



RULES (UPDATED 1-23-26)

2026 HOUSTON BETTING CHAMPIONSHIP
SAM HOUSTON RACE PARK (“SHRP”)

PRELIMINARY EVENT --- FRIDAY EVENING JANUARY 23, 2026

MAIN EVENT --- SATURDAY JANUARY 24, 2026

SUMMARY --- PRELIMINARY EVENT

Friday evening January 23

\$500 live money bankroll (no takeout or entry fee)

**Contest races will consist of all HOU races (meaning all live races at SHRP),
races 5 - 9 from Charles Town, and races 5 – 9 from Delta Downs.**

Must wager at least \$100 on 5 different races including 3 races at SHRP

No caps on mutual payouts

Eligible wagers --- Win, Place, Exacta, Trifecta and Daily Double

Limit of 3 entries per person

NHC Seats to first and second place (choice of 2026 or 2027)

Free \$1500 bankrolls for Main Event on Saturday to 3rd and 4th Place

Additional bankroll at 40 entries and every 20 entries thereafter

NHC Seats include hotel and \$500 for airfare

2025 NHC Tour Points available

SUMMARY --- THE MAIN EVENT

Saturday January 24

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

**Contest Races will consist of the “HOU Races” and the “Simulcast Races.”
The HOU Races will be all live races at SHRP. The Simulcast Races will be
races 6 – 13 from Gulfstream Park, races 1 – 5 from Santa Anita, and
races 1 - 9 from the Fair Grounds.**

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

No caps on mutual payouts

Eligible wagers --- Win, Place, Exacta, Trifecta and Daily Double

Limit of 3 entries per person

2 BCBC seats awarded for 2026 plus 4 NHC Seats (choice of 2026 or 2027)

NHC Seats include hotel and \$500 for airfare

2025 NHC Tour Points available

Maximum number of Entries -- 150

OFFICIAL RULES (the “Rules”)

**All the Rules below apply to both the Preliminary Event on Friday and the Main Event on Saturday
unless otherwise indicated.**

**The term “Contest” refers to the Preliminary Event on Friday or the Main Event on Saturday or both
as the context may require**

**The term “Contest Date” refers to January 23 for the Preliminary Event and January 24 for the Main
Event 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 If playing for a 2026 NHC seat, you must be a member of the 2025 Tour as of the Contest Date.
- 1.3 2025 NHC Tour Memberships available at www.nhctour.com.
- 1.4 If playing for a 2027 NHC seat, you must be a member of the 2025 NHC Tour on automatic renewal for 2026. Otherwise, you must sign up for the 2026 NHC Tour manually at the registration desk on the Contest Date
- 1.5 Contest eligible for 2025 NHC Tour points subject to NTRA Rules.
- 1.6 Corporations, partnerships, joint ventures, syndicates, trusts and other non-individual legal entities are not eligible to participate.
- 1.7 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 will result in disqualification from this Contest and forfeiture of any NHC or BCBC seat or bankroll won.

A Contestant who has an interest or who has an immediate family member (as defined above) with 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 shall disclose such in advance of Contest play and will be ineligible to use in the Contest any race or races where said horse or horses are entered. Failure to comply with the provisions of this paragraph will result in disqualification from this Contest and forfeiture of any NHC or BCBC seat or bankroll won.
- 1.8 Employees and “immediate family members” (as defined above) of SHRP, Penn Entertainment, Inc. Global Tote or any of their respective affiliates (including Retama Park) MAY NOT ENTER the Contest.
- 1.9 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

- 2.1 Pre-entries must be received by midnight on Wednesday January 21, 2026 (the “Pre-Entry Deadline”).
- 2.2 Pre-entry forms may be printed from the Contest web page at www.shrp.com. Mailed Pre-entries under this section must be addressed to Sam Houston Race Park, Attn: Courtney Conte, 7575 N. Sam Houston Parkway W., Houston, Texas 77064, and must be received by the Pre-Entry Deadline.
- 2.3 Pre-Entries may also be made by the Pre-Entry Deadline online on the Contest web page.
- 2.4 A pre-entry is not complete until the associated live bankroll is funded in accordance with section 2.6 below.
- 2.5 Persons may also enter on a walk-up basis at SHRP starting Friday at noon. The deadline for entering the Preliminary Event is until the start of Race 4. The deadline for entering the Main Event on Saturday is 2:00 PM.

- 2.6 Each Contestant is required to fund their own “live” bankroll. Deadline for funding via check is Wednesday January 14, 2026. The check must be received by that date. Those desiring to fund by cash must do at SHRP during the same period as for walk up entries. No funding by debit card or credit card is allowed per Texas law.
- 2.7 Limit of three (3) entries per Contestant
- 2.8 The number of entries for the Main Event on Saturday is capped at 150. No further entries will be accepted once there are 150 entries that have been funded. All persons desiring to enter, and especially those from out of town, are urged to both pre-enter and fund by check to be received by Wednesday January 14, 2026. There is no cap on entries for the Preliminary Event on Friday night.

3 HOW TO PLAY

- 3.1 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 on a smart phone, tablet or laptop utilizing an account number and PIN which will be assigned at check in for each entry.
- 3.2 The races used for the Preliminary Event on Friday will be all the HOU Races plus 5 – 9 from Charles Town, and races 5-9 from Delta Downs. The races used for the Main Event on Saturday will be all the Races HOU 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.
- 3.3 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 disqualification.
- 3.4 For the Preliminary Event on Friday, each Contestant must wager at least \$100 on 5 different races including 3 different HOU races. For the Main Event on Saturday, each Contestant must wager at least \$1500 in total which must include wagers of least \$150 on five (5) different HOU Races. Failure to meet the minimum wagering requirements of this section will result in a disqualification.

4 PRIZES AND DETERMINATION OF WINNERS

- 4.1 For the Preliminary Event on Friday, the Contestants with the two highest bankrolls at the conclusion of the last Contest Race will win a NHC seat of their choice for 2026 (last chance) or 2027 (first chance). Each NHC seat includes hotel and \$500 for air fare. The third and fourth place finishers will win a \$1500 bankroll for the Main Event on Saturday. After the first two bankrolls are awarded, an additional bankroll will be awarded at 40 entries and for each 20 entries thereafter (i.e. 2 bankrolls at 39 entries or less, 3 at 40, 4 at 60 etc.)

EXCEPTION--- Only one award per Contestant in the Preliminary Event. If a Contestant has two or three entries that finish in the top 4 (or top 5 if there are 40 entries, top 6 if there are 60 entries etc.), then only the highest entry will be considered in determining top finishers for the awarding of NHC seats and bankrolls to the Main Event on Saturday.

- 4.2 For the Main Event on Saturday, the persons with the 6 highest bankrolls at the conclusion of the last Contest Race will each select in order of finish their award from a pool of awards consisting of 2 BCBC seats for 2026 and 4 NHC seats for either 2026 (last chance) or 2027 (first chance). Each NHC seat includes hotel and \$500 for air fare. There are no hotel or air fare considerations associated with a BCBC seat.

EXCEPTION --- Only one award per Contestant in the Main Event. If a Contestant has two or three entries that finish in the top six, then only the highest entry will be considered in determining the top 6 finishers for the purpose of awarding BCBC or NHC seats.

- 4.3 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

- 5.1 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
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 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.
- 5.5 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.
- 5.6 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 \$500 live bankroll deposit for the Preliminary Event on Friday or the \$1,500 live bankroll deposit for Main Event on Saturday will result in a disqualification.**
- 5.7 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

- 6.1 Each Contest winner (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.
- 6.2 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.
- 6.3 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.
- 6.4 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.
- 6.5 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.
- 6.6 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.
- 6.7 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.
- 6.8 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.
- 6.9 SHRP and Contestants release and hold harmless the racetracks owned, operated or represented by Churchill Downs Incorporated from any liabilities, claims, demands, damages and costs arising from the Contest.