## Re: International Club EXCA Member High Point Award - An EXCA Supported Pilot Initiative

Dear International Club,

We are excited about the growth and interest in Extreme Cowboy Racing internationally. We want to support Clubs as they work to grow the sport in their region/country. To do so, you may know that unique EXCA buckles are available for purchase for EXCA sanctioned events, and awarding these is encouraged where possible. To order buckles go to <a href="http://www.extremecowboyraces.com/buckles.htm">http://www.extremecowboyraces.com/buckles.htm</a>. Further, the EXCA will furnish one EXCA buckle for an International/Provincial Championship. It can be awarded to whomever the club wants. Contact the EXCA at turben@extremecowboyassociation.com for more information.

The EXCA also wishes to support additional ways to recognize EXCA members at international sanctioned club events. Now an EXCA affiliate club can participate in the **International Club EXCA Member High Point Award** Initiative. Under this initiative it will be able to provide to EXCA members, free of charge and on behalf of the EXCA, a beautiful EXCA certificate signed by Craig Cameron and the event's EXCA judge. Your club might provide the certificate:

- to the EXCA member with the highest points in their division at each race;
- at high profile events only, such as a regional or provincial championships, to the EXCA member with the highest points in their division; or
- as an end of season award to the EXCA member with the highest points in their division.

Your club will be able to choose from the above list the approach that is right for it.

Club members who are not members of EXCA are not eligible. You do not need to collect EXCA points to be eligible to receive the certificate. Clubs will be advised if there is any change to this in future years.

A copy of the certificate file is attached. Given that the EXCA operates in English, it is currently available in that language. If your club would like to have the certificate produced in another language, please provide the translated text and we will have it produced. Certificates are to be printed by the affiliate club. The EXCA does not have printed copies of the certificate. We will work to have the electronic files added to the web site also.

EXCA membership is important. Among other things it:

- supports the foundational organization for the sport, the EXCA, through the development of the rulebook, and support to affiliate clubs around the world in terms of common ways of hosting and judging the sport.
- supports profile competitions (World's and Nationals) which, help to build engagement with and momentum for the sport, and horsemanship overall.
- supports the development of EXCA judges, through the development of standard judging tests. Certified judges must also judge EXCA members at races in order to get credit to advance. Without judging EXCA members, a judge cannot move up as they are not deemed to be judging an EXCA event when there are no EXCA members riders.

We would like to thank Shannon Townsend, an EXCA International Advisory Panel (IAP) Member for Eastern Canada and EXCA judge, along with Susan Caldwell, Club President for the Ontario Extreme Cowboy Club and independent graphic designer, for their leadership on the initiative.

If you have any questions about these certificates, please contact Frank Turben at <u>turben@extremecowboyassociation.com</u>, or Shannon Townsend, IAP member for Eastern Canada at Hendricktownfarm@gmail.com.

Ride Smart! The EXCA