



RULES

2025 -TEXAS 2 STEP CHAMPIONSHIP
STEP 1 --- FRIDAY EVENING APRIL 4, 2025
STEP 2 -- SATURDAY APRIL 5, 2025
SAM HOUSTON RACE PARK ("SHRP")

Updated February 12, 2025

SUMMARY -- STEP 1

Friday Evening April 4

\$250 live money bankroll (no entry fee or takeout)

Contest Races will consist of all SHRP Races

Must wager \$50 on at least 5 different races

Eligible Wagers – Win, Place, Exacta, Trifecta and Daily Double

1 NHC Seat to first place

1 bankroll for Saturday's Step Two to second place

Additional bankrolls for every 20 entries after the first 2 entries (2 at 22, 3 at 42, etc.)

Limit 3 entries per person

No caps on mutual payouts

No NHC Tour Points

SUMMARY --STEP 2

Saturday, April 5, 2025

\$1500 live money bankroll (no entry fee or takeout)

Contest Races will consist of the "SHRP Races" and the "Simulcast Races." The SHRP Races are all live races at SHRP. The Simulcast Races will be certain races from Aqueduct, Keeneland, Oaklawn and Santa Anita to be designated prior to the Contest.

2 NHC Seats and 1 BCBC Entry Awarded

NHC seats include hotel and \$500 for air fare

Must wager \$1500 in total including at least \$150 on 5 different SHRP Races

Eligible Wagers – Win, Place, Exacta, Trifecta and Daily Double

No caps on mutual payouts

Limit of 3 entries per person and 100 entries in total. (Total number of entries subject to adjustment under Rule 2.5.)

2026 NHC Tour Points Available

OFFICIAL RULES (the “Rules”)

All the Rules below apply to both Step 1 and Step 2 unless otherwise indicated

The term “Contest” refers to Step 1, Step 2 or both as the context may require

The term “Contest Date” refers to April 4 for Step 1 or April 5 for Step 2 as the context may require

1. ELIGIBILITY

1.1 Individuals entering the Contest (“Contestants”) must be twenty-one (21) years of age or older on the Contest Date.

1.2 Each Contestant must be a member of the 2025 National Handicapping Championship (“NHC”) Tour as of the Contest Date.

1.3 NHC Tour Memberships available at www.nhctour.com.

1.4 There are no NHC tour points for Step 1. Step 2 is eligible for 2025 NHC Tour points subject to NTRA Rules.

1.5 Corporations, partnerships, joint ventures, syndicates, trusts and other non-individual legal entities are not eligible to participate.

1.6 Individuals licensed by a racing commission or other governmental agency overseeing racing (a “Licensee”) shall identify himself/herself to SHRP prior to the first Contest Race. A Licensee includes, but is not limited to, an owner, trainer, track official, jockey agent and any licensed racetrack employee. A Contestant must also declare in advance of Contest play if he or she is an immediate family member of a Licensee. For purposes of this Contest, "immediate family members" shall be defined as mother, father, spouse, significant other, children, stepchildren and siblings. Failure to disclose as provided herein may result in disqualification from the Contest and forfeiture of any NHC or BCBC seat wo

A Licensee who has an interest – ownership or otherwise – in a horse entered in any of the races designated as part of the Contest in accordance with these Rules and immediate family members of such Licensee will be ineligible to use such races in the Contest. Failure to comply with this provision may result in disqualification.

1.7 Employees and “immediate family members” (as defined above) of SHRP, Penn Entertainment, Global Tote or any of their respective affiliates, MAY NOT ENTER the Contest.

1.8 SHRP reserves the right to deny any person entry into the Contest or to disqualify any Contestant for any reason listed in the Rules or for any other reason which SHRP deems in its sole discretion to be justifiable or not in the spirit of the Rules.

2. TO ENTER THE CONTEST

1. Pre-entries may be made online on the Contest web page until midnight Wednesday April 1 (the “Pre-Entry Deadline”),

2. A pre-entry is not complete until the associated live bankroll is funded in accordance with section 2.4 below.
3. Persons may also enter on a walk-up basis at SHRP on Friday April 4 until 7:15pm for Step 1 and on Saturday April 5 until 2:30PM for Step 2.
4. Each Contestant is required to fund their own “live” bankroll. Deadline for funding via check is Wednesday March 26, 2025. The check must be received by that date. Checks should be made payable to Sam Houston Race Park and mailed to Sam Houston Race Park, 7575 North Sam Houston W, Houston TX 77064. Those who want to fund by cash must do so at SHRP during the same period as for walk up entries. No funding by debit card or credit card is allowed per Texas law.
5. Limit of three (3) entries per Contestant for Step 1 and 3 entries per Contestant for Step 2. Limit of 100 entries in total for Step 2. No limit on total entries for Step 1. The limit of 100 entries for Step 2 is subject to increase if necessary to accommodate any persons who win bankrolls in Step 1.

3. HOW TO PLAY

1. Wagers may be placed at any of the self-serve machines located throughout the building. Contestants will use a bar code affixed to a stock paper card on a lanyard when making wagers for the Contest at a self-serve. If a Contestant has two (2) or three (3) entries, then he or she will be given a separate lanyard for each entry. Contest wagers may also be made in the building using a smart phone, tablet or laptop. Contest wagers cannot be made with a live teller.
2. The races used for Step 1 on Friday will be all races at SHRP. The races used for Step 2 on Saturday will be all the SHRP Races and the Simulcast Races as defined in the summary above. A list of the Simulcast Races will be released no later than the day before the Contest.
3. Permitted wagers in the Contest are Win, Place, Exacta, Trifecta, and Daily Double only except no Daily Double wager on any Simulcast Race if that race is the last Contest Race from that track. Making any type of wager in a Contest Race that is not permitted herein will result in a disqualification. **Note especially no SHOW or SUPERFECTA wagering in any Contest account.**
4. For Step 1, each Contestant must wager at least \$50 on 5 different races. For Step 2, each Contestant must wager at least \$1500 total which must include wagers of least \$150 on five (5) different SHRP races. Failure to meet the minimum wagering requirements of this section will result in a disqualification. With respect to the foregoing requirements for both Step 1 and Step 2, see Section 5.4 for how a late scratch will be treated in certain situations.

4. DETERMINATION OF WINNERS

1. For Step 1 on Friday, the Contestant with the highest bankroll at the conclusion of the last Contest Race will win a NHC seat for 2026 which will include hotel and \$500 for airfare. The second-place finisher will win a \$1500

bankroll for Step 2 on Saturday. After the first two entries, an additional bankroll will be awarded for each 20 entries thereafter (2 at 22, 3 at 42 etc.). EXCEPTION--- Only one award per Contestant. The NHC winner cannot also win a bankroll to Step 2. Further each Contestant can win one bankroll only to STEP 2.

2. For Step 2 on Saturday, the person with the highest bankroll at the conclusion of the last Contest Race will have his or her choice of either a 2025 BCBC seat or a 2026 NHC seat. Assuming the first-place finisher selects the BCBC seat, then the Contestants with the second and third highest bankroll shall be awarded a 2026 NHC seat. If the first-place finisher selects a 2026 NHC seat, then the second-place finisher shall select between the BCBC seat or the NHC seat with the remaining award going to the third-place finisher. EXCEPTION --- A Contestant can win only one prize. If a Contestant has two or three entries that finish in the top three, then the second of the two entries will not be considered in determining the top 3 finishers for the purpose of awarding seats. NHC seats include hotel and \$500 for air fare. There are no hotel or air fare considerations associated with the BCBC award.

3. In the event of a tie for any position in the final standings, the following shall apply: First Tiebreaker --- The winner will be the Contestant with highest aggregate amount wagered during the entire Contest --- Second Tiebreaker --- Contestant with the highest single mutuel payout --- Third Tiebreaker --- Contestant with the next highest mutuel payout --- Last Tiebreaker --- Coin flip

5. OTHER WAGERING AND BANKROLL CONSIDERATIONS

1. Contestants should allow plenty of time to make wagers to avoid being shut out. Contestants should check that each wager has been correctly made. Each Contestant is responsible for his or her own wagers.

2. Contestants must place all wagers personally. No person shall act as an intermediary, transmitter, or agent in placing wagers for a Contestant. Photo ID will be required at Contest check in.

3. All wagers, payoffs, bankroll balances and Contest standings as well as the final winners will be verified by the SHRP Tote System. In all cases the official mutuel payouts as determined by or provided to the SHRP Tote system shall be official and final.

4. If a horse is scratched after a wager is placed, it is the Contestant's responsibility to change his or her wager. If the wager on a scratched horse is not cancelled and the race goes off, the Contestant's bankroll will receive a refund or partial refund if applicable. The amount of any refund or partial refund on the cancelled wager will not count towards the minimum wagering requirements. EXCEPTION--- If (i) there is a late scratch in any Contest Race and the Contestant is unable to make a replacement wager, and (ii) if that scratch makes

it impossible for the Contestant to meet the minimum wagering requirements, then the amount of the wager lost due to the late scratch shall be included in determining if the minimum wagering requirements have been satisfied. A late scratch shall be a scratch made after the first horse for the race in question has been loaded into the starting gate.

5. A Contestant may revise or cancel a wager at any time prior to the stop wagering command of the applicable race except that a win wager of over \$500 cannot be cancelled per Texas law.

6. The live money bankroll belongs to the Contestant. Any monies (winnings or leftover funds) can be withdrawn by the Contestant once it has been deemed by SHRP officials “okay” to withdraw which should be approximately 10 or 15 minutes after the final Contest Race has gone official. **Any withdrawals prior to the “Okay” to withdraw announcement or any additional deposits into a Contest account beyond the initial \$250 live bankroll deposit for Step 1 on Friday or the \$1,500 live bankroll deposit for Step 2 on Saturday will result in a disqualification.**

7. Withdrawal of funds in a Contestant’s account at the end of the Contest is the Contestant’s responsibility. Funds not withdrawn at the end of the Contest will convert into a Mutuel Voucher. A Contestant then will have 365 days to claim the resulting Mutuel Voucher from the SHRP Mutuels Department. Failure to make such a claim within the said 365 days will result in a forfeiture of the voucher.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Each of the three Contest winners (i) is solely responsible for any resulting federal, state or local tax liabilities, and (ii) may also be required to sign and deliver to SHRP a release form confirming his or her compliance with the Rules.

2. Each Contestant, by participating in the Contest, grants to SHRP, the fully-assignable, absolute and irrevocable right and permission to use his/her name, likeness, image, appearance, voice, address (city and state), biographical information, statements, and/or prize information in any medium now known or hereinafter devised, throughout the world and on the Internet, for any commercial or non-commercial purpose determined by SHRP in its sole and absolute discretion.

3. By participating in the Contest, each Contestant releases SHRP, its parent companies, subsidiaries, employees, and affiliated companies from any claim or cause of action, whether known or unknown, for libel, slander, defamation, invasion of right of privacy, publicity or personality, or any other claim or cause of action, based upon or relating to the use of the Contestant’s identity.

4. By participating in the Contest, each Contestant further releases SHRP, its parent companies, subsidiaries, employees, and affiliated companies from any liability whatsoever, and waives any and all causes of action, related to any claims, costs, injuries, losses or damages of any kind arising out of or in connection with the Contest, participation in the Contest, or delivery, non-

delivery, acceptance, possession, use, misuse of or inability to use any prize (including, without limitation, claims, costs, injuries, losses and damages related to personal injuries, death, damage to or destruction of property, rights of publicity or privacy, defamation or portrayal in a false light, whether intentional or unintentional), whether under a theory of contract, tort (including negligence), warranty or other theory.

5. ALL CONTEST DISPUTES, ALL INTERPRETATIONS OF THE RULES AND ALL QUESTIONS NOT COVERED IN THE RULES WILL BE DECIDED BY SHRP WHOSE DECISION WILL BE FINAL AND WITHOUT ANY CLAIM FOR DAMAGES OR RECOURSE OF ANY KIND. AMONG OTHER THINGS, SAM HOUSTON RACE PARK RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DECLARE THE CONTEST NULL AND VOID AND TO WITHOLD NHC and BCBC SEATS IF THERE ARE ANY IRREGULARITIES OR UNFORSEEN PROBLEMS.

6. If any Contestant has any claim and cause of action arising out of or related to the Contest to which the foregoing sections 6.4 and 6.5 do not apply, then the same shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, and exclusively in the District Court for Harris County, Texas; and any and all claims, judgments and awards shall be limited to actual out-of-pocket costs incurred, but in no event attorney fees.

7. Under no circumstances shall SHRP its parent companies, subsidiaries, employees, and affiliated companies have any liability to any Contestant for any indirect, punitive, incidental and consequential damages and any other damages, other than for actual out-of-pocket expenses.

8. All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation and enforceability of these Rules, or the rights and obligations of each Contestant and SHRP in connection with the Contest, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Texas, without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules.

9. Any advertisements, including e-mails, internet content and all other materials related to the Contest that contain mechanical, typographical, printing or any other errors are subject to correction by SHRP. If there are any discrepancies between such advertising and Contest material and the Rules, the Rules will govern and prevail.