

# MONITORING CHANGE

*Changes you will find in your rulebook next year.*

STARTING IN JANUARY, YOU'LL FIND SOME ADDITIONS AND changes to your AQHA Handbook of Rules and Regulations. All rule changes and/or additions included in the 2009 rulebook are underlined.

## Membership Has its Privileges

Section 1. Members of AQHA shall be admitted, retained and expelled in accordance with such rules and regulations as the Board of Directors may, from time to time, adopt. In all matters governed by the vote of the members, each member in good standing who has been a member for at least sixty (60) days per AQHA records shall be entitled to one vote.

Rule 101 (h) LIFE MEMBERSHIP: The designations specified for membership are available for life membership, upon application and payment of \$500, except for AQHYA life membership, which, by payment of \$50, shall entitle the boy or girl such eligibility through 18 years of age. These designations are as follows:

- (1) Individual
- (2) Joint
- (3) Assumed or Trade Name
- (4) Corporate
- (5) Partnership, General or Limited
- (6) Syndicate or Joint Venture
- (7) Decedent's Estate, Trust, Guardianship or Other Custodial Legal Entity
- (8) American Quarter Horse Youth Association membership (through 18 years of age)
- (9) Life membership shall have the same privileges as such designation carries with an annual membership, with the exception of AQHYA that carries special qualification requirements. Each officer, representative, director, shareholder, partner, beneficiary and each beneficial owner of an artificial legal entity described above, and as to the estates, trusts, guardianships or other custodial legal entity, the person for which the entity is created must be eligible for individual membership in AQHA.
  - (A) AQHA life members who are youth (eligible through 18 years of age) shall have the same privileges as such designation carries with an AQHYA membership.
- (10) A life membership is not transferable, but a life membership may be carried in the joint names of spouses. Valid

marriage shall be established by copy of marriage certificate or other documentation as AQHA may request. If the life membership is carried in a single person's name, the name of a later spouse may be added by one time amendment, upon providing documentation supporting the marriage as AQHA requests. If the marriage is terminated due to death or divorce the life membership may be changed back to the name of the original purchaser by filing with AQHA a copy of judicial decree or written evidence of divorce or death. The successor of spouses (spouse's death or divorce) shall be entitled to exclusive life membership having the one time privilege to amend the membership's name to correctly reflect the successor's status by filing with AQHA a copy of judicial decree, written evidence of death or written instrument of consent signed by the terminating spouse.

(i) Membership Fee	Fee	Renewing Fee*
AQHA life	\$500	N/A
AQHA 12 month	\$40	\$35
AQHA 36 month	\$80	\$80
AQHA Amateur 12 month	\$45	\$40
AQHA Amateur 36 month	\$90	\$90
AQHYA 12 month	\$15	\$15
AQHYA 36 month	\$35	\$35
AQHYA life	\$50	N/A
**AQHYA life upgrade to AQHA life	\$450	N/A
**Graduating Youth upgrade to 4-year AQHA membership	\$80	N/A
**Graduating Youth upgrade to 4-year Amateur membership	\$90	N/A

*\*Renewal fee applies if renewed within 30 days of expiration.  
\*\* Only AQHYA members whose youth eligibility has expired are eligible for graduating youth memberships. They must apply for the graduating youth membership within six months of December 31 (June 30) the year after the youth member turns 19.*

## Disciplinary Action

### Rule 104 e2

Upon suspension and/or denial of privileges by the executive

vice president, the name and address (City and State) of such member or non-member and description of disciplinary action may be published in *The American Quarter Horse Journal*, *The American Quarter Horse Racing Journal* or on AQHA's official Web site, [www.aqha.com](http://www.aqha.com)." Any suspension and/or denial of AQHA privileges under this section shall terminate upon full payment of the obligation due.

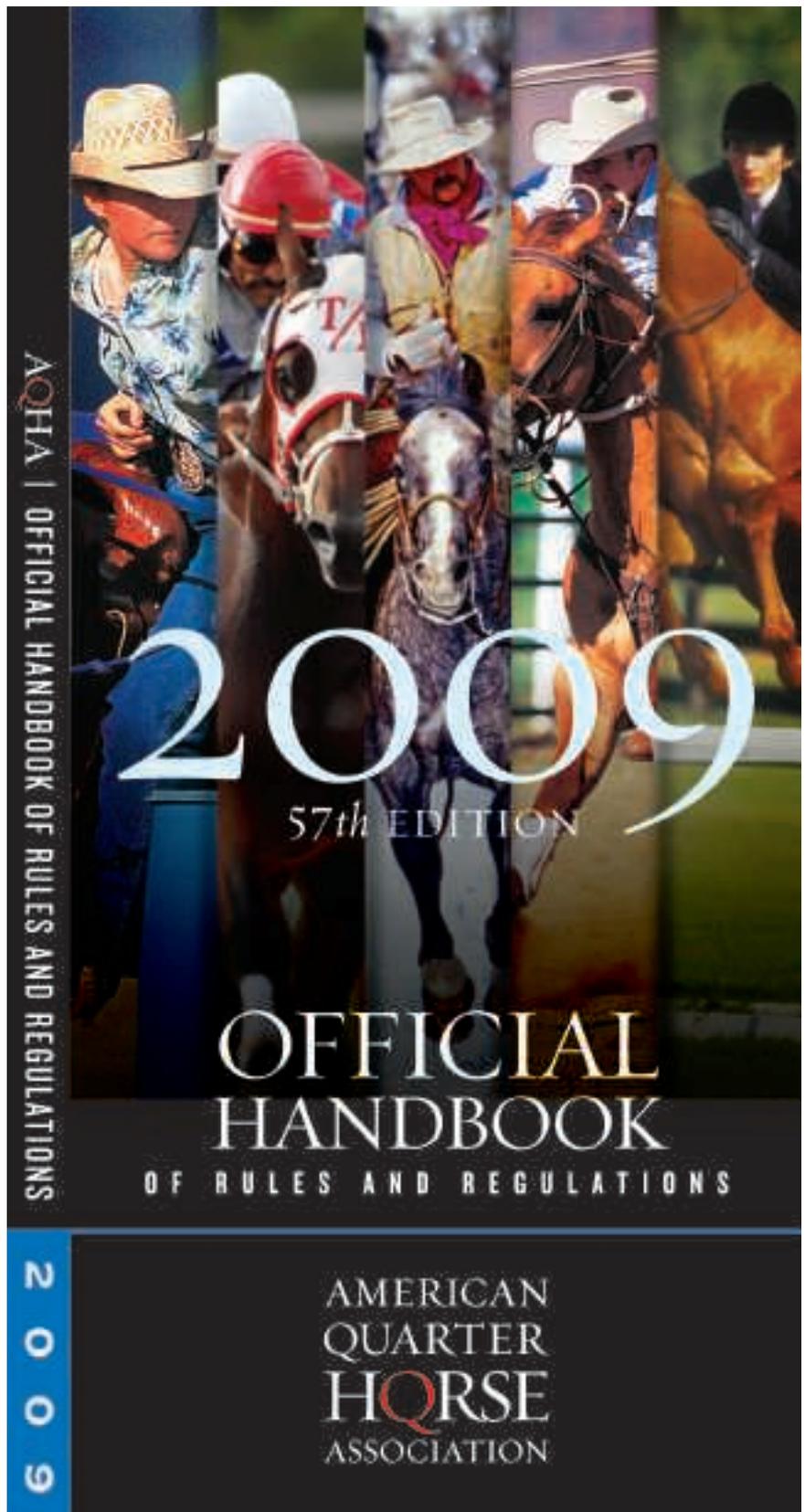
(f) Any member may be suspended and denied AQHA privileges and any non-member may be denied AQHA privileges by AQHA's Executive Vice President for failure to timely file with AQHA any report required by the rules of AQHA; provided, however, that fifteen (15) days before action by the Executive Vice President, written notice of the delinquent report and the intention to suspend or deny AQHA privileges shall be mailed to such member or non-member. Upon suspension and/or denial of AQHA privileges by the Executive Vice President, the name and address (City and State) of such member or non-member and description of disciplinary action may be published in *The American Quarter Horse Journal*, *The American Quarter Horse Racing Journal* or on AQHA's official Web site, [www.aqha.com](http://www.aqha.com)." Any suspension and/or denial of AQHA privileges under this section shall terminate upon the filing of the requisite report.

## Registration

### Rule 202 d

Registration applications for horses foaled in any of the following countries, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and The Netherlands should be submitted to the recognized International Association for processing and submission to AQHA for approval.

(f) Was foaled in an international country having a Quarter Horse Association recognized by the American Quarter Horse Association that operates its own stud book; was issued a registration certificate by such international association; and which traces to a minimum of 93.75 percent (15/16) lineage to horses issued numbered registration certificates by the American Quarter Horse Association. To receive such numbered certificate from the American Quarter Horse Association, the horse's owner must make application through the recognized international association in the country he resides



to supply the American Quarter Horse Association all required proof of breeding and identification. Registration fee shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25), or sixty-five dollars (\$65) if owner does not have a current membership. This procedure is applicable only to horses that were foaled after July 31, 1975.

**208. Stallion Breeding Report**

(a) The owner, authorized agent or lessee of every American Quarter Horse stallion must make a written report showing the names, registration numbers and breeding date(s) of exposure of all registered American Quarter Horse and Thoroughbred mares exposed to said stallion since the previous November 30, and the owner, authorized agent or lessee of every registered Thoroughbred stallion must make a written report showing the names, registration numbers and breeding date(s) of exposure of all registered American Quarter Horse mares exposed to said stallion since the previous November 30. Such report must be postmarked or delivered to AQHA on or before November 30 of the breeding year. Proper fees as per rule 222 must be remitted. A payment of \$30 in addition to the usual filing fees will be required for reports submitted after November 30 of the breeding year. Such reports for stallions standing south of the equator must be postmarked or delivered to AQHA's office on or before June 30 of the breeding year, and a payment of \$30 in addition to the usual filing fees will be required for reports submitted after June 30 of the breeding year.

(c) Persons using a retained semen rights permit (refer to rule 209) must file a stallion breeding report or supplemental stallion breeding report listing mares bred using the stored semen by November 30 of the breeding season and pay fees specified in rule 222. If the report is filed after November 30, a late fee of \$30 in addition to the usual filing fee will be required to submit a report after the deadline.

**222. Fess**

(b) Registration

Registration fees are determined by the actual age of the horse according to the date the application and fee are received in AQHA's office, as evidenced by AQHA's date stamp and apply to both numbered and appendix horses. (See asterisk \*\* under paragraph (n) for explanation of member/nonmember fee.)

EXAMPLE: Foaling date of February 15, the seven month deadline is September 15.

	Member	Nonmember**	
Foaling date to seventh month birthdate	\$25	\$65	**
Eighth month to twelfth month birthdate	\$50	\$90	**
Thirteenth month to twenty-fourth month birthdate	\$125	\$165	**
Twenty-fifth month to thirty-sixth month birthdate	\$300	\$340	**
Thirty-seventh month to forty-eighth month birthdate	\$550	\$590	**
Past forty-eighth month birthdate	\$1,000	\$1,040	**
*Special handling fee, in addition to regular fee	\$40	\$40	
Registration fee for horses foaled in a recognized international country	\$25	\$65	**
(c) DUPLICATE, CORRECTED OR REPLACEMENT CERTIFICATES			

	Member	Nonmember**	
Correcting records and issuing corrected certificate	\$10	\$10	
Issuance of duplicate registration certificate	\$25	\$65	**
Issuance of replacement certificate	\$10	\$50	**
Name change (if permitted)	\$50	\$90	**
Reservation of horse name	\$75	\$115	**
Re-registration	\$50	\$90	**
*Special handling fee for each duplicate, corrected or replacement certificate, in addition to regular fee	\$30	\$30	
(d) TRANSFER			
Transfer of ownership per horse on each change of ownership (based on the membership status of the buyer)	\$15	\$55	**
*Special handling fee for each horse transferred, in addition to regular fee	\$25	\$25	
(e) LEASE	\$20	\$60	**
Replacement lease certificate	\$10	\$50	**
(f) EMBRYO ENROLLMENT	\$100	\$140	**
(g) FROZEN EMBRYO PERMIT	\$50	\$90	**
(h) FROZEN SEMEN PERMIT	\$50	\$90	**
(i) THOROUGHBRED RECORDS			
Thoroughbred ownership recording fee	\$50	\$90	**
Thoroughbred ownership update	\$15	\$55	**
(j) STALLION BREEDING REPORT			
Filing fee per stallion	\$25	\$65	**
Plus per mare exposed	\$5	\$10	
Late filing fee, in addition to regular fee	\$30	\$30	
Photocopy - SBR per report	\$5	\$10	
(k) PEDIGREES			
Five generation racing pedigree	\$5	\$10	
Five generation show pedigree	\$5	\$10	
Five generation pedigree with horse's colors	\$3	\$6	
Five generation pedigree with horse's colors and printed on special paper	\$7	\$14	
*Does not include overnight return delivery service.			
(l) ADVANCEMENT FROM APPENDIX			
Geldings	\$25	\$65	**
Mares	\$50	\$90	**
Stallions	\$100	\$140	**
(m) GENETIC TESTING			
DNA Typing at time of registration	\$40	\$40	
DNA Typing of registered horse	\$50	\$50	
Blood Typing	\$50	\$50	
Postmortem Testing	\$300	\$300	
HYPP Testing	\$40	\$40	
*Special handling fee,			

in addition to regular fee      \$10      \$10

### **229. Descriptions of Markings:**

- (j) ANKLE: A marking extending from the top of the hoof to the top of the ankle.
- (m) 3/4 STOCKING: A marking extending from the top of the hoof to the midway point of the cannon bone.
- (r) WHORL: hair growth that forms a spiral pattern.

### **Racing Rules and Regulations**

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The welfare of the horse and all other animals is paramount to AQHA. Before proceeding, please read AQHA's welfare statement concerning American Quarter Horse racing on page 10. Rules 300 (b) and 302 are examples of ways that AQHA has worked to protect horses involved in racing.

### **303. Horse Ownership**

- (a) For purposes of this rule, the term "AQHA Race Ownership Record" shall mean a horse's official AQHA ownership record as it existed within AQHA's ownership data system at the time of a race.
- (b) For purposes of this rule, a person shall be considered a "Record Owner" of a horse if such person is:
  - (1) listed as the owner per "AQHA Race Ownership Records"; or
  - (2) listed as the lessee per "AQHA Race Ownership Records".
- (c) For purposes of AQHA recognition and AQHA awards only, points and earnings earned as a result of a horse's performance in a particular race shall only be credited to the "Record Owner" of such horse for that race ("AQHA Credit").
- (d) AQHA recognizes that reporting services and/or racetracks, for purposes of their record keeping, may rely on certain documentation as being sufficient for their official and final determination/recognition of a person as being the owner of a horse. AQHA recognizes that such documentation might include, but not necessarily be limited to:
  - (1) AQHA registration certificates presented to race officials;
  - (2) AQHA lease certificates presented to race officials; or
  - (3) valid transfer reports or leases presented to race officials.Notwithstanding such reliance and official and final determination/recognition by reporting services and/or racetracks, if a person is not a "Record Owner" as defined in subsection (b), such person shall not enjoy the "AQHA Credit" referenced in subsection (c) above. This remains true even if AQHA official ownership records are subsequently updated after a race to reflect that such person was the owner of the horse at the time of the race.

## **Show Rule Changes**

### **407. Show Approval**

- (a) All approved classes must be open to any American Quarter Horse owner meeting age, ownership and eligibility requirements. Membership in AQHA and/or AQHYA for youth competition is the only mandatory membership. Show approval is a privilege, not a right, granted or rejected at AQHA discretion on an annual basis according to continuous evaluation of the applicant, including, but not limited to competence of show management, enforcement of AQHA rules, quality of show,

and service to AQHA members. Applicants desiring to hold an AQHA-approved show must obtain prior tentative AQHA approval. To obtain tentative approval for a previously approved show, an application form available from AQHA must be correctly and entirely completed if show results and points awarded to the horses are to be accepted and entered in AQHA records as official. A \$100 non-refundable application fee must also accompany the initial application. There are no diskette refunds. For new show approval, a letter of request must be directed to the Director of Shows for investigation. For approval of a Special Event, All-Novice, Versatility Ranch Horse, Introductory Show and Equestrians with Disabilities, a \$50 fee must be submitted for each date requested. If special event or other date is approved the \$50 fee will be applied to show approval. The fee will not be refunded if the special event is not held or cancelled. However, if the special event date is denied the \$50 fee will be refunded.

- (g) Any two consecutive shows will be allowed to combine to be one show with classes split over a maximum of two consecutive days with two judges and two sets of points with classes only held once. Show management shall not be allowed to add to the total number of approved shows. If show management wishes to return to original format the following year, they may do so. Show management must submit class schedules with the show application. Show management has the ability to pick and choose classes to be held each day under each Judge separately and allow other classes to be held in a split combined format under both Judges at the same time.

Only all-age novice amateur classes can be held. All-age novice youth classes may be held or novice youth classes may be split into age groups. Must be applied for and held as 13 and under and 14-18

### **408. Amateur Division Approval**

- (c) To have an approved amateur halter division, halter classes must be offered by show management, at its discretion, in either category A or B below, but not both. Halter classes cannot be combined or split at the show. Novice Halter may be offered as an approved and pointed class at any AQHA approved show. Novice Halter class winners are not eligible for Grand and Reserve Champion. Stallions may not be shown in Novice Halter classes.
- (e) When Category A or Category B is offered as in rule 408(c), then a Grand Champion and Reserve Champion must be selected for each sex in the amateur division. Novice Halter classes are eligible for Grand and Reserve Champion at All-Novice shows only.

### **409. Youth Division Approval**

- (c) If youth halter classes are held, show management may, at its discretion, offer the classes shown in either Category A or B. Halter classes cannot be combined or split at the show. Novice Halter may be offered as an approved and pointed class at any AQHA approved show. Novice Halter class winners are not eligible for Grand and Reserve Champion. Stallions may not be shown in Novice Halter classes.

### **414. Show Results**

- (c) Show management that fails to follow any AQHA rules,

which may or may not result in the disqualification of an exhibitor or exhibitors, may be fined a \$10 fee per disqualification. In the Versatility Ranch Horse Competition, the \$10 disqualification fee only applies one time and not for each one of the five classes. Additionally, if show management allows an individual(s) to exhibit without proper AQHA membership, show management will be held responsible and billed in the amount of that membership. Furthermore, failure of show management to follow and enforce any rules could result in the loss of future show approval.

#### **432. Year-End All-Around High-Point Horse. Open, Amateur, Youth**

(e) A certificate will be awarded to the High-Point Select exhibitor in each Amateur class.

#### **434. Show Manager**

(h) For all AQHA approved shows (United States, Canada and International) show management must collect a processing fee of \$2 per horse per show. For all AQHA-approved shows held in the United States, except California, show management must collect a drug testing fee of \$1 per horse, per show. Show management's failure to mail the fees to AQHA, postmarked within 10 days after the closing day of said show, may result in show approval being denied the following year. Show management is exempt from collecting the above drug testing fee if the show in question is held in a state where the state government (not association): (1) operates an equine drug testing program, (2) collects a drug testing fee from shows held within said state, and (3) reports drug violations to AQHA.

#### **443. Western Equipment**

(2) Concerning mouthpieces, bars must be round, oval or egg shaped, smooth and unwrapped metal of 5/16" to 3/4" (8 mm to 20 mm) in diameter, measured 1" (25 mm) from the cheek. They may be inlaid, but must be smooth or latex wrapped. Nothing may protrude below the mouthpiece (bar), such as extensions or prongs, including upward prongs on solid mouthpieces. The mouthpiece may be two or three pieces. A three-piece, connecting ring of 1 1/4" (32 mm) or less in diameter, or a connecting flat bar of 3/8" to 3/4" (10mm to 20 mm) measured top to bottom with a maximum length of 2" (50 mm), which lies flat in the horse's mouth, is acceptable.

#### **445. Attire**

(b) It is mandatory for riders in all hunter, jumper and equitation classes, including hunter hack, where jumping is required and when jumping anywhere on the competition ground to wear properly fastened protective headgear that meets ASTM/SEI standards or equivalent international standards for equestrian use. The helmet must also be properly fitted with harness secured. It is optional that an exhibitor may wear a hard hat with harness in all classes; however, it is mandatory that all youth and recommended that amateurs wear a ASTM/SEI approved hard hat with harness in all over fence classes. It is mandatory that all exhibitors wear a hard hat in all over fence classes and when schooling over fences.

#### **450. Performance Classes**

(t) Holding the saddle with either hand will result in a disqualification, except for speed events, roping or cow work portion of Working Cow Horse, Cutting and Reining.

#### **452. Working Cow Horse**

(d) For an ideal cow work, each contestant, upon receiving a cow in the arena, shall hold the cow on the prescribed end of the arena for sufficient time to demonstrate the ability of the horse to contain the cow on that end. After a reasonable amount of time, the contestant shall take the cow down the fence, making at least one turn each way on the fence. The contestant shall then take the cow to an open part of the arena and circle it at least once in each direction. The required pattern for the cow work is: boxing, fence turns and circles, in that order.

#### **453a. Green Western Riding**

(2) Horses that have shown during previous years in AQHA-approved green western riding, open western riding, amateur western riding or youth western riding, but have not won more than 10 points or won over \$1,000 in these events as of January 1 of the current show year. Points from all divisions will count and are cumulative in determining eligibility. Novice points will not count.

#### **453b. Western Riding**

The judge will select one of the eight patterns to be performed. The judge is responsible for the pattern being correctly set.

Disqualified - 0 score

- illegal equipment
- willful abuse
- off course
- knocking over markers
- completely missing log
- major refusal - stop and back more than 2 strides or 4 steps with front legs
- major disobedience or schooling
- failure to start lope prior to end cone in patterns #1 and #3
- four or more simple lead changes and/or failures to change leads (Except for Novice classes)
- overturn of more than 1/4 turn
- faults, which will be cause for disqualification, except in novice amateur or novice youth classes, which shall be faults scored according to severity:

#### **454a. Green Trail**

(2) Horses that have shown during previous years in AQHA-approved green trail, open trail, amateur trail or youth trail, but have not won more than 10 points or won over \$1,000 in these classes as of January 1 of the current show year. Points from all divisions will count and are cumulative in determining eligibility. Novice points will not count.

#### **455. Team Penning**

(9) Three divisions, all-age youth, all-age amateur and all-age open may be offered. Select Amateur classes may also be offered as a separate class from all-age amateur.

#### **456. Ranch Sorting**

(k) If there is a malfunction of the sorting pen or a numbered

cow jumps any fence and either leaves the arena or ends up in the opposite pen, but did not pass through the gate, it will result in a re-ride for that team at the end of the herd, (assuming it was not caused by roughing of the cattle). In the instance of a re-ride, exhibitors will receive a full (90, 75 or 60 second) clock, but the exhibitors' time cannot be improved. However, the number of cattle sorted during the allotted time can be improved. (Example: If a team had five (5) head in 55 seconds (with a 60 second clock) when the cow jumped the fence, they would get a re-ride with the full 60 second clock. In the re-ride, the same team sorted ten (10) head in 50 seconds. Their official time would be ten (10) head in 55 seconds.)

- (l) Should a herd be numbered incorrectly or have too many non-numbered cattle, the team(s) may receive a re-ride.
- (m) Any unnecessary roughness to cattle or horses or unsportsmanlike conduct may result in disqualification.
- (n) Three divisions, all-age youth, all-age amateur and all-age open may be offered. Select Amateur classes may also be offered as a separate class from all-age amateur.

#### 462. Progressive Working Hunter

- (a) The same rules apply as in Junior and Senior Working Hunter except fence height which shall be 2'9" to 3.
- (b) Eligibility requirements are for horses of all ages who have no previous AQHA points in Open Working Hunter, Amateur Working Hunter, Youth Working Hunter, Amateur Equitation Over Fences, Youth Equitation Over Fences, Open Jumping, Youth Jumping and Amateur Jumping. Also who have not exhibited in a class 3' and over in competition.
  - (1) Horses become eligible for Progressive Working Hunter for a time period of that calendar year after entering any working hunter class other than the Green Working Hunter.
  - (2) Progressive Working Hunter will be a World Show class but no points will be given towards an all-around or Super Horse Award.
- (c) This class will only be offered in the open division.

#### 463. Green Working Hunter

- (a) The purpose of green working hunter is to allow a horse to compete on an entry-level field with horses of the same level of experience. The green working hunter is a stepping-stone to the more advanced level of competition with seasoned horses. This class should be judged according to the purpose of its intent. Fence heights shall be two feet six inches (76cm) to two feet nine inches (85cm).
- (b) Horses must be ridden with equipment that is approved as per AQHA equipment rules for working hunter.
- (c) With the exception of eligibility requirements and heights of the jumps, the same rules apply in green working hunter class as apply in working hunter.
- (d) Horses eligible to compete:
  - (1) Horses in their first year of showing in AQHA-approved shows in green working hunter, open working hunter, amateur working hunter, youth working hunter, amateur equitation over fences, youth equitation over fences, open jumping, amateur jumping or youth jumping.
  - (2) Horses that have shown during previous years in AQHA-approved green working hunter, open working hunter, amateur working hunter, youth working

hunter, amateur equitation over fences, youth equitation over fences, open jumping, amateur jumping or youth jumping, but have not won more than 10 points or won over \$1,000 in these events as of January 1 of the current show year. Points from all divisions will count and are cumulative in determining eligibility. Novice points will not count.

- (e) Green working hunter will not be held as a World Show class.

#### 465. Green Western Pleasure

- (2) Horses that have shown during previous years in AQHA-approved green western pleasure, open western pleasure, amateur western pleasure or youth western pleasure, but have not won more than 10 points or won over \$1,000 in these classes as of January 1 of the current show year. Points from all divisions will count and are cumulative in determining eligibility. Novice points will not count.

#### 466a. Green Hunter Under Saddle

- (2) Horses that have shown during previous years in AQHA-approved green hunter under saddle, open hunter under saddle, amateur hunter under saddle or youth hunter under saddle, but have not won more than 10 points or won over \$1,000 in these events as of January 1 of the current show year. Points from all divisions will count and are cumulative in determining eligibility. Novice points will not count.

#### 477. Versatility Ranch Horse

- (1) OPEN - For horses shown by the recorded owner or by immediate family members as outlined in the AQHA Official Handbook; or for horses shown by a full-time employee (six months or more), and/or children of the ranch which owns the horse. In order for a person to show a horse in Versatility Ranch Horse competition in which the exhibitor is not the current listed owner, the exhibitor must be pre-approved through an AQHA application to verify that the exhibitor derives at least 70 percent of their total income from employment with the listed owner of the horse. Open exhibitor may show two horses.
- (2) AMATEUR - For horses shown by exhibitors who fulfill the amateur requirements under Rule 403 amateur eligibility. Either or both of the amateur division and the novice amateur division will be shown concurrently with the open division. Placings for each eligible division will be recorded. The amateur and/or novice amateur entries will be counted as open entries and will be counted for placings and points in open. A separate or stand-alone amateur show may not be held without a corresponding open show.
- (f) RANCH RIDING - This class shows the horse's ability to move at a working speed with a rider. Horses will be shown individually at three gaits – walk, trot and lope – in each direction of the arena. Horses will also be asked to reverse away from the rail, to stop and back. The judge must ask for an extended trot and extended lope at least one direction of the ring. A horse will be given credit for traveling with his head held in a normal position, ears alert and moving at a natural speed for the gait requested. Credit will also be given for making a smooth transition between the gaits, for keeping the correct lead, and

for maintaining the gait requested until the judge requests a change. A rider must show his horse with only one hand on the reins, unless the horse is 5 years old or younger and is being shown in a snaffle bit or hackamore (bosal). Judges are encouraged to work exhibitors thoroughly, if time permits.

#### **Mandatory Obstacles**

- (2) The horse shall remain quiet while the rider dismounts. No penalty will be assessed for horse shifting to balance. A one point penalty for one step, a three point penalty for two to three steps and a five point penalty for four or more steps will be assessed. The horse should remain still and quiet as the rider remounts, leaving a loose rein. Exhibitors have the option of using a mounting block to remount. Once the rider is settled into the saddle and is still, he or she may then move the horse forward.

#### **(h) Ranch Cutting**

- (5) There is a two and one half minute time limit. A whistle will be blown at the one minute point in the run. Time will begin when a rider crosses a time line just prior to entering the herd. Time should not start until contestant crosses a pre-determined and marked timeline. Cattle numbers can be announced prior to crossing the starting line. The rider will then quietly separate his/her numbered cow from the herd. Unnecessary roughness or disturbing the herd excessively could result in disqualification.

#### **(i) Working Ranch Horse**

- (4) Rules for scoring the cow working portion are defined in Section 452 of the AQHA Official Handbook. Roping is defined in Section 468 of the AQHA Official Handbook. However, in the working ranch horse class, the horse will be judged on three (3) maneuvers: 1. the ability to trail, 2. the ability to rate, 3. the ability to stop the cow. Additionally, a two loop run will receive a penalty of three (3) points and a no catch run will receive a penalty of five (5) points. It is not necessary that the roper catch for the contestant to receive a score in the roping portion. However, if there is no catch, a five-point penalty must be subtracted from the roping score accumulated prior to the catch (i.e., if a horse trails and rates its cow but no catch is made, the horse will receive the score it has earned up to the point of the catch minus five points). In the working ranch horse portion any blatant disobedience for a circumstance that is not listed results in a five (5) point penalty.
- (5) After the exhibitor has completed his reining pattern, he will call for the cow to be turned into the arena. Upon receiving the cow, contestant shall hold the cow on the prescribed end of the arena for sufficient time to demonstrate the ability of the horse to contain the cow on that end. After a reasonable amount of time, the contestant shall take the cow down the fence, making at least one turn each way on the fence. A three (3) point penalty will be assessed for refusing to turn. Exhibitor must then rope the cow and bring it to a stop. There is to be no dragging. The exhibitor is allowed only two throws. In order for a catch to be legal; the loop must hold in front of the shoulders. For shows conducted in Europe, the exhibitor has the option of circling the cow each direction instead of roping or breakaway roping. Judge may blow the whis-

tle at any time to terminate the cow work. A score of zero, in the cow work segment, will be given if the work is not complete at that time. The exhibitor should then continue with the roping segment of the class.

#### **(j) Ranch Conformation**

##### Open/Amateur

Stallions

Mares

Geldings

##### Youth/Novice Amateur

Mares

Geldings

The purpose of this class is to preserve American Quarter Horse type by selecting well-mannered individuals in the order of their resemblance to the breed ideal and that are the most positive combination of balance, structural correctness, and movement with appropriate breed and sex characteristics and adequate muscling. The ranch conformation class must be held after the conclusion of the other four events, except at the VRH World Championship Show. All sexes will be shown together as one class. Horses are to be shown in a good working halter: rope, braided, nylon or plain leather. Horses will walk to the judge one at a time. As the horse approaches, the judge will step to the right to enable the horse to trot straight to a cone placed 50 feet away. At the cone, the horse will continue trotting, turn to the left and trot toward the left wall or fence of the arena. After trotting, horses will be lined up head to tail for individual inspection by the judge. The judge shall inspect each horse from both sides, front and rear and place the horses in order of preference.

#### **480. Equestrians With Disabilities**

- (6) An exhibitor cannot show more than one horse and a horse cannot be shown by more than one exhibitor in Walk & Trot Hunt Seat Equitation on the Flat or Walk & Jog Western Horsemanship. A horse may be shown more than once in Walk & Jog Trail or Showmanship at Halter with a maximum of three (3) exhibitors in the same class.
- (f) WALK, TROT, CANTER, HUNT SEAT EQUITATION ON THE FLAT: Riders that choose to ride the walk, trot/jog, canter/lope classes are no longer eligible for the EWD walk, trot/jog classes. English equipment and attire will follow rules as set forth in the AQHA Official Handbook with the exceptions of authorized adaptations.
- (1) Riders must wear a properly fitted and fastened with harness, ASTM approved protective helmet. No equipment is allowed that would in any way affix the rider to the horse or saddle with the exception of light rubber bands. Safety stirrups (Peacock, S-shaped irons or Devonshire) are required if rider is unable to wear boots with heels. Peacock irons are recommended in all cases.
- (2) The following points have equal consideration in judging the class:
- (A) Rider's balance
  - (B) Rider's seat
  - (C) Use of aids
  - (D) Ability to follow directions
  - (E) Ring etiquette and safety
  - (F) Sportsmanlike conduct

Results as shown by the performance of the horse are not to be considered more important than the manner used in obtaining them.

(3) Class Procedure - All exhibitors must work as a group (or in groups) of ten or less. Riders will compete on the rail at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring, line up and complete an individual workout. Riders will remain in the ring throughout the individual workouts.

(4) Individual Workout - Horses will be shown at three gaits - walk, trot and canter. Walk forward from lineup to begin at marker one (A). Walk to marker two (B). Stop. Turn 90 degrees left. Canter right lead to marker three (C). Drop to posting trot right diagonal to marker four (D). At (D), canter left lead to (C). At (C), drop to a sitting trot. Trot past (B). Stop. Turn 270 degrees to the left on the haunches. Extended trot to (D), left diagonal. Stop. Back four steps. Walk and return along rail to place in lineup.

(5) Judges are not permitted to alter the mandatory workout in any manner. Handlers must stand with their riders in the line up. Handlers may only help at judge's or ring steward's indication. Markers must be used, may be numbered. People must not be used as markers no matter if they are safety stand-by spotters. A competitor with a hearing impairment may have an assistant who communicates via sign language or cue cards to the competitor so they may know the judges directions. This assistant will be outside the ring and their position known to the judges and ring steward.

(6) Scoring - Exhibitors are to be scored from 0 to 20 with 1/2 point increments acceptable. Ten points should be allocated toward overall appearance of exhibitor and horse and ten points allocated towards performance of the pattern.

(g) WALK, JOG AND LOPE WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP: Riders that choose to ride the walk, trot/jog, canter/lope classes are no longer eligible for the EWD walk, trot/jog classes. Western equipment and attire will follow rules as set forth in the AQHA Official Handbook with the exceptions of authorized adaptations.

(1) Riders must wear a properly fitted and fastened with harness, ASTM approved protective helmet. A western hat may be affixed over the helmet. No equipment is allowed that would in any way affix the rider to the horse or saddle with the exception of light rubber bands. Safety stirrups (covered or other approved safety stirrups) are required if rider is unable to wear boots with heels.

(2) The following points have equal consideration in judging the class:

(A) Rider's balance

(B) Rider's seat

(C) Use of aids

(D) Ability to follow directions

(E) Ring etiquette and safety

(F) Sportsmanlike conduct

Results as shown by the performance of the horse are not to be considered more important than the manner used in obtaining them.

(3) Class Procedure - All exhibitors must work as a group (or in groups) of ten or less. Riders will compete on the rail at a walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring,

line up and complete an individual workout. Riders will remain in the ring throughout the individual workouts.

(4) Individual Workout - Horses will be shown at three gaits - walk, jog and lope. Walk forward from lineup to begin at marker one (A). Walk to marker two (B). Lope right lead to marker three (C) and circle right at marker three (C). Continue loping past marker four (D). Stop. Side pass left. Back three (3) steps. Turn 180 degrees to left on hindquarters. Lope left lead to marker one (A). Drop to jog around marker one (A) to marker four (D). Drop to a walk. Return along rail to place in lineup.

(5) Judges are not permitted to alter the mandatory workout in any manner. Handlers must stand with their riders in the line up. Handlers may only help at judge's or ring steward's indication. Markers must be used, may be numbered. People must not be used as markers no matter if they are safety stand-by spotters. A competitor with a hearing impairment may have an assistant who communicates via sign language or cue cards to the competitor so they may know the judges directions. This assistant will be outside the ring and their position known to the judges and ring steward.

(6) Scoring - Exhibitors are to be scored from 0 to 20 with 1/2 point increments acceptable. Ten points should be allocated toward overall appearance of exhibitor and horse and ten points allocated towards performance of the pattern.

Within the five calendar years previous to application for amateur membership an individual cannot hold membership accreditation in the following organizations: Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, Women's Professional Rodeo Association, International Professional Rodeo Association, Professional Women's Barrel Racing and the Women's Professional Rodeo Association. All Women's Rodeo for those events or classes which are the same events or classes the individual competes, or desires to compete, in AQHA amateur competition. For example, a person who competes in a PRCA roping event may not compete in amateur calf roping, dally team roping (heading or heeling) but may show in any other amateur classes. A permit holder is not considered as one who has membership accreditation in a professional organization and may compete in any AQHA Amateur class;

#### **500. Horseback Riding Program**

(f) There is no time limit for the completion of an award level; however, continuous membership must be maintained to receive awards and one log sheet must be submitted yearly.

Achievement levels - Quarter Horse Division

<u>25 Hours</u>	50 Hours	100 Hours
250 Hours	500 Hours	750 Hours
1,000 Hours	<u>1,500 Hours</u>	2,000 Hours
<u>2,500 Hours</u>	3,000 Hours	<u>3,500 Hours</u>
4,000 Hours	<u>4,500 Hours</u>	5,000 Hours

Achievement levels - All Breeds Division

<u>25 Hours</u>	50 Hours	100 Hours
250 Hours	500 Hours	750 Hours
1,000 Hours	<u>1,500 Hours</u>	2,000 Hours