **top five horses qualify** for the following championships: Yearling Males, Yearling Females, Junior Males, Junior Females, Senior Males, and Senior Females. If the number of entered horses is **more than 180**, **only the top 3 qualify** for the championships. The Gold, Silver and Bronze medal winners will be selected from amongst all the horses which have qualified in their respective classes for each championship.

The Championships will be judged by the following: all the horses qualified for the championship will enter the ring and line up according to the numerical order of their catalogue numbers. The horses will be judged individually, standing and trotting. Each judge will nominate his/her choice for gold, silver, and bronze medals together at the same time, from amongst all the horses qualified for the championship. Points will be given to the nominated horses by the following: a horse nominated by a judge for gold medal will receive 4 points. A horse nominated by a judge for silver medal will receive 2 points. A horse nominated by a judge for bronze medal will receive 1 point. The gold medal will be awarded to the horse with the most votes for gold medal champion. In case of an equal number of votes for the gold medal champion, the gold medal will be awarded to the horse with the highest number of championships points. From the remaining horses: the silver medal will be awarded to the horse with the highest number of championship points. The bronze medal will be awarded to the horse with the 2nd highest number of championship points. In the case of a tie, the 'Rules for Ties' in championships will be followed.

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The Judges will not discuss the horses. A fourth horse will be selected, which will become the bronze medal winner should one of the three medal winners be disqualified. This horse will not be announced. If two or more of the medal winners are disqualified, no further substitution will be made. All horses that qualify for their respective championships must take part in the championship. Unless a certificate from the DC veterinarian is produced, failure to compete will disqualify the horse from the show, with its record of score and class placing being deleted and the horse being disqualified from showing for the period of one year from the date of the show. In the event of a disqualification, horses placed behind the disqualified horse will move up a place in the class. Should a horse be sent out of the ring by the judges or taken out by the handler for any reason, it will be deemed to have taken part in the championship. All horses that are awarded a medal in their respective championships must take part in the championship prize-giving ceremony. Unless the DC decides otherwise in which case any representative of the horse may accept the medal without the horse being present. The absence of the horse or any representative to appear in the prize-giving ceremony will disqualify the horse from the show with its record of score in the class and championship placing being deleted and the horse being disqualified from the showing for the period of one year from the date of the show. In the event of a disqualification, all horses placed behind the disqualified horse will move up one place in the championship.

#### **RULES FOR TIES IN CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

In the event of a tie in the championships, the higher place will be given to the horse with the highest total points in the qualifying classes. If the highest and lowest points are eliminated, only the remaining points for total, type and movement are considered in the tiebreak. If there is still a tie, the rules for ties in qualifying places will be applied.

#### **RULES FOR CONDUCT OF SHOWS:**

All GCAT Shows are following the ECAHO Rules of affiliation of Shows and the rules of the Blue Book.



Rules for Conduct of Shows

#### **JUDGES & JUDGING SYSTEM:**

Each GCAT Show features a **panel of 14 judges: 9 on the ground for the qualifying classes and 11 for the championships**, with the majority selected from the EAHSC A and B lists. The panel will include no more than three ECAHO National Judges or ECAHO Judges Emeritus/Emerita, with only two assigned per qualifying class and only one assigned per championship. Judges from non-ECAHO Member countries must be selected from the panel of a recognized National Arab Horse Organization. Probationary judges are not permitted. The electronic scoring system evaluates horses based on five criteria: type, head & neck, body, legs, and movement. Judges assign scores from 1 to 20 points, including half-points. The final score for each horse is calculated by removing the highest and lowest scores for each criterion, then summing the remaining scores. Horses are ranked according to their final scores.

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**DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE:**

In a GCAT Show where the total number of entered horses is less than 180, a minimum of 4 members of the Disciplinary Committee is required, including a veterinarian. If the number of entered horses is more than 180, a minimum of 5 members of the Disciplinary Committee is required, including 2 veterinarians. Probationary Disciplinary Committee members are not permitted.

Two Ringmasters are officiating at each GCAT Show.

**MEDICATION CONTROL:**

The medication testing of all championship medal winners is compulsory. Any horse may be tested at the discretion of the DC and the show organizer. All medication testing will be conducted according to ECAHO Rules for Medication Control.

**INDIVIDUAL RANKING:**

**HORSES**

GCAT assigns GCAT points to the **top 10 horses in each of its six championship categories** at every GCAT Show. These categories include Yearling Males, Yearling Females, Junior Males, Junior Females, Senior Males, and Senior Females, totalling 60 horses. Points are primarily distributed based on the championship ranking each horse has earned. When championship points are not applicable, rankings are determined by the highest total score in each horse's qualifying classes. The points are distributed as follows:

<b>1st place</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>2nd place</b>	<b>17 points</b>
<b>3rd place</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>4th place</b>	<b>13 points</b>
<b>5th place</b>	<b>12 points</b>
<b>6th place</b>	<b>11 points</b>
<b>7th place</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>8th place</b>	<b>9 points</b>
<b>9th place</b>	<b>8 points</b>
<b>10th place</b>	<b>7 points</b>



## HANDLERS

GCAT assigns GCAT points to the top 10 handlers in each of its six championship categories at every GCAT Show, based on the achievements of their horses. Only the **top 3 results** of a handler are taken into consideration in a GCAT Show. The points are distributed as follows:

<b>1st place</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>2nd place</b>	<b>17 points</b>
<b>3rd place</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>4th place</b>	<b>13 points</b>
<b>5th place</b>	<b>12 points</b>
<b>6th place</b>	<b>11 points</b>
<b>7th place</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>8th place</b>	<b>9 points</b>
<b>9th place</b>	<b>8 points</b>
<b>10th place</b>	<b>7 points</b>

## PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTION FOR INDIVIDUAL RANKING – **GCAT DOHA**:

Prize money is designated for the **top 10 horses in each championship category** during every GCAT Show. The categories include yearling females, yearling males, junior females, junior males, senior females, and senior males. In the **GCAT Doha** individual ranking, the total prize money for the top 10 horses in each championship category amounts to **\$1,050,000** and is distributed as follows:

<b>1st place</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>
<b>2nd place</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>
<b>3rd place</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
<b>4th place</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>5th place</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>6th place</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>7th place</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>8th place</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>9th place</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>10th place</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>

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#### OVERALL RANKING:

The GCAT overall ranking is determined by the total points earned by each horse and handler across all GCAT championships during the season. **To qualify for the overall ranking, a horse or a handler must have received points in the championship at the minimum of 80% of the season's events within the same calendar year. For the 2026 season, this corresponds to earning championship points in at least seven GCAT shows.**

In the event of a tie in points at the end of the season, the horse or handler with more event participations will be ranked higher. If the tie persists, the horse or handler with the highest total number of championship points will be ranked higher. Should the tie remain unresolved, the highest average score in the qualifying classes will serve as the final tiebreaker.

#### PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTION FOR THE OVERALL RANKING:

Prize money is allocated to the **top 20 female horses**, the **top 20 male horses**, and the **top 20 handlers** in the GCAT overall ranking (tour series).

**Horse of the Tour:** The horse that accumulates the highest total points will receive an **additional \$500,000 prize**.

**Legend Horse:** The horse that achieves first place in the overall ranking three times in its lifetime will, upon its third victory, be awarded an **additional \$2,000,000 prize**. After reaching this milestone, the horse may continue participating in GCAT shows but will be excluded from the GCAT overall ranking. It will remain eligible for prize money only in individual seasonal GCAT shows.

The total prize money allocated for the GCAT overall ranking amounts to **\$4,065,000** distributed as follows:

#### Top 20 Female & Male Horses:

1st place	\$500,000	11th place	\$30,000
2nd place	\$300,000	12th place	\$25,000
3rd place	\$200,000	13th place	\$25,000
4th place	\$150,000	14th place	\$25,000
5th place	\$100,000	15th place	\$20,000
6th place	\$60,000	16th place	\$20,000
7th place	\$60,000	17th place	\$20,000
8th place	\$30,000	18th place	\$15,000
9th place	\$30,000	19th place	\$15,000
10th place	\$30,000	20th place	\$15,000

**Top 20 Handlers:**

<b>1st place</b>	\$50,000	<b>11th place</b>	\$5,000
<b>2nd place</b>	\$40,000	<b>12th place</b>	\$5,000
<b>3rd place</b>	\$30,000	<b>13th place</b>	\$5,000
<b>4th place</b>	\$20,000	<b>14th place</b>	\$5,000
<b>5th place</b>	\$10,000	<b>15th place</b>	\$5,000
<b>6th place</b>	\$5,000	<b>16th place</b>	\$5,000
<b>7th place</b>	\$5,000	<b>17th place</b>	\$5,000
<b>8th place</b>	\$5,000	<b>18th place</b>	\$5,000
<b>9th place</b>	\$5,000	<b>19th place</b>	\$5,000
<b>10th place</b>	\$5,000	<b>20th place</b>	\$5,000

**SCHEDULE:**

1. Abu Dhabi – 15-18 January 2026
2. Doha – 4-7 February 2026
3. Muscat – 5-7 March 2026
4. Riyadh – 1-4 April 2026
5. Kuwait – 22-24 April 2026
6. Valkenswaard – 13-14 June 2026
7. Côte d'Azur – 11-12 July 2026
8. Warsaw – 12-13 September 2026
9. Finale of GCAT 2026 – 17-18 October 2026

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

It is not possible to cover every situation in these GCAT rules. Therefore, in the event of any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the responsibility of the Show Officials in accordance with the Show Organizers to make a decision that is fair and in keeping with the spirit of the rules. They should use their sound judgment and strive to achieve the intention of these rules as closely as possible.

Horse owners registering for any Global Champions Arabians Tour event acknowledge the Organizing Committee reserves the right to use videographic and photographic material obtained during any GCAT Shows for promotional purposes or any other purpose to the benefit of the Tour.

Participation in GCAT events is at the sole risk of the owner. GCAT shall not be liable for any loss, injury, illness, or death of horses, handlers, or other persons, except in cases of proven gross negligence.

GCAT reserves the right to propose modifications to these rules, subject to ECAHO review and approval. Any approved changes shall take effect upon publication on the official GCAT website.