



## GLOBAL CHAMPIONS ARABIANS TOUR AMERICAS – PERFORMANCE CLASSES CHAMPIONSHIPS

### RULES FOR THE 2026 SEASON

1. SCOTTSDALE, USA – 13-15 FEBRUARY
2. LAS VEGAS, USA – 02-04 OCTOBER

#### **CONDITION OF ENTRIES:**

Entries are open to purebred Arabian horses registered in any WAHO-recognized studbook by the closing date of entries. GCAT, in accordance with the show organizer, reserves the discretion to accept or decline applications and may reject entry forms as needed. The registration fees are \$250 for each horse per event; additional stalls may be purchased for an additional fee of \$200. All fees are non-refundable and non-transferable after the published closing date.

There are three performance categories. The categories include Arabian Hunter Pleasure Pro-Am, Western Pleasure Pro-Am and Saddle Seat Pro-Am. (Open to Country English Pleasure, English Pleasure, or Park horses). All Amateurs are defined as such by the USEF rules.

#### **PRO-AM CLASS PROCEDURE:**

Classes will be conducted in a PRO-AM format. Professionals will enter the ring counterclockwise at the Trot/Jog, continuing around the arena until all horses have entered. Once all competing horses have all entered and the gate is 'closed', judging of the class will commence. Horses will proceed at the Trot/Jog until called to the Walk. Following adjudication of the Walk, the final gait called the first direction of the ring will be the Canter/Lope. When asked to Trot/Jog following adjudication of the Canter/Lope, horses will transition down and asked to Line Up in the center of the arena side by side with ample room between horses to facilitate rider changes and tack adjustments. Once Professionals are asked to dismount, Amateurs will be invited into the arena, adjustments will be made to the stirrups and tack as necessary. Once necessary adjustments have been made, Amateurs will mount and perform the same gaits with their horses in the exact order in the opposite direction (clockwise) of the ring. Once completed, all horses will be called to the final Line-Up in the center of the arena. Judges will finalize and submit their cards, scoring will be tabulated and verified, and all awards will be presented. All Amateurs are defined as such by the USEF rules.



#### **RULES FOR PERFORMANCE CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP:**

The Championships will be judged by the following: All classes will be judged by three judges. These three judges will be randomly selected as the Number One Judge, the Number Two Judge, and the Number Three Judge. Each judge will judge independently. Each placing will have a point value. Scores earned by each horse from all judges will be added together to give the total score. The horse with the highest total score will be named Gold Champion; the horse with the second highest score will be named Silver Champion, etc., until all placings have been filled. The Number One Judge will call the gaits in all performance classes.

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

In the event of a tie in the championships, for Gold Champion or Silver to the last place, the Number One Judge's card will be consulted to break the tie. The horse placing highest on the Number One Judge's card will place above the other horses in the tie. If the tied horses do not appear on the Number One Judge's card, the Number Two Judge's card will be used to break the tie in the manner described above. The Number Two Judge's card will be used to break ties only after all possible ties have been resolved using the Number One Judge's card. For purposes of breaking ties, a horse appearing on a judge's card places above those not on the other cards.

Championship points will be assigned as follows:

<b>1st place</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>2nd place</b>	<b>9 points</b>
<b>3rd place</b>	<b>8 points</b>
<b>4th place</b>	<b>7 points</b>
<b>5th place</b>	<b>6 points</b>
<b>6th place</b>	<b>5 points</b>
<b>7th place</b>	<b>4 points</b>
<b>8th place</b>	<b>3 points</b>
<b>9th place</b>	<b>2 points</b>
<b>10th place</b>	<b>1 point</b>



#### **SHOW OFFICIALS & JUDGING SYSTEM:**

Each GCAT Show features a panel of 3 performance judges. All performance classes will be judged by three judges. These three judges are designated prior to the class as the Number One Judge, the Number Two Judge, and the Number Three Judge. This will be done randomly by ballot prior to the class each without being announced to the public. Each judge will judge independently. Each placing will have a point value. Scores earned by each horse from all judges will be added together to give the total score. The horse with the highest total score will be named Gold Champion; the horse with the second highest score will be named Silver Champion, etc., until all placings have been filled. The Number One Judge will call the gaits in all performance classes.

#### **MEDICATION CONTROL:**

Medication testing may be carried out on horses selected on a random basis and/or at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee and the Show Organizer. All medication testing and shoeing protocols will follow United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) rules and are located in the USEF rule book located here: <https://www.usef.org/compete/regulation/rulebook>.

#### **INDIVIDUAL RANKING:**

GCAT assigns GCAT performance points to the **top 10 horses in each of its three championship performance classes** at each GCAT Americas Show. These classes include Arabian Hunter Pleasure Pro-Am, Western Pleasure Pro-Am and Saddle Seat Pro-Am. Points are distributed based on the championship ranking each horse has earned. The points are distributed as follows:

<b>1st place</b>	<b>25 points</b>
<b>2nd place</b>	<b>18 points</b>
<b>3rd place</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>4th place</b>	<b>12 points</b>
<b>5th place</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>6th place</b>	<b>7 points</b>
<b>7th place</b>	<b>6 points</b>
<b>8th place</b>	<b>4 points</b>
<b>9th place</b>	<b>2 points</b>
<b>10th place</b>	<b>1 point</b>



#### **PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTION FOR INDIVIDUAL RANKING:**

Prize money is designated for the top 10 horses in each championship category during every GCAT Americas Show. The categories include Arabian Hunter Pleasure Championship Pro-Am, Western Pleasure Championship Pro-Am and Saddle Seat Championship Pro-Am. Prize money will only be awarded in the championship classes. If qualifiers are held no prize money will be paid in qualifiers.

In the GCAT Americas performance classes, the total prize money for the **top 10 horses in each championship** across all championship classes amounts to **\$114,000** and is distributed as follows:

<b>1st place</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>2nd place</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>
<b>3rd place</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>
<b>4th place</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>5th place</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>6th place</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>7th place</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>8th place</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>9th place</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>10th place</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>



#### **OVERALL HIGHPOINT RANKING:**

The GCAT Americas overall highpoint ranking for performance classes is determined by the total GCAT Performance points earned by the same horse competing with the same Pro-Am rider combination across all GCAT Americas performance championships during the season. To qualify for the GCAT Americas overall highpoint ranking for performance classes, a horse must compete with the same Pro-Am rider combination and earn championship points in a minimum of two (2) GCAT Americas shows within the same calendar year.

Should additional GCAT Americas events be added to the calendar, the Organizing Committee reserves the right to confirm or adjust the minimum participation requirement, which will be communicated prior to the opening of entries.

In the event of a tie in the GCAT Performance points at the end of the season between identical horse and Professional–Amateur (Pro-Am) rider combinations, the combination with the highest total number of championship points will be ranked higher. Any remaining tie will be resolved in accordance with GCAT regulations.

#### **PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTION FOR THE OVERALL RANKING FOR PERFORMANCE CLASSES:**

The prize money for the GCAT Americas high point performance will be awarded to the ten highest-ranking horses in the three specific disciplines: Hunter Pleasure Pro-Am, Western Pleasure Pro-Am, and Saddle Seat Pro-Am if horses have met highpoint qualification requirements.

In the GCAT Americas overall highpoint ranking, the total prize money amounts to \$312,000, derived from three disciplines, with \$104,000 allocated per discipline and distributed as follows:

**Top 10 horses in each category** (Hunter Pleasure Pro-Am, Western Pleasure Pro-Am, and Saddle Seat Pro-Am):

<b>1st place</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
<b>2nd place</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>
<b>3rd place</b>	<b>\$18,000</b>
<b>4th place</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>
<b>5th place</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>
<b>6th place</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>7th place</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>8th place</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>9th place</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>10th place</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>

**SCHEDULE:**

1. Scottsdale, USA – 13-15 February
2. Las Vegas, USA – 02-04 October

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

It is not possible to cover every situation in these GCAT Americas 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 Americas Shows for promotional purposes or any other purpose to the benefit of the Tour.

Participation in GCAT Americas events is at the sole risk of the owner. GCAT Americas 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 Americas reserves the right to modify rules. Changes take effect immediately upon publication on the official website.