



Official American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) Black Type Systems

AQHA has approved three black type pedigree systems:

1. Race Black Type

a. Catalog Examples: Heritage Place Sales, Ruidoso Select Sales

2. Performance (General) Black Type

a. Catalog Examples: NCHA, NRCHA & NRHA Futurity Sales

3. Barrel Black Type (Combines Race + Performance + Barrel)

a. Catalog Examples: [2023] BFA & BBR Futurity Sales

Race Black Type Rules:

- a. **UPPER CASE BLACK TYPE:** First in an official AQHA, Jockey Club or APHA stakes race.
- b. **Upper/Lower Case Black type:** Second or third in an official AQHA, Jockey Club or APHA stakes race.
- c. *Finalist* information only appears when a race was graded.

Original Performance Black Type Rules: apply to all performance disciplines for foals born prior to 2020 (barrel) and 2021 (all other disciplines):

a. UPPER CASE BLACK TYPE

- i. *World Champion [qualifying world-caliber shows]
- ii. †AQHA-APHA Champion, Versatility Champion
- iii. †AQHA-APHA Superior Award
- iv. NCHA Bronze, Silver, Gold & Platinum Award
- v. Earnings of \$ 10,000 or more

b. Lower Case Black Type:

- i. *Reserve World Champion [qualifying world-caliber shows]
- ii. AQHA Select World Champion
- iii. †Color Club (PHBA, IBHA, ABRA) Champion
- iv. †AQHA-APHA ROM award
- v. Earnings of \$1,500-\$9,999

Updated [General] Performance Horse Black Type Rules implemented on January 1, 2024 apply to all performance disciplines *except barrel racing* and pertains to foals born in 2021 and later. Rules are as follows:

a. UPPER CASE BLACK TYPE

- vi. *World Champion [qualifying world-caliber shows]
- vii. †AQHA-APHA Champion, Versatility Champion
- viii. †AQHA-APHA Superior Award
- ix. Earnings of \$15,000 or more

b. Lower Case Black Type:

- x. *Reserve World Champion [qualifying world-caliber shows]
- xi. AQHA Select World Champion
- xii. AQHA World Level 2 Champion [no change except in documentation]
- xiii. †Color Club (PHBA, IBHA, ABRA) Champion
- xiv. †AQHA-APHA ROM award
- xv. Earnings of \$3,000-\$14,999

****Updated Barrel Horse Black Type Rules** implemented by the Barrel Racing Industry Alliance (BRIA) on **January 1, 2024** apply to foals born in 2020 and later with **only** the speed event codes on the performance lines in the QData Database (halter classes ignored):

a. UPPER CASE BLACK TYPE

- i. Total lifetime earnings of \$50,000 & above
- ii. Winning a Grade 1 Barrel Race (regardless of earnings)
- iii. Earning an AQHA Superior Barrel Racing award

b. Lower Case Black Type:

- i. Total lifetime earnings of \$25,000-\$49,999
- ii. Placing 2nd or 3rd in a Grade 1 Barrel Race (regardless of earnings)

****If a barrel horse also shows in other events and qualified for black type under the General Black Type System, it earns the General System black type.**

*Qualifying World Shows must attract exhibitors and/or horses from the U.S. and foreign countries. Examples are AQHA World Show, APHA World Show, NSBA World Show, All American Quarter Horse Congress. Simply calling a show a "World" does not qualify it for the black type system.

†If the non-AQHA information is manually provided to the information producer.