

SECTION THREE (3)

SHOW AND PERFORMANCE

All rules pertaining to Show and Performance in this Rule Book, and any supplementary rules, will be implemented by the Association.

39. ANIMAL WELFARE

This Animal Welfare Policy applies to any sanctioned event held by the Association, its Affiliates and any organisation that has been given program approval.

39.1 Humane Treatment

The Association will not tolerate inhumane treatment of a horse, or any other animal used in competition.

- a) No member or non-member will treat any horse or animal in a cruel or inhumane manner;
- b) Inhumane treatment includes but is not limited to all relevant animal welfare legislation and rules of the National Authorities controlling the applicable sport;
- c) In any equestrian sporting event, the welfare of the horse is always the primary consideration;
- d) No horse should be ridden or trained in such a way that it is subject to extended periods of mental or physical distress;
- e) Association members must comply with all relevant animal welfare legislation and rules. This applies to all horses exhibited at events sanctioned by the AQHA, AQHA Affiliates and at any event that has been given Association program approval;
- f) The Association encourages all members to follow best animal welfare practice in all their dealings with horses.

39.2 Responsibility

An individual is responsible for the horse's condition if:

- they designate themselves on the entry form as the exhibitor, or authorises another to designate him/her as the exhibitor on the entry form.
- they sign the entry form on behalf of themselves or another or causes an agent or representative to sign it.
- they physically participate in the class by riding or showing the horse.
- they are the actual trainer, having presented or caused to be presented the horse at the grounds for exhibition.
- both the exhibitor, designated on the entry form, and the person having actual possession of the horse, while physically participating in the event, are conclusively deemed to be authorised by the owner to execute all documents necessary, or convenient, to allow the horse's participation in an event approved by the Association, including documents pertaining to drug testing.
- an individual is prevented from performing their duties, including absolute responsibility for the condition of the horse/s, or is absent from the show, they must immediately notify the show secretary, at the same time appoint a substitute, and such substitute must place their name on the entry form.
- the exhibitor represents the owner regarding their horse(s) entered in an approved show.

39.3 Prohibited conduct *but not limited to*:

No person on the grounds, including but not limited to barns, stall, practice areas or show arena, can treat a horse in a manner that includes:

- continuous and/or relentless pressure from the bit, legs, or spurs.
- placing an object, other than a legal bit, in a horse's mouth to cause undue discomfort or distress.
- placing a legal bit in a horse's mouth in an abnormal manner.
- leaving a bit in a horse's mouth for extended periods of time to cause undue discomfort or distress, broken skin and/or bleeding.
- tying a horse's head up (above the withers), back, or around in a manner as to cause undue discomfort or distress. the horse must be able to hold its head comfortably in a "normal" position.
- tying a horse in a stall without access to food or water for an extended period.
- use of excessive training techniques such as striking a horse's legs.
- excessive spurring or whipping.
- excessive spinning (defined as more than eight (8) consecutive turns in either direction).
- continuing to work or exhibit a horse which appears to be sullen, lethargic, emaciated, dehydrated, depressed, drawn or overly tired.
- schooling using rails higher than 1.2 metres.
- breaking the skin and causing bleeding from the spur, bit, or any other equipment.
- riding or training in such a way that the horse is subject to periods of mental or physical distress.
- exhibiting a horse that has an open wound and/or shows traces of blood.
- using prohibited equipment on the horse at Association approved events.

39.3.1 Prohibited

Any form of conduct that inhibits competition at Association approved events;

- Padding classes, by entering a horse(s) to fill a class to increase show points;
- Discouraging a potential competitor from entering a class;
- Any competitor inside the arena, assisting another competitor, may be disqualified;
Exception: EWD, Youth Lead Line and Youth Walk & Jog/trot classes. Does not apply to a co-contestant in a team, such as Team Roping or Cutting;
- Attempting to reduce competition, or assisting in reducing competition by a member;
- Attempting to reduce competition by a non-member of the Association;
- Engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct including, but not limited to, inappropriate language;
- Carrying or consuming alcohol in the marshalling areas, working arenas or show pen/contest areas;

- Directing abusive or threatening conduct or language toward Association representatives;
- Entering any registered horse in any AQHA sanctioned event by a name other than that by which the horse is registered.

39.3.2 Failure to pay when due, any obligation owing to the AQHA or an AQHA Affiliate.

39.4 Prohibited Equipment Use of prohibited equipment includes but not limited to:

- saw tooth bits
- hock hobbles
- tack collars
- curb straps with tack/rivets or tack hackamores
- war bridles or like devices
- riding in a curb bit without a curb strap
- wire or solid metal curb straps, with or without padding
- wire cavesson
- wire or cable tie downs
- bumper bits
- metal bosals with or without padding
- metal lunging hackamores
- Chambons, headstalls made of metal, with or without padding
- running martingales used without rein stops
- excessively tight nosebands
- draw reins attached between or around the front legs
- side reins (direct from bit to girth or surcingles)
- any item or appliance that restricts movement or circulation of the horse's tail
- any appliance or equipment, which results in any bleeding, and
- any other treatment or conduct deemed by a show official to be inhumane or abusive.

39.5 Nutraceuticals or Herbal Therapies

The onus is on the Owner/Trainer/Handler/Exhibitor, who decides to administer these types of products to a horse, to ensure that they are free of any prohibited substance.

39.6 Surgical Procedures

A horse cannot compete if it has had any surgical procedure which could affect the horse's performance. **Exception:** for those surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the horse. If requested, a Veterinary Certificate detailing the surgery will be required.

39.7 Artificial appliances are not permitted for use in approved classes. The following are not prohibited:

- conventional pads
- therapeutic shoes
- Pacemakers or prosthetic eyes, if the owner obtains written permission from the Association and the resulting authorisation is noted on the horse's registration certificate.

39.8 Prohibited Drugs and Foreign Substances

A horse that has had any prohibited foreign substance or drugs administered internally or externally cannot compete.

Exception: Acceptable foreign substances listed in *Rule 39.9* and drugs as administered under *Rule 39.8 b*).

- a) A patch of any type, medicinal or otherwise cannot be on a horse when that horse is being exhibited;
- b) A horse that is injured or taken ill once it has arrived at the official show venue, or whilst on the ground during the event, may compete after that horse has been treated by a Veterinarian at that show. The attending Veterinarian must sign a certificate which states:
 - what the horse is suffering from
 - what treatment, including any substances that have been administered internally or externally, and
 - that the horse is sound enough to compete at that show.
- c) The certificate must be given to the Show Secretary and or Show Manager prior to the horse competing;
- d) A horse cannot be injected at a show unless the Veterinarian, that attended the horse at the show, has otherwise instructed. A Vet Certificate showing the treatment required must be obtained.

39.9 Acceptable Foreign Substances:

The following substances are acceptable:

- Antiprotozoals
- Anti-ulcer medication
- Insect repellent
- Anthelmintics
- Rehydration fluids
- B vitamins (orally)
- Regumate/Altrenogest (mares only)
- Topical ointments not containing Corticosteroids, irritant, or painkillers
- Preventative joint restorative therapies and general "over the counter" feed store supplements

39.10 Every exhibitor will, upon request of show management or the Association representative, permit a specimen of saliva, urine, blood, or any other substance to be taken for testing. Refusal to comply with such a request will constitute grounds for immediate disqualification of the horse from further participation at the event.

If the laboratory report on the chemical analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from the horse indicates the presence of a foreign substance, prohibited drug or medication, this will be taken as prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the horse.

39.11 Penalties and Restrictions

Any person, member, or non-member, found in violation of these rules will be disciplined, suspended, fined, denied Association privileges, disqualified, expelled from the grounds, and/or expelled from the Association.

If, upon examination by Association or show representatives, after Association authorisation, a horse's physiological functioning is found to be outside normal limits, the horse will automatically be reported to the Association.

Upon written notification by the Association, the horse's participation privileges in Association approved events will be suspended pending a hearing to determine whether the horse's physiological functioning remains abnormal, with the burden of persuasion on the owner to prove normal physiological functioning. Participation privileges of the horse will remain suspended until any hearing.

Any hearing under Rule 39.11 must be requested by the owner.

A conviction of an individual, under State or Federal Law, will constitute a presumed violation of these rules for:

- an offence of cruelty to, or judicial confiscation of a horse.

39.12 Any member will be disciplined, suspended, fined, and/or expelled from the Association and any non-member will be fined and/or denied Association privileges for any violations of Rule 39.

40. AQHA Disclaimer of Responsibility for safety and wellbeing of Event participants.

The AQHA does not assume or accept duty or responsibility for safety at any sanctioned event regarding participants or any other third parties, or for the horses or other property thereof.

As an express condition of privilege to participate at an AQHA approved show or sanctioned event, each horse owner, exhibitor, trainer and participant assumes the risks of participation and releases and discharges the AQHA, its officers, directors, representatives and employees, from any and all liability, whenever or however arising, as to personal injury, property damage occurring as a result of participation in a class/event conducted by the AQHA or AQHA Affiliate.

40.1 Show Committee is responsible for the:

- condition of event premises; conduct and competence of show staff and other representatives
- implementation of show activities and classes, and
- all other aspects of the event.

40.2 Incidents at Shows

- a) Will be investigated by the Show Manager;
- b) The Show Manager, informed of the incident, will speak to the alleged offender and inform him/her, that a report will be filed with the Association re this alleged incident;
- c) If the Show Manager cites an alleged incident, they must act as per this rule;
- d) If an exhibitor, owner, and/or his/her representative acting on behalf of the exhibitor, is found to have engaged in:
 - unsportsmanlike conduct
 - inhumane treatment of a horse, or
 - a breach of any rule in this Rule Book, then they will be reported to the Association;
- e) Any incident reported to the Association, will be sent to the Investigative Committee to determine whether the alleged incident is founded and if further action is required;
- f) The Association can give a warning, show fine and/or suspend the showing rights of the exhibitor, owner and/or his/her representative acting on behalf of the exhibitor/owner, to participate in future approved shows for such period as the Association deems appropriate;
- g) *If an adverse decision is reached by the Investigative Committee, then the person in question has the right to appeal to the Board of Directors within 14 days of receiving the notification from the Investigative Committee of their decision.*

40.2.1 Show Fines and Penalties.

- a) **Probation Period** will be from 30 to 90 days at the discretion of the Association. No privileges are denied, but any abuse during the probation period will be considered at the next highest level;

- b) Suspended Show Privileges** *will be from 3 months to 12 months at the discretion of the Association.*

All rights and privileges associated with Association sanctioned events and the Association Award System and Annual High Point Awards are denied during the period of suspension and presence on grounds of Association sanctioned events is prohibited;

- c) Fines imposed** *will be between \$100 to \$8,000 at the discretion of the Association.* The quantum of any fine will be set out in writing to the party involved and 60 days will be given to pay the fine.
- d) Expulsion of a member** *is to be directed to the AQHA Disciplinary Officer in accordance with the AQHA Constitution.*

40.2.2 Prohibited conduct at a show, refer to Rule 39.

40.3 If any AQHA Affiliate, and other Associations seeking show program approval, do not conform to the rules and regulations of the Association the following will apply:

1st Offence	Warning
2nd Offence	<i>\$100 up to \$1,000 fine</i>
3rd Offence	<i>No show approvals for three to six months</i>

Fines: The quantum of any fine will be set out in writing to the party involved and 60 days will be given to pay the fine.

41. GENERAL

No Affiliate run event is sanctioned by the Association unless the Association has been notified in writing prior to the event taking place. Until such times as Show Approval is forthcoming from the Association, the event is not sanctioned by the Association.

- a)** An Event Planning Checklist must be completed before commencement of any event and sent to the Association within fourteen (14) days of the completion of the event This pertains to any event run by an Affiliate;
- b)** The rules in this Rule Book must be adhered to at all AQHA Affiliate events, including shows, and for organisations that been granted Program approval;
- c)** The rules pertaining to Amateurs/Select Amateurs and Youth must be adhered to in all equine competitions;
- d)** All horses present at an AQHA Affiliate show must be entered in the show;
- e)** No AQHA member will be required to be a member of any Affiliate to compete at an approved show;
- f)** All participants, handlers, exhibitors, owners of horses taking part in any AQHA or AQHA Affiliate event, must be a member of the Affiliate running the event or the AQHA;
- g)** A person expelled or suspended or not in good standing with the Association cannot exhibit or act as a handler/strapper at any AQHA approved event;
- h)** Points will not be awarded to any horse exhibited or handled by a person so expelled, suspended or not in good standing with the Association; and

- i) Persons as described above are prohibited from entering the official marshalling areas and show arena at any time for the duration of any event that has AQHA approval.

42. APPROVAL

- a) No show of any kind will be permitted to be held, by an AQHA Affiliate, on the dates of the AQHA National Show or on the day of the Associations Annual General Meeting and non-Affiliates will not be granted show approval on these dates;
- b) No AQHA State Championship Show can be held within fourteen (14) days either side of the dates of the National Show, unless sanctioned by a majority of the Board of Directors;
- c) No show approval will be given for any identity, on the same day as an already approved show or program, within 150km normal road distance from venue to venue, unless written permission is given by the Affiliate who has that date approved;
- d) *No points will be awarded by the AQHA for any show run by an AQHA Affiliate or Non-Affiliate, that is run on the same dates as an AQHA State Show in the state where that state show is held;*
- e) *A Versatility Ranch show can be granted show approval on the same day as an AQHA Affiliate approved "A", or "AA" show, that is within the 150km distance from each other, if mutually agreeable by both parties. An AQHA Affiliate has preference if no agreement between the two parties.*
- f) All AQHA approved shows and programs must be open to Quarter Horse owners and competitors who are members in good standing with the Association. Approved performance classes may be open to horses of other relevant breed organisations. **Exception:** refer Rule 48;
- g) Shows or programs, that have been granted approval in the following point's year, are subject to any rules that become effective from 1 August of that year;
- h) Approval is only given six (6) months in advance for any Show or program, except for State shows;
- i) AQHA Affiliates, and other recognised organisations, may apply for approval and they must:
 - apply online or on an official application form
 - apply 30 clear days prior to the show, and
 - lodge the name of the Judge with the Association 21 days before the first day of the show along with a copy of Judges Contract;
- j) No approval will be considered until all paperwork, as requested by the Association, has been lodged with the appropriate fee and is complete and correct;
- k) A non-affiliate can only run five (5) approved programs per show season;
- l) All approved shows and programs, depending on the type of program (refer Rule 46 and 47), must be officiated by an AQHA Associate Judge, AQHA Accredited Judge, AQHA or AmQHA Versatility Ranch Judge, AmQHA Judge or an International Judge who is ticketed with the AmQHA. NB: An AQHA Trail Judge can only judge trail classes;
- m) All approved shows or programs, which have an AmQHA judge are encouraged to run the minimum approved AmQHA show program. **Exception:** refer Rule 48;

- n) If approval is sought to run Equestrian with Disabilities recognised classes, then the Show Committee assumes the responsibility for safety of all competitors;
- o) Show or program approval is a privilege, not a right, granted or rejected at the AQHA's discretion according to continuous evaluation of the applicant including, but not limited to, competence of show committee; enforcement of AQHA Rules and Regulations; quality of event; and service to AQHA members;
- p) Approval does not carry from year to year, but must be obtained for each individual event and the AQHA reserves the right to approve only the number of shows or programs per calendar year as it deems appropriate for any Affiliate/Organisation;
- q) Only foreign AQHA Affiliates will be given permission to run approved shows in their country;
- r) Changes cannot be made to an approved program that affects the approval of such program. The minimum number and name of classes must be adhered to according to the type of show that has been approved. Changing the running order of an approved event is permissible;
- s) Any advertising of prize money for an approved class must also include an advertised guaranteed minimum prize for the class. If entry fees are to be jackpotted, the minimum number of entries before jackpotting must be stated on the program. Classes can be jackpotted if all rules pertaining to "AA" and State Shows re prize money is met;
- t) If the application for approval is satisfactory, the AQHA will issue a statement of approval. If approval is not granted, then the Association, in writing, will stipulate the reasons why;

AQHA Affiliates and other recognised organisations, running AQHA recognised classes under AQHA and/or HSAA Rules that have not gained AQHA approval, "B" points will be awarded to horses, youth and amateurs for those that have placed sufficiently high in that show.

42.1 Youth - Show Committee must provide Youth classes for Youth exhibitors, three (3) years to eighteen (18) years of age as of 1 August of the current showing year. Refer Rule 63.

42.2 Amateur - Show Committee must provide Amateur and Select Amateur classes. Refer Rule 62.

42.3 Halter Classes

- a) Only horses that a Registration Certificate (Q) or Appendix Certificate (A) has been issued by the AQHA, can compete in approved Halter classes;
- b) Geldings, that are still listed as stallions, according to AQHA records at the time the show results are processed, will not be allocated points.

42.4 Performance Halter

- a) To be eligible for this class a horse must have a ROM in a performance class;
- b) A horse is not eligible for both its normal halter class and the performance halter class at the same show.

42.5 Performance Classes

- a) Stallions, mares, spayed mares, and geldings two years old and older, are eligible to compete in approved performance classes. Refer Rule 43 for age clarification and maximum number of classes that can be held;

- b) Only horses, for which a Registration Certificate, Appendix Certificate or Performance Registry Certificate, has been issued by the AQHA or other relevant breed organisations, are eligible to participate in approved performance classes. Proof of registration and age must be available on request and all horses must match their papers.

43. HORSE AGE REQUIREMENTS

To determine the eligibility for competition, the age of a horse will be calculated as per Rule 15.

43.1 Three Year Old

- a) A three (3) year old class can be offered in Hunter Under Saddle, Western Pleasure, and Trail only. The three (3) year old can only compete in either the three (3) year old or junior divisions, not in both;
- b) A horse can compete in a three (3) year old class from 1 August of its three (3) year old year.

43.2 Two Year Old

- a) A two (2) year old horse cannot be shown under saddle at any AQHA approved show or program or at any AQHA sanctioned event, prior to 1 April of its two (2) year old year and must have reached a minimum age of 24 months;
- b) A two (2) year old class can only be offered in: Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Trail, Led Trail, Lunge Line and Hunter in Hand;
- c) Any horse competing in two (2) year old Led Trail or two (2) year old Lunge Line at a show, is not eligible to compete in any ridden classes at that show;
- d) The two (2) year old can only compete in either the two (2) year old or junior horse divisions, not in both;
- e) A two (2) year old can only compete in a maximum of three (3) ridden classes at a show and is restricted to Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle and Trail;
- f) *No 2 year old horse can be ridden at Clinics prior to 1st April in any year.*

43.3 Yearling

Can only be shown in a maximum of four (4) performance classes at the same show. Yearlings can compete and earn points in the Amateur, Select Amateur and Youth Showmanship classes, and can compete and earn points in Led Trail, Hunter in Hand, and Yearling on Lunge.

43.4 Weanling

Weanlings cannot be shown before 1 January of their weanling year and must have reached a minimum age of *twenty-four (24) weeks*.

43.5 Horse age divisions

- a) Senior Horse - six (6) years and over;
- b) Junior Horse - two (2) to five (5) years;
- c) Three (3) year old;
- d) Two (2) year old.

43.6 Limited Pro Horsemen Division

Must be run concurrently with the horse age divisions in Rule 43.5 for Hunter Under Saddle, Trail, and Western Pleasure only. To be eligible for this division, the exhibitor must have been issued an AQHA Professional Horsemen's Limited permit.

A separate entry fee must be paid to enter the Limited Pro Horsemen division and therefore eligible to be placed in this division.

Limited Pro Horsemen division results are not eligible to be counted towards any AQHA award. It is not compulsory to run Limited Pro Horsemen division and can only be run at AQHA State, National Shows and any other show recognised by Board of Directors upon application.

44. RECOGNISED CLASSES

For any class to gain approval it must be one of the Associations recognised classes and the class must be run under AQHA Rules or the rules of a Recognised Approved Performance Body.

44.1 Halter - Horse, Youth and Amateur

Points will be allocated for AQHA Registered Quarter horses that compete in relevant age and sex divisions, (refer Rule 42.3 and 46) at approved AQHA Shows and in AQHA approved Programs.

- a) Halter classes open to AQHA registered Quarter Horses and other relevant breed organisations, "B" points only;
- b) Registered Quarter Horses in Quarter Horse halter classes at non- approved shows, "B" points;
- c) A horse cannot be shown in its AQHA halter class and an AQHA Performance Halter class at the same show;
- d) Spayed mares cannot be shown in any halter class;
- e) Supreme Halter Exhibit, or a class of similar style is not point scoring.

44.2 Performance Halter – Horse, Amateur and Youth

Only one Performance Halter class can be offered in each sex division. Winner and second placegetters of these classes are eligible for Champion and Reserve in their respective Champion class.

44.3 Performance Classes If approval is granted, will gain points towards ROMs and points may be eligible to count towards Annual High Point Awards if applicable.

AQHA SPORTING: Horse, Amateur, Youth

ARENA SORTING: Horse, Amateur, Youth

BARREL: Open, Divisional or Open, Ladies

BOXING: Novice Youth and Novice Amateur

BREAKAWAY ROPING: Ladies, Youth

CAMPDRAFT: Open, Novice, Youth, Youth Rider, Juvenile Youth

CUTTING: AQHA Senior Horse, Junior Horse, Youth

CUTTING: NCHA Youth, Open or Snaffle Bit; \$15,000 Novice or \$5000 Novice; Novice Non-Pro or Open Non-Pro or \$15,000 Non-Pro or \$7500 Non-Pro

DRESSAGE: Horse, Amateur, Youth

ENDURANCE: Horse

EVENTING: Horse

HACK: Horse, Amateur, Youth

HUNT SEAT EQUITATION: Amateur, Youth

HUNTER HACK: Horse, Amateur, Youth

HUNTER IN HAND: Horse

HUNTER UNDER SADDLE: Horse, Amateur, Youth, Ltd Pro Horsemen

LED TRAIL: Yearling and 2 year old

LUNGE LINE: Yearling and 2 year old

PLEASURE DRIVING: Horse

RANCH RIDING: Horse, Amateur, Youth

RACING: Horse

REINING: AQHA Horse, Amateur, Youth

NRHA: Open, Intermediate Open or Limited Open. Intermediate Non-Pro or Limited Non-Pro or Non-Pro or Novice Non-Pro Level 1 or Novice Non-Pro level 2 or Prime Time Non-Pro. Novice Horse Level 1 or 2 or Novice Horse Open level 1 or 2; Youth and Youth Rookie

EQUESTRIAN WITH DISABILITIES: Rider

ROPE & TIE: Horse

SHOW HUNTER: Horse, Amateur, Youth, Senior or Junior Rider

SHOW JUMPING: Open, Youth

SHOWMANSHIP: Youth, Amateur

STEER UNDECORATING: Ladies

STEER WRESTLING: Horse – Men's, Open

STOCKMANS CHALLENGE: Classic or Classic Premiership or Open Challenge or Open Premiership

TEAM PENNING: Horse, Amateur, Youth

TEAM ROPING HEELER: Horse, Open Heeler or #12 Heeler or #10 Heeler or #8 heeler

TEAM ROPING HEADER: Horse, Open Header or #12 Header or #10 Header or #8 header

TRAIL: Horse, Amateur, Youth, Limited Pro Horsemen

VERSATILITY RANCH: Horse, Amateur, Youth

WESTERN DRESSAGE: Horse, Youth

WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP: Amateur, Youth

WESTERN PLEASURE: Horse, Amateur, Youth, Limited Pro Horsemen

WESTERN RIDING: Horse, Amateur, Youth

WORKING COWHORSE: Bridle, Hackamore/Snaffle bit, Open, Youth

44.3.1 The following classes are recognised but are non-point scoring:

LEAD LINE: Youth only aged 3 to 6 years

WALK AND JOG/TROT: Youth only aged 5 to 10 years

44.4 Approved Performance Bodies and Recognised Classes

The AQHA recognises the organisations listed in this Rule, as the Approved Performance Bodies for the disciplines listed.

Any event approved or affiliated with one of the AQHA Approved Performance Bodies will be allocated "A" points towards ROM's in that discipline and points are eligible to count towards Annual High Point Awards if applicable.

ABHA Australian Barrel Horse Association: Barrel

ABCRA Aust. Bushmen's Campdraft and Rodeo Assoc: Breakaway Roping Ladies and Youth, Campdraft, Ladies Barrel, Ladies Steer Undecorating, Rope & Tie, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Youth Sporting

AERA Aust. Endurance Riders Assoc.: Endurance

ARB Australian Racing Board and/or placings from racing organisations approved by the AQHA: Racing

APRA Australian Professional Rodeo Association: Breakaway Roping Ladies & Youth, Ladies Barrel, Ladies Steer Undecorating, Rope & Tie, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Youth Sporting

ASCA Australian Stockman's Challenge Assoc: Stockman's Challenge

ATRA Australian Team Roping Association: Barrel, Breakaway Roping Ladies & Youth, Ladies Steer Undecorating, Rope & Tie, Team Roping, Youth Sporting

CRCA Central Rodeo Cowboy Association: Ladies Barrel, Youth Sporting

EA Equestrian Australia: Dressage, Eventing, Hack, Show Jumping,

FEI Federation Equestre Internationale: Dressage

NBHA National Barrel Horse Association: Barrel, Youth Sporting

NCCA National Campdraft Council Australia: Campdraft

NCHA National Cutting Horse Association: Cutting

NRA National Rodeo Association: Breakaway Roping Ladies & Youth, Ladies Barrel, Ladies Steer Undecorating, Rope & Tie, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Youth Sporting

NRCHA National Reined Cow Horse Association: Working Cow Horse
ARCHA Australian Reined Cow Horse Association: Working Cow Horse
NRHA RA National Reining Horse Assoc. and Reining Australia: Reining

PCA Pony Club Australia: PC Sporting (Inc. Mounted Games), PC Dressage, PC Eventing, PC Jumping

SHCA Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc: Hack, Show Hunter

TPA Team Penning Australia Inc: Team Penning, Arena Sorting

WDA Western Dressage Association of Australia: Western Dressage

45. HIGH POINT AWARDS AT SHOWS

Are not compulsory for approved shows or programs.

NB: Any horse or exhibitor that has exhibited in a class but disqualified, is still counted as competing in that class.

Awards must include the relevant point scoring classes on the program.

- a) At Approved Shows, or for approved programs, High Point Awards must be advertised as either eg: High Point Performance Horse (all Performance classes excluding Halter), or High Point Horse which includes Halter and Performance;
NB: All Youth, Amateur and Select Amateur awards are for the competitor, not the horse.
- b) *All approved Youth classes must go to High Point Youth. If only 1 youth class is held for a specific discipline on the program, the points for youth placed will go towards their respective age Youth High Point Award if offered.*
- c) *All approved Amateur classes must go to High Point Amateur. If only 1 Amateur class held for a specific discipline on the program, the points for Amateurs placed will go towards their respective Amateur High Point Award if offered.*
- d) *All approved Select Amateur classes must go to High Point Select Amateur. If there is no specific Select Amateur discipline on the program, and the Select Amateur enters the Amateur class for that discipline, any points gained by the Select Amateur will go towards a High Point Select Amateur if offered. Exception: Amateur Halter and Amateur Boxing.*
- e) *Horse – for age division High Point Awards. Eg: All points gained in an approved 3 year old class will go towards High Point 3 year old. NB: if there is no specific 3 year old discipline on the program, and the 3 year old competes in a Junior Horse or all age class, then any points gained by the 3 year old will go towards High Point 3 year old if offered.*
- f) Youth and Amateurs/Select Amateurs may nominate a maximum of two (2) horses that will count toward the High Point Youth/Amateur/Select Amateur awards at the show. Nominations must be in the Show Secretary's hands prior to closing date of entries, or the first two (2) horses used by the Youth, Amateur or Select Amateur in the show will be the only two (2) horses points that count towards the High Point calculations;
- g) Youth or Amateur may exhibit two (2) horses in individually judged classes. Only the highest placing horse in the Youth or Amateur class will be allocated points towards high point awards at any approved show and end of year awards when an individual places twice in the one class;
- h) High Point Awards at Approved Shows, or for approved programs, will be awarded in the following manner:

- If six (6) or more in the class - 6 points for 1st; 5 points for 2nd; 4 points for 3rd; 3 points for 4th; 2 points for 5th; 1 point for 6th
- If five (5) in the class - 5 points for 1st; 4 points for 2nd; 3 points for 3rd; 2 points for 4th; 1 point for 5th
- If four (4) in the class - 4 points for 1st; 3 points for 2nd; 2 points for 3rd; 1 point for 4th
- If three (3) in the class - 3 points for 1st; 2 points for 2nd; 1 point for 3rd
- If two (2) in the class - 2 points for 1st; 1 point for 2nd
- If one (1) in the class - 1 point for 1st.
- i) Points not to be included in High Point Awards at Shows are: Points earned for Champion and Reserve Champion at Halter, and special classes i.e. Futurities etc;
- j) Tie - In the case of a tie occurring in a High Point Award, the tie will be broken by:
 - the greatest number of first place ribbons
 - the greatest number of second place ribbons.
 - the greatest number of third place ribbons and so on.
- k) Prior to the commencement of the show, the organisation running the show must advertise the class/classes that will be used as the tie breaker if the tie cannot be broken under Rule 45 j);

45.1 Versatility Ranch

Versatility Ranch High Point Awards at shows are not compulsory, but if held must use the point scoring system as per rule 45 h) and 45 j).

To gain a Versatility Ranch High Point at a show, the horse, Youth or Amateur must have competed in a minimum of one (1) class in each of the categories offered to be eligible for that High Point award. All youth classes held must count towards the Youth award, same as for Amateur and All Age Horse.

46. DIFFERENT TYPES OF SHOW APPROVAL

46.1 AGRICULTURAL SHOWS

Recognised classes held at Agricultural Shows will be allocated "A" points if the class held is run under the respective rules of the AQHA or an Approved Performance Body and is judged by an AQHA Judge or a recognised Judge from that Approved Performance body.

46.2 VERSATILITY RANCH SHOW is defined as a standalone event. The only divisions that can be run are:

Horse - All Age

Snaffle Bit – Any Horse 3 years & over. Horse to be ridden 2 handed in a snaffle bit regardless of horse's age. Equipment: Fender, stock saddle or half-breed saddle.

Amateur - All Age

Select Amateur - All Age

Youth: if one (1) class is held to be: 7 to 18 years old

if two (2) classes held: 7 to 13 years and 14 to 18 years

46.2.1 Judge: Must be AQHA Ranch accredited or AmQHA Ranch accredited and run under the rules of the Association.

46.2.2 Categories: There are four (4) categories with seven (7) classes in total as follows:

Category 1 Ranch Pleasure, Ranch Trail

Category 2 Ranch Reining

Category 3 Ranch Cutting, Ranch Cow Work, Limited Ranch Cow Work

Category 4 Ranch Conformation

46.2.3 To gain approval an event must:

- Run all four (4) categories; or
- Run three (3) of the four (4) categories; or
- Run one (1) of the categories and run two (2) classes from two (2) other different categories.

E.g. Run Category three (3) plus Category four (4) plus Trail from Category one (1)

All classes on the program must be listed on the application when applying for approval.

46.2.4 Versatility Ranch Shows can be single "A" or Multi Judged "A".

46.3 "A", "AA" AND MULTI JUDGED SHOWS (EITHER "A" OR "AA")

There is no minimum or maximum number of days that "A", "AA" or Multi Judged shows can be held over.

46.3.1 All classes offered at the show must be listed on the program when applying for approval and the application must be done on Official Application Forms or Online. A copy of the full program must accompany the application. NB: If applying online, email the program to the Association, on the same day that you submit your application.

46.3.2 Mandatory Halter Classes: Restricted to Quarter Horses only that are registered with the AQHA. Refer Rule 43.4 Weanlings.

- a) When two (2) age divisions are offered for each sex division they must be:
3 years and under, 4 years and over
Champion & Reserve
- b) When three (3) age divisions are offered for each sex division they must be;
Yearling, 2 & 3 year old, 4 years & over
Champion & Reserve **OR**
1 year & under, 2 & 3 year old, 4 years & over
Champion & Reserve
- c) When four (4) age divisions are offered for each sex division they must be:
Weanling, Yearling, 2 & 3 year old, 4 years & over
Champion & Reserve
- d) When five (5) age divisions are offered for each sex division they must be:
Weanling, Yearling, 2 year old,
3 year old, 4 years & over
Champion & Reserve
NB: Only one (1) Performance Halter class can be added for each sex division.

46.3.3 Mandatory Performance Classes

"A" Show: a minimum of three (3) classes must be chosen from each Group in Rule 46.3.4 and

"AA" Shows: a minimum of five (5) classes must be chosen from each Group in Rule 46.3.4.

46.3.4 Groups

Youth Group

All age class only in: Dressage, Hack, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter, AQHA Sporting, Ranch Riding, Western Dressage, *Working Cow Horse*.
Showmanship - All Age; or

5 to 13 years and 14 to 18 years; or

5 to 11 years, 12 to 14 years and 15 to 18 years.

Trail, Western Pleasure Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Reining – the only age divisions that can be run will be:

All Age; or

7 to 13 years and 14 to 18 years; or

7 to 11 years, 12 to 14 years and 15 to 18 years.

Amateur Group

All age Amateur class only in: Showmanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Hack, Dressage, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter, AQHA Sporting and Ranch Riding.

Trail, Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Riding and Reining - the only divisions that can be run will be:

All Age or

Amateur Junior and Amateur Senior Horse.

Select Amateur Group

Only 1 division only in: Showmanship, Trail, Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Reining, Hack, Dressage, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter and Ranch Riding.

Open Group

The only divisions will be:

AQHA Sporting: All age only

Dressage: All Age - Preliminary, Novice, Elementary (exhibitor can compete in 2 consecutive levels only)

Hack and Show Hunter:

14hh and over; or

14hh and not exceeding 15hh and over 15hh; or

14hh not exceeding 15hh, over 15hh and not exceeding 16hh, over 16hh

Hunter Hack:

All Age; or

Junior and Senior

Hunter in Hand:

All Age; or

Yearling and 2 years & over; **or** Yearling, Junior and Senior

Lunge Line and Led Trail: Yearling; or

2 year old class; **or** Yearling and 2 year old

Ranch Riding:

All Age; or

Junior and Senior

Reining:

All Age, or

Junior and Senior; **or**

Junior, Senior and Snaffle Bit/Hackamore

NB: No horse can be entered in both the Junior bit and Hackamore/Snaffle bit reining classes at the same show.

Western Dressage:

Open - Basic and Levels 1 to 4 (exhibitor can compete in 2 consecutive levels only)

Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle and Trail:

From 1 August to 31 March All Age; or

Junior and Senior;

or Junior, Senior, 3 year old

From 1 April to 31 July All Age; or

Junior and Senior; or
Junior, Senior, 3 year old and/or 2 year old (optional)

Western Riding:

All Age; or Junior and Senior

Working Cow Horse:

All Age; or

Junior and Senior; or

Junior, Senior and a Hackamore/Snaffle bit horses five (5) years and under as of 1 January of current show year.

Equestrian with Disabilities: All Age

46.3.5 Prize money that must be offered at “AA” Shows:

Minimum \$1000 prize money. The \$1000 prize money is to be paid out and spread between a minimum of two (2) Open classes, two (2) Amateur classes and two (2) Youth classes, *regardless of number in the class.*

46.3.6 Number of Horses at “AA” Shows

For a show to meet minimum requirements and have the results recognised, throughout the whole show there must be a minimum of 24 registered Quarter Horses exhibited in approved classes for QLD, NSW and VIC. All other States a minimum of fourteen (14) *or show will be downgraded to “A”.*

46.3.7 Beginner, Improver, Rookie or Walk/Jog type classes can be run at any “A”, “AA” or Multi Judged show.

46.3.8 Multi Judged Show

- a) A Multi Judged show is defined as the use of two (2) judges, judging independently of each other at one show. Each of the Judges placings will require separate results being submitted to the Association; therefore two (2) sets of points will be awarded. Two Show approval fees to be paid accordingly depending on the class of show;
- b) AQHA Affiliates will be allowed to run an unlimited number of Multi Judged Shows per show season. An AQHA recognised breed organisation can apply to run no more than two (2) multi-judged shows per show season;
- c) A Multi Judge Show can be either: Two (2) “A” Shows (same program).
One (1) “A” and one (1) “AA” Show (“AA” program must be used for both) Two (2) “AA” Shows (same program for both)
- d) Approved Applicant must place a notice, at the venue prior to commencement of the show, for all members to be made aware who is judging the “A” and who is judging the “AA” show.

47. SPECIAL EVENT

An AQHA Affiliate can run an unlimited number of Special Events per show season and single “A” points will be allocated.

No other organisations will be given permission to run Special Events.

A Special Event must be one of the following:

- a) **Amateur Show** – minimum of twenty-five (25) recognised Amateur classes and must include Novice and Select Amateur classes;
- b) **Youth Show** – minimum of twenty (20) recognised classes and must include Novice Youth classes;
- c) **Amateur & Youth Show** combined – minimum of a) and b) above;
- d) **Halter and Led Show** – must have a minimum of twenty-five (25) classes and covers Halter, Lunge Line, Hunter in Hand and Led Trail;

- e) **Cattle Show** – any AQHA recognised cattle classes;
- f) **Reining Show** – Can be run by an AQHA Affiliate or a recognised Reining Affiliate. Program must comply with RA Regulations and Rules.

47.1 NATIONAL SHOW

The Board of Directors of the AQHA, will formulate the program, Rules and Regulations pertaining to the National Championship Show.

48. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS and VERSATILITY RANCH STATE SHOWS

48.1 Application for State Championship shows must be lodged with the Association by the 1 August in any year for the coming show season. Name of Judge must be lodged with the Association sixty (60) days prior to first day of show.

The Affiliate, who has been approved to run the State Show, within their state, will be given the opportunity to run that states VR State Championships. If this Affiliate, does not want to run the VR State Championships, then any other Affiliate within that State can apply to run this event. "AAA" point will apply.

- a) Applications will be approved by the Board of Directors;
- b) All Affiliates, in that State, can tender to run that State's Quarter Horse State Championships;
- c) No approval can be given to conduct State Championships without a program of classes being submitted which displays the amount of entry fees, prize money per class and a copy of the Affiliates Rules and Regulations for that State Show including any High Point Awards Rules and qualifying classes;
- d) At State Championships the Show Secretary and the Show Manager must be financial AQHA members;
- e) All State Championship shows must fulfil "AA" Show criteria;
- f) No State Championships, in any State, will be approved to run within fourteen (14) days either side of the AQHA National Championships, unless sanctioned by the Board of Directors.

48.5 Prize Money

Minimum prize money required at State Shows is as follows: Queensland, Victoria, NSW, \$3000. All other States \$1000 NB: The prize money is to be paid out and spread between a minimum of two (2) Open classes, two (2) Amateur classes and two (2) Youth classes regardless of number in the class.

49. ENTRY, FEES, AND RECORDS

49.1 An entry fee can be charged, but if charged it must be charged uniformly to all exhibitors in the class.

49.2 No person can pay an entry fee for a class and/or take part in a class and then declare that they are not to be judged in that class. All exhibitors that enter the ring are to be judged.

49.3 No Show Management will require an exhibitor to enter or pay entry fee of a horse in a halter class for that horse to be eligible for an approved performance class or vice versa. Nor will an exhibitor be required to enter or pay entry fees for a horse in a performance class for that horse to be eligible for other performance classes. Provided, that this rule will not apply to futurity type classes, which require ongoing sustaining payments for future shows. Also exempt are high point awards.

49.4 The onus is on the person to have the correct names, registration numbers, etc., on the entry form(s).

Failure to do so may result in no points being awarded for the entry(s).

49.5 An exhibitor is responsible for errors on the entry blanks. A horse entered in the wrong class will be transferred to its correct class prior to Judging. Entry forms must be completed by each person entering the show.

49.6 Any horses entered in an approved show, or for competition in an approved program, must be listed under its registered name and number. To be eligible for points a horse must be exhibited under its complete registered name. Entries will be made in the name of the recorded owner.

49.7 An exhibitor may enter one (1) or more horses in a class but each horse may have only one (1) rider per class.

49.8 A Show Committee will maintain adequate written/electronic records, enough to establish to the Association's satisfaction, upon request, that each exhibitor's entry fee was paid. Such records will be preserved for at least twelve (12) months. Failure on the part of a Show Committee to preserve such records, will create the assumption that the fees were not paid, with the burden of persuasion on a Show Committee and the individual exhibitor to prove otherwise.

50. SHOW RESULTS

The results of any Approved Show or Program must be completed in its' entirety on official forms (replicating those forms as prescribed by the Association) or electronic files and forwarded to the Association within fourteen (14) days after completion of the show.

AQHA Affiliates, who applied for their approval online, can lodge the results for that show for all registered Quarter Horses online within fourteen (14) days after completion of the show.

If not adhered to, a late fee will be imposed upon the Affiliate/Organisation conducting the show and future show or program approval can be denied

Exception: Any shows held in the month of July each year, the results must be received by 14 August in that year or the points will not be counted towards end of year awards but will be recorded towards ROM's etc;

- a) Show Managements responsibility is to make sure that the results are reported in a clear and concise layout with the following information:

Horse classes:

Full names of horse

Registration number of horses

Owner's name and membership number

NB: For State Shows – Exhibitors name & membership number

Youth, Amateur, Select Amateur & EWD classes:

Full name of horse

Registration number of horses

Owner's name & membership number

Youth, Amateur, Select Amateur & EWD exhibitors - name and membership number

- b) The placings for each class and the number of exhibits shown in each class **NB:** Any exhibitor disqualified in a class must be counted in the number of exhibitors in that class;
If fewer than five (5) competed in the class, all horses in the class will be listed in order;

50.1 Results from any show other than "A" or "AA" approved, the member must complete an Official Show Result Form and forward to the Association, with a copy of the show program, after it has been

Signed as correct by the Judge or an official of the organising body within 30 days of such show. If not received in this time frame the points will not be allocated.

50.2 Where the AQHA has an agreement with an Approved Performance Body, to submit results on behalf of the competitors at an approved show, the competitors do not need to submit the Official Show Result Forms to the Association.

50.3 All Approved Shows and programs must use an entry form which contains information required in accordance with Rule 50.

50.4 It is the duty of a competitor to report to the Association within ten (10) days, any infraction of Rules at approved and unapproved Shows. Where an infraction is proven, points for that class may, at the Association's discretion be disallowed.

51. RIBBONS The following schedule of ribbons is recommended:

1st place: blue; 2nd place: red; 3rd place: yellow; 4th place: white; 5th place: pink; 6th place: green; 7th place: purple; 8th place: brown; 9th place: dark grey; 10th place: light blue; Champion: red, white and blue; Reserve Champion: purple.

52. MISCELLANEOUS SHOW RULES

Earphones, earbuds and/or other electronic devices are strictly prohibited in the competition arena and such usage is penalised by disqualification.

52.1 Shows with multiple Judges and arenas may make trail classes available to exhibitors in a random order and position. Working order for this class also may be random;

52.2 Scores in go-rounds or eliminations will not be counted towards placings – only the scoring in the final will be accepted;

52.3 Combining Classes – Horse divisions, of the same discipline, can be combined at the direction of the Judge and Show Manager, only when there are two or less entries in one or more divisions. A combined class can only have one set of results. Amateur Rule 62 and Youth Rule 63.

52.4 Concurrent Classes – That two (2) classes of the same discipline can be run concurrently. Show Manager and the Judge will make this decision. The Judges results will determine the placings for both classes that ran concurrently.

52.5 Reining Surface The arena surface for Reining at Approved Shows, or programs, must be SAFE, being lightly ploughed and harrowed, or a suitably soft surface (sand, loam, sawdust, tanbark etc). Hard surface, grass or uncovered trotting tracks etc. do not constitute safe arena surfaces.

52.6 Exhibition/competition is deemed to have commenced when the horse and/or rider/handler has entered the marshalling area or has come under the direct control of Show Manager (typically Marshall/Steward) prior to entering the arena.

52.7 Any person owning or leasing the grounds on which a show is being held will be prohibited from using said ownership to influence the outcome of any show held on the property.

52.8 Photography By entry and participation in AQHA Approved Shows, or in a Show that runs an approved program, an owner and exhibitor agree that the Association, Show Committee and their agents and representatives can photograph, film or tape any portion thereof, and use their likeness and that of the exhibited horses for training, promotional or other legitimate purpose of either organisation, without necessity of remuneration. Parental permission must be sought for use of Youth photos.

52.9 Show Management may request a copy or sighting of: Horse Registration Certificate and Amateur/Select Amateur Permits.

52.10 Show Committee will issue exhibitors separate entry numbers for each horse entered. Failure to wear a competitor number, or to display the correct number in a visible manner, will result in disqualification.

52.11 Any exhibitor withdrawing from a show after competing will forfeit any fees and all go-round money which may be accruing to him/her at the time of his/her withdrawal, except that in the case of incapacitating sickness or injury to himself/herself or his/her horse or any serious illness or death in the exhibitor's family, all prize monies won by him/her to that point in the show will be paid.

52.12 It is mandatory that all patterns and courses be posted at least one (1) hour prior to the class commencing.

52.13 In all performance classes, all horses shown under saddle are to be ridden astride.

52.14 The fall of a horse or rider being judged will be cause for disqualification.

a horse is considered to have fallen when he is on his side and all four feet are extended in the same direction

rider is considered to have fallen when he or she is not astride.

52.15 No exhibitor can be tied, buckled, or fastened in the saddle in any manner or by any means during competition. **Exception:** Refer to Rule 96.

52.16 In all performance classes where each entry performs individually, the order of competition will be determined by Show Manager.

52.17 Whether or not entries perform individually, all horses entered in a class must be assembled in ample time for judging to start on time and continued without delay. They must remain in readiness until dismissed by the Judge. A tardy exhibitor can be denied access to competition.

52.18 It is recommended for horses working on the rail that everyone has approximately 4.5mt between themselves and the next horse.

52.19 The Management of any Show will determine whether an elimination is necessary, the number of go rounds to be held and the number of horses to be shown at each performance.

52.20 If there is elimination, each horse must be ridden by the same rider who rode it in the elimination.

52.21 Re-runs will not be allowed in instances of equipment failure. When exhibitor equipment failure causes a delay or a run to be discontinued, the Judge will disqualify the entry.

52.22 No training equipment is allowed in the marshalling area or the performance arena one (1) hour prior to the commencement of the Show and one (1) hour after the cessation of the Show, on each day of the show.

52.23 Attire

- a) For competitors in the marshalling areas and show arena, whilst Show is in progress. Refer to Index (Attire);
- b) For handlers in the marshalling area, whilst Show is in progress, is a minimum of cap/hat, long western style pants/jodhpurs, safe enclosed footwear and a shirt with sleeves;
- c) For any person who has cause to enter the show arena to help set up trails etc. is a minimum of cap/hat, long western style pants/jodhpurs, safe enclosed footwear and a shirt with sleeves.

- d) For any person using the arena or marshalling area when the Show is not in progress, but the Show has not finished, is a minimum of long western style pants/jodhpurs, safe enclosed footwear and a shirt with sleeves;

53. SHOW OFFICIALS

53.1 Attire All Officials who have cause to enter the Show arena, at an AQHA Approved Show or an organisation running an approved AQHA program, whilst that Show is in progress, will wear western attire including western hat, western pants, long sleeved shirt with collar (band, stand- up, tuxedo etc), and western boots.

53.2 Officials

- a) All Approved Shows or Programs must have a Show Manager or Arena Director;
- b) At an "A" or "AA" Approved Show or Approved Program, the Show Manager, Arena Director Ring Steward, Show Secretaries, Announcers, ribbon presenters cannot officiate at this show until they have finished exhibiting horses;
- c) *A Ring Steward can be 16 years of age and over. All other Officials must be eighteen (18) years and over with the exception of Ribbon presenters.*
- d) An approved Bit Gauge must be used by an official at Approved Shows and for approved programs.

53.3 Show Secretary

- a) Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Show Secretary who can furnish proof that they are capable through ability and experience and is familiar with Association Rules and Regulations;
- b) It is recommended that the Show Secretary be a financial member of the AQHA;
- c) The Show Secretary will have jurisdiction over preparing and mailing all entry blanks and catalogues;
- d) A Show Secretary can hold the position of Show Manager at the same show.
- e) The Show Secretary will be held responsible for:
 - any fees collected on behalf of the AQHA and the forwarding of these fees to the Association
 - clarification of eligibility of all entries, which includes checking the permits of Amateurs and Select, Youth ages and Novice status.
 - the completion of all results that must be forwarded to the Association
 - filing with the Association any incident reports from that show, plus the pre-show Event Planning Checklist.

53.4 Show Manager

- a) Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Show Manager who can furnish proof that they are capable through ability and experience. It is recommended that the Show Manager be a financial AQHA member;
- b) A Show Manager can hold the position also of Arena Director at the same show; or
- c) A Show Manager can hold the position of Show Secretary at the same Show but cannot hold the three (3) positions being Show Manager, Arena Director and Show Secretary at the same show;

- d) The Show Manager is the person in charge of the running of the Show and cannot hold the position of Ring Steward at the same Show;
- e) The Show Manager will have the authority to enforce all rules and regulations referring to the Show. He/she may excuse any horse or exhibitor from the Show prior to, or during the judging, after consultation with the Show Committee.

53.5 Arena Director

- a) Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Arena Director who can furnish proof that he/she is capable through ability and experience;
- b) An Arena Director is responsible to the Show Manager to carry out duties regarding the Show arena under the guidance of either the Show Manager or if no Show Manager, then responsible to the Show Committee.

53.6 Show Manager

- a) Show Manager will always extend every effort to satisfy the comfort of all horses, exhibitors, spectators, and officials. They will be held responsible for maintenance of clean and orderly conditions throughout the show;
- b) Show Manager will receive written complaints from exhibitors, trainers, owners, show participants and other AQHA members of incidents of cruel, abusive or inhumane treatment of horses on the grounds and/or unacceptable behaviour of persons on the grounds, and will forward such complaints to the Association for possible disciplinary action under the Association's Rules and Regulations pertaining to animal welfare and unsportsmanlike conduct.

53.7 Show Photographer

- a) No Official show photographer can exhibit a horse at a show that they are officiating at;
- b) They must be appropriately attired, when in the show arena, being shirt with sleeves, western style pants/jeans and closed in shoes.

53.8 Ring Steward - A competent Ring Steward will be required to officiate at all AQHA Approved Shows and for any organisation that has been given program approval. Any reputable person or persons may act in the capacity of Ring Steward who can furnish proof that they are capable through ability or experience and is familiar with AQHA Rules and Regulations.

- a) A Ring Steward cannot hold any other position at a State or National Show, but can rotate between the Ring Steward/Gate Marshall positions at other Shows;
- b) The Ring Steward will notify the Judge when all horses are present for each class;
- c) The Ring Steward will report the number of horses in each class on the official sheets provided;
- d) The Ring Steward must mark on the result sheets/cards the time that each class has been completed;
- e) The Ring Steward must have in their mind that they have been selected to help the Judge – not to advise the Judge. They will carefully refrain from discussing or seeming to discuss the horses or exhibitors with the Judge. The Ring Steward will make sure that it is not perceived that they are taking part in the outcome of the class;

- f) When the Ring Steward is not actively engaged in their duties, they will place themselves in such a position so as not to interfere with the judging or the viewing of the competitors;
- g) The Ring Steward must not allow the exhibitors to crowd up in the ring or arena and should always endeavour to keep the possibilities of an accident at a minimum;
- h) The Ring Steward is to act as a mediator between the Judge and the exhibitor. The Judge should request the Ring Steward to move and place horses as they advise. When the ring or arena is small and the class entries are large, the Ring Steward should survey the situation and take every precaution to keep the horses moving until the Judge is ready for them to be judged.

53.9 Judge - A Judge has the authority to remove exhibitors from the arena.

53.10 Show Disputes Committee - Show Manager, a Show Committee Member and a Competitor make up the Disputes Committee. Two (2) of the above must be AQHA financial members. Youth are not permitted to serve on this committee.

54. VETERINARIAN. Any registered/licensed Veterinarian may officiate in his/her capacity. If there is more than one (1) Veterinarian, one should be delegated as being in charge. Rather than impose on one individual, it is advised to arrange with several to work in shifts. Health requirements should be outlined in programs and on entry blanks and enforced by the Show Manager and Veterinarians.

55. TIES (DRAWS) IN CLASSES. *In all scored classes refer to individual class rules in Section five (5).*

56. POINTS AWARDED. At any Approved AQHA Show or for any approved program, only the classes on the program that have been approved will be allocated "A" type points. All other classes on the program, that are recognised by the Association, but no approval has been given, will be allocated "B" points. Any exceptions please check individual class rules.

AQHA National Championships: **"AAAA" points**

AQHA State Championship Shows: **"AAA" points**

AQHA Approved "AA" Show: **"AA" points**

AQHA Approved "A" Show: **"A" points**

Agriculture Shows Approved AQHA: **"A" points**

Open/All Age recognised classes at Shows when there are age divisions offered on the program: **"B" points**

Futurities, Stakes, Derbies, Classic etc. that are recognised classes: **"B" points**

Recognised class at unapproved Shows: **"B" points**

Supreme Exhibit type classes: **no points**

57. ALLOCATION OF POINTS

57.1 Points for horses registered with the Association will be recorded by the Association subject to the Association's Show and Performance Rules.

57.2 Points will only be allocated if owner of the horse is a financial member at the time of competition. Amateur and Youth Members refer to Rule 62 and 63. **Exception:** see State Show Rules.

57.3 Points will be awarded for completed classes only. Heats, cut-outs, go- rounds, eliminations will not be eligible for points.

57.4 No points will be awarded for any Show which is judged in such a way as to provide more than one result. **Exception:** Multi Judged shows that are approved by the AQHA.

57.5 To be eligible for points, horses must be:

- a) Registered in the Association's Stud Book, the Appendix Registry or the Performance Registry;
- b) Exhibited under their registered name and number; and
- c) Exhibited in the name of the registered owner, who must be a financial member of the Association.

57.6 The Association can, at its discretion, refuse to award Performance points if:

- a) The exhibitor is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct or infringement of the Rules as reported in writing by the organising body and proven to the satisfaction of the Association;
- b) The use of illegal substances is proven to the satisfaction of the Association;
- c) The exhibitor fails to comply with any of the Rules and Regulations of the AQHA.

57.7 The point's award year is from 1 August to 31 July in any year. Points will be earned on the actual number of horses exhibited in the class. Where horses compete in pairs or a team, each pair or team constitutes one entry.

57.8 No points will be awarded to horses who compete in Halter or Performance classes which are restricted to horses under 142cm (14hh). Where the class is restricted to horses exactly 142cm (14hh) and under, the class will be deemed to be restricted to horses under 142cm (14hh).

57.9 Champion and Reserve

- a) Champions from Halter and Performance Halter classes can only receive Champion points;
- b) Only the winner, of each same sex halter class, is eligible to stand for Champion. After the Champion is determined, the horse that came second to that Champion, in their class, can step forward to be considered for Reserve Champion up against all the other class winners;
- c) Points for Champion and Reserve - If three (3) or more horses contest, award two (2) points for Champion, one (1) point for Reserve Champion. If two (2) horses contest, award one (1) point for Champion, half (1/2) point for Reserve Champion. If only one (1) horse competes for Champion, no points will be given.

57.10 Points will not be awarded to horses who compete in Halter or Performance Halter classes which are restricted to horses registered or recorded with any other breed or colour registry or organisation.

57.11 Get of Sire: Must have three (3) progeny four (4) years of age or under of either sex exhibited.

57.11 Produce of Dam: Must have two (2) progeny four (4) years of age or under of either sex exhibited. NB: Points are awarded to the relevant Sire and Dam only as per the point's tabulation sheet; Performance Registered horses are not eligible for Get of Sire or Produce of Dam classes.

57.12 Dressage, Show Jumping and Eventing run under rules of EA

97.13 Show Hunter, Hack run under SCHA.

Points awarded as per Points Table on page 71.

58. ANNUAL AWARDS

58.1 The Board of Directors, of the Australian Quarter Horse Association reserves the right to decide, from time to time, the awards that will be made annually. The making of an award to an individual member will be a matter entirely at the discretion of the Board and the Board may resolve at any time to decline to present a particular award, notwithstanding that it has previously resolved that the award concerned was to be made for that year.

58.2 The Association will make Annual Awards based upon the number of points earned by an individual horse, Amateur or Youth during that year's competition. Any horse, Amateur or Youth declared ineligible from participation in AQHA Approved Shows arising from violation of AQHA Show Rules is ineligible to receive any AQHA Annual Awards during that point year.

59. INCIDENTS AT SHOWS. A report must be lodged with the AQHA of any incident that occurs at an event run by any AQHA Affiliate within seven (7) days of the incident occurring. This can be a breach of Rules, animal welfare issues or accident.

60. POINTS TABLE – available on Page 71.

61. ROMS AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS.

61.1 The awards, listed in 61.5, can only be won once by any horse.

61.2 Points will be gained during the lifetime of the horse and will be accumulative.

61.3 To be eligible, horses must be registered in the Association's Stud Book, the Appendix Registry or the Performance Registry.

61.4 When any award is made, the appropriate Association recognition will be forwarded to the person recorded as the owner of the horse.

The Registration of any horse will be cancelled by the Association if the owner fraudulently advertises or claims that his horse is entitled to any Association Award prior to the Award being given by the Association

61.5 Horse achievements, at the discretion of the Association, may be awarded on the following basis to any Registered Quarter Horse:

- a) Register of Merit Halter**
Twenty (20) halter points, of which at least fifteen (15) must be 'A' points;
- b) Register of Merit Performance**
Twenty (20) points in more than one (1) performance discipline, excluding Racing, of which at least fifteen (15) must be 'A' points;
- c) Register of Merit (Any Single Performance Class)**
Twenty (20) points in any performance discipline, of which at least fifteen (15) must be 'A' points;
- d) Superior Halter Horse**
Sixty (60) halter points, of which at least thirty (30), must be 'A' points;
- e) Superior Performance Horse (Any Single Performance discipline)**
Sixty (60) points in any performance discipline, of which at least thirty (30) must be 'A' points;
- f) Century Awards (Halter or Any Single Performance discipline)**
Bronze Century 100 points Minimum of 75 "A" points
Silver Century 200 points Minimum of 150 "A" points
Gold Century 300 points Minimum of 225 "A" points

g) AQHA All Round Champion Horse

- *Register of Merit in Halter and*
- *3 Performance ROM's in 3 different disciplines*

h) AQHA Supreme Champion

- *A Superior Award in Halter; and three (3) Superior Performance awards in any single discipline;*

61.6 AQHA Medal of Excellence

May be awarded to any horse registered with the Association, which in the opinion of the Association has excelled in any phase of equestrian activity and/or promotion of the Australian Quarter Horse.

61.7 Special Achievement Recognition

This award has been established to give registered Australian Quarter Horses recognition on their permanent records for outstanding achievements in special events not approved by the AQHA.

For results from special events to be accepted as a part of AQHA records, the following criteria must be met:

- the organisation sponsoring the event must be National in scope. The AQHA may, at its discretion, grant approval for any event they deem appropriate as qualifying for special recognition
- the event must be open to all breeds of horses
- the placing and/or standings must be presented to the AQHA by the relevant organisation within 60 days following the event.

61.8 AQHA Certificate of Achievement awarded for twenty (20) "B" points achieved in any class.

Points cannot be combined from different classes. You can gain an Achievement Award in as many classes as you earn points in.

61.9 AQHA Medal of Esteem May be awarded to any member of the Association, past or present, which in the opinion of the Association, has made a major contribution to the Quarter Horse breed in Australia.

61.10 EWD Awards and Recognition

Rider and Horse achievements, may, at the discretion of the Association, be awarded on the following basis:

- a) Certificate of Achievement** – ten (10) "B" points or ten (10) "A" and "B" combined
- b) Register of Merit** – twenty (20) or more points in any EWD class, fifteen (15) of which must be "A"
- c) Superior ROM** – fifty (50) or more points in any EWD class, twenty-five (25) of which must be "A"

62. AMATEUR AND SELECT AMATEUR

Unless otherwise noted in Rule 62, "Amateur" will mean an Amateur and Select Amateur.

62.1 Permit

- a) Amateur Permit** - for those members of the Association, who are no longer eligible to exhibit in Youth classes, who are not professionals in the horse industry and who ride their horses for the pleasure of competing against other members who are also not professional;
- b) Select Amateur Permit** – if a person has attained the age of 50 years and provides proof of age, which must be in the form of a copy of a driver's licence or birth certificate, then an Amateur Permit will be endorsed as to allow them to compete in Select Amateur classes;

- c) Person must be a financial member of the Association and hold either an individual Full, Life or Honorary Life membership in their own name;
- d) The Amateur Permit Application form must be completed in its entirety and sent to the Association with the correct fees. These Permits are to be renewed annually.

NB: You cannot show in an Amateur class until such time as your application for a permit is successful and been processed;

- e) The person applying for the Amateur permit must declare the following:
“I have not, in the previous three (3) years from the date of application for my Permit, received remuneration or compensation for: Showing or training any horse or instructed any other person in riding, driving or exhibiting”;
- f) Payment by another person for stable and or yard fees, bedding or camping fees will not be considered remuneration if the Amateur reimburses the payee;
- g) Prize money or judging fees will not be considered as remuneration;
- h) Amateurs may accept Sponsorship in the form of goods only. Exception would be Amateurs fundraising for a sanctioned Australian Quarter Horse Association event.

NB: If you are a Judge with the AQHA you cannot hold an Amateur Permit with the AmQHA.

62.2 Owning the horse

- a) An Amateur can only exhibit a horse owned by themselves or their immediate family in any class, this is any class, any discipline.
- b) Separate legal entities, such as family corporations, trusts or partnerships, are also authorised owners of the Amateur exhibitor's horse so long as all legal and equitable owners and beneficiaries of the legal entity are individuals specifically authorised by this rule;
- c) **Immediate family** – Spouse, defacto partner, parents, child of the family, grandparents, brother(s), sister(s);
- d) Horses owned in partnership or jointly with any person other than the persons immediate family, do not fulfil the ownership requirements for Amateur;
- e) Ownership of horses exhibited by the Amateur must be evidenced by the records of the Association.

62.3 SHOWING

62.3.1 Combining classes

Amateur divisions and Select Amateur, of the same discipline, can be combined at the direction of the Judge and Show Manager, only when there are two (2) or less entries in one or more divisions. A combined class can only have one set of results.

62.3.2 Concurrent classes

That two (2) classes, of the same discipline, can be run concurrently and the Judge and Show Manager will make this decision. The Judges results will determine the placings for both the classes.

62.3.3 Exhibiting

- a) No horse can be shown by more than one competitor in any class;
- b) Amateurs may exhibit two (2) horses in individually judged classes;

- c) An Amateur can ride a horse in an Amateur class and another Amateur can ride this same horse in a different Amateur class, if all rules pertaining to ownership of horse and age of horse rule applies;
- d) Select Amateurs, must choose which class they wish to enter at a show if the show offers Amateur, Select Amateur and Novice Amateur (if eligible see Rule 64) for the same class;
- e) Amateurs can exhibit a different horse in the Junior Amateur and Senior Amateur class if all rules pertaining to ownership of the horse and age of horse rule applies;
- f) Select Amateurs can exhibit a horse in either a Junior Amateur or Senior Amateur class on a different horse to the one they exhibited in Select Amateur classes if all rules pertaining to ownership of the horse and age of horse rule applies;
- g) Every person competing in an Amateur class must possess a current Amateur Permit or Select Amateur permit appropriately endorsed by the AQHA or the equivalent issued by their relevant breed organisation. The permit must match the registered breed of horse the Amateur is exhibiting. A permit issued by the HSAA can only be used if the breed Association, recognised by the AQHA, does not issue Amateur permits;
- h) Regarding Amateur High Point Awards at Shows, refer Rule 45.

62.4 Performance Classes for Amateur and Select Amateur

Refer Rule 46.3.4.

62.5 Amateur Halter competition

There are no Select Amateur Halter classes

- a) Amateur Halter classes are not compulsory but if held must conform to Rule 46.3.2 for age and sex divisions;
- b) In Amateur Halter competition, when an Amateur exhibitor has qualified two (2) or more horses for Champion and Reserve Champion, only another Amateur may assist that exhibitor if the Amateur who originally qualified the horses leads one (1) of the horses in the Champion/Reserve class.

62.6 Points

- a) Points earned in Select Amateur classes will only count towards Select ROM's etc., Select Annual High Point Awards and Novice Amateur eligibility;
- b) Points earned in Amateur classes will only count towards Amateur ROM's etc., Amateur Annual High Point Awards and Novice Amateur eligibility;
- c) To gain points, AQHA Amateurs can only show under AQHA Amateur Rules.

62.7 For further situations not covered by the Amateur Rules, the Rules applying to open classes will apply.

62.8 Youth – Upon application to the Association, a free Amateur Permit is made available to Youth their first year out of Youth if that Youth possesses a financial individual membership in their own name. Youth must meet the criteria in Rule 62.1 to apply for an Amateur Permit.

62.9 Amateur Showing Lease

- a) Amateurs can exhibit leased horses;
- b) Lease must be for a minimum of six (6) months;
- c) The signed lease form, must be lodged with the Association, along with the lease fee and will not come into effect until duly processed by the Association;

- d) If a lease is terminated, for any reason, prior to expiry date, notification in writing to the Association, from both the Lessor and the Lessee is required, and the horse cannot be shown in Amateur classes until the original expiry date has been reached. **NB:** If no notification received by expiry date, the lease will be terminated by the Association;
- e) An Amateur showing another relevant breed, can show leased horses providing proof of lease is available and that such leasing is accepted by that relevant breed organisation;
- f) **International Leases are permissible.**

A minimum of a thirty-five (35) day lease will be made available to International Amateur visitors to Australia that wish to Show in Amateur classes at shows. Rule 62 must be adhered to.

62.10 Ineligibility or breach of rules.

- a) If an individual, for any reason, becomes ineligible to have an Amateur Permit, he or she will promptly return their AQHA membership card to the Association for amendment;
- b) An individual, who holds an Amateur Permit, will be subject to possible suspension of their Amateur status if they violate any of the Amateur rules;
- c) To make a formal complaint against an Amateur, such complaint must be in writing, signed by the complainant and contain the specific facts giving rise to the complaint.

62.11 Professional to Amateur

A person wishing to relinquish their professional status with the view to holding Amateur status must inform the Association in writing. From the date of receipt of this notification, three (3) years must pass before an application for Amateur status can be submitted.

62.12 Amateur/Select Exhibitor and Horse Awards may at the discretion of the Association be awarded on the following basis:

- a) **Register of Merit** - twenty (20) or more points in any discipline, fifteen (15) of which must be "A";
- b) **Superior Register of Merit** - fifty (50) or more points in any discipline, twenty-five (25) of which must be "A";
- c) *All Round Champion - four (4) Performance Register of Merits in four (4) different disciplines;*
- d) Century Awards in any single discipline:
Bronze 100 points - minimum of 75 "A" points,
Silver 200 points - minimum of 150 "A" points
Gold Century Award 300 points - minimum of 225 "A" points

63. YOUTH RULES AND REGULATIONS

63.1 The AQHA provides competition for Youth exhibitors aged three (3) years to eighteen (18) years of age as of 1st August of the current show year; and

- a) The minimum age for a youth competing in any Open class or Youth ridden class is seven (7) years old, exception Rule 63.14 and 63.15;
- b) The minimum age for a Youth competing in Youth Showmanship and Youth Halter is five (5) years of age and Open Halter classes is seven (7) years of age and over.

63.2 Youth participating or exhibiting in an AQHA sanctioned event, must have written permission from their parent/guardian to be at that event. In the case of a Show the parent/guardian must also sign the entry form.

All Youth competing or taking part in an AQHA sanctioned event must be in the care of a responsible adult who is in attendance for the duration of that event, whilst the Youth attends that event.

If you are a Youth Member, and are 18 years or older, you do not have to produce an Unaccompanied Minor Form to take part in AQHA events.

63.3 Youth may exhibit two (2) horses in individually judged classes. Refer to Rule 45 regarding Youth High Point Awards at a show.

63.4 A Youth can show non-owned horses in Youth classes and Open classes. NB: This could possibly affect the Youth's transition to Amateur status if they have received remuneration or compensation for training, showing someone else's horse or giving lessons.

63.5 Points for Youth for Annual High Point Awards will only be allocated if the horse exhibited by the Youth is owned/leased by the Youth or his/her immediate family.

63.6 Youth Showing Lease

- a) Youth can exhibit leased horses;
- b) Lease must be for a minimum of six (6) months;
- c) The signed lease form, must be lodged with the Association, along with the lease fee and will not come into effect until duly processed by the Association;
- d) Signed Lease form, must be lodged with the Association, along with the lease fee, and does not come into effect until duly processed by the Association;
- e) If a lease is terminated, for any reason, prior to expiry date, notification in writing to the Association, from both the Lessor and the Lessee is required, and the horse cannot be shown in Youth classes until the original expiry date has been reached.
NB: If no notification received by expiry date, the lease will be terminated by the Association;
- f) A Youth showing another relevant breed, can show leased horses providing proof of lease is available and that such leasing is accepted by that relevant breed organisation;
- g) **International Leases are permissible.** A minimum of a 35 day lease will be made available to International Youth visitors to Australia that wish to show in Youth classes at shows. Rule 63 must be adhered to.

63.7 Youth are not permitted to handle, ride, or exhibit colts or stallions at any AQHA Approved show. The only exception is NCHA/NRHA (RA) affiliated events. This rule will be strictly enforced by Show Management.

63.8 No Youth member may be tied, buckled, or fastened in the saddle in any manner or by any means during competition. (Exception: refer Rule 96).

63.9 A Judge may not ask a Youth exhibitor to change horses with another exhibitor in any Youth class.

63.10 No horse may be shown by more than one (1) exhibitor in any class. An exhibitor may not show more than one (1) horse in any class except in individual working classes being: Reining, Working Cow Horse, Western Riding, Barrel, Pole Bending, Figure Eight, Jumping, Trail, Team Roping, Breakaway Roping, Team Penning and Cutting, in which a rider may show two (2) horses.

63.11 The Association can suspend the rights of a Youth and/or their immediate family, legal guardian or any other representative/s who are acting on behalf of the youth if guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct,

for such a period as is judged appropriate.

63.12 For any situation not covered by Youth Rules and Regulations see appropriate class rules.

63.13 Showing

- a) **Combining Classes** – Youth divisions, of the same discipline, can be combined at the direction of the Judge and Show Manager only when there are two (2) or less entries in one or more divisions. A combined class can only have one set of results;
- b) **Concurrent Classes** – That two (2) classes can be run concurrently, if they are of the same discipline and the Judge and Show Manager will make this decision. The Judges results will determine the placings for both classes that ran concurrently;
- c) **Halter – All Age Youth only**
Only Mare and Gelding sex divisions will be contested.
Youth Halter classes are not compulsory, but if run, then they will be the following divisions only for both geldings and mares:
2 years & under
3 years & over
Performance Halter
Champion & Reserve
- d) **Ridden age divisions will be as follows:**
7 to 18 years of age; **or**
7 to 13 years and 14 to 18 years; **or**
7 to 11 years, 12 to 14 years, 15 to 18 years
- e) **Showmanship age divisions will be as follows:**
5 to 18 years; **or**
5 to 13 years and 14 to 18 years; **or**
5 to 11 years, 12 to 14 years and 15 to 18 years
- f) Minimum age of any Youth exhibitor in any Working Cow Horse class or Ranch Cow Work will be fourteen (14) years of age. Youth 7 to 18 years can compete in Ranch Limited Cow Work class. Written permission must be tendered from parent or guardian.

63.14 Youth Lead Line

- a) For Youth three (3) to six (6) years of age as at 1st August;
- b) No two (2) or three (3) year old horses can be used in this class;
- c) It is mandatory that an approved safety helmet is worn;
- d) No rider entering this class can enter any other ridden class on the program;
- e) This is a non-point scoring class.

63.15 Youth Walk Jog/Trot

- a) For Youth five (5) to ten (10) years of age as at 1st August;
- b) No two (2) or three (3) year old horses can be used in this class;
- c) It is mandatory for this class that an approved safety helmet is worn;
- d) No rider entering this class can enter any other ridden class on the program. This is a non-point scoring class.
- e) *In Youth Walk/Jog Trail no gate is to be included.*

63.16 Youth Points

- a) To be eligible to be awarded points for Youth classes, including Pony Club, the Youth must:
 - be a financial Youth member of the Association
 - comply with the requirements as to Youth age
 - ride a registered Quarter Horse belonging to a financial member
- b) Youth will be awarded points in the same manner as for Open Classes except that the points will be awarded to the Youth competitor and the horse as Youth Points;
- c) All of the recognised Youth classes will be eligible for points;
- d) Ownership of the horse need not be in the name of the Youth claiming points with the exception that points for Youth for end of year high point awards will only be allocated if the horse exhibited by the Youth is owned/leased by the Youth or his/her immediate family;
- e) Youth points will not be awarded to Youth competing in Open classes.

63.17 Youth Awards - Horse and Exhibitor may, at the discretion of the Association, be awarded on the following basis:

Youth Register of Merit - twenty (20) or more points in any discipline, fifteen (15) of which must be "A"

Youth Superior Register of Merit - fifty (50) or more points in any discipline, twenty-five (25) of which must be "A"

Youth Versatility Award - Register of Merit in five (5) different disciplines

Youth Champion - fifty (50) or more points in five (5) different disciplines, twenty-five (25) of which must be "A"

63.18 Pony Club Awards For any situation not covered by Youth Rules and Regulations see appropriate class rules.

To be eligible for any or all the awards listed below, the horse must be registered with the AQHA and the owner of the horse must be a financial member and be ridden by a financial Youth member. The horse must be entered and exhibited under the horse's registered name as it appears on the Association's register. An official points sheet must be correctly filled in, signed by Judge or an official of the organising body and returned within thirty (30) days of such show and be accompanied by a copy of the program, or they will not be allocated. **Exception:** any Show held in the month of July each year, results must be received by 14 August in that year, or the points will not be allocated towards Annual High Point Awards but for ROM's etc. only.

Pony Club Eventing Register of Merit - twenty (20) points in a One Day Event run by a Pony Club

Pony Club Dressage Register of Merit - twenty (20) points in a Dressage Event run by a Pony Club

Pony Club Jumping Register of Merit - twenty (20) points in a Show Jumping Event run by Pony Club

Pony Club Sporting Register of Merit - twenty (20) points in any class run under Pony Club State Rules and Regulations where that class is recognised by Pony Club Australia as a Mounted Games or Sporting class

Pony Club English Register of Merit - twenty (20) points in an English Event run by a Pony Club.

64. NOVICE YOUTH & NOVICE AMATEUR – (no Novice Select Amateur) Classes: Only eight (8) Novice Amateur and Novice Youth classes will be offered being: Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Trail, Ranch Riding, Showmanship and Boxing.

64.1 Points gained

All points gained in a Novice class will go towards Amateur and Youth ROM's and other achievements. No AQHA Annual High Point Awards will be awarded for any Novice classes and any points gained in a Novice class will not go towards any AQHA Annual Awards.

64.2 Eligibility Must hold a financial Full, individual Life or individual Honorary Life membership and an Amateur or Select Amateur Permit with the AQHA or a financial Youth membership.

- a) All points earned in Select Amateur, Amateur and Novice Amateur classes and points earned by Youth in Youth and Novice Youth classes will count towards Novice eligibility;
- b) Once twenty (20) points have been attained in any discipline, e.g. Showmanship, the person is no longer eligible for Novice in that discipline;
- c) Youth, Amateur and Select Amateur must apply for Novice eligibility annually. If a Youth, Select Amateur or Amateur are eligible for any Novice classes, they will be informed by letter or email which Novice classes they are eligible to compete in and notified once they are no longer eligible;
- d) Every person competing in a Novice Amateur or Novice Youth class must have a Novice Permit appropriately endorsed by the AQHA or the equivalent issued by their relevant breed organisation and the rules for gaining that Novice Permit, through their relevant breed organisation, must be rules similar to the AQHA. The Novice Permit must match the registered breed of horse the Amateur or Youth is exhibiting;
- e) If there is a Novice Amateur class on the program, plus the Select Amateur and Amateur classes are offered in the same discipline, then the choice must be made, if eligible, for which class they wish to exhibit in, same applies for Youth classes;
- f) Novice Amateur and Novice Youth can compete in the Amateur and Youth classes on the program if no Novice classes offered;
- g) If an Amateur, Select Amateur or Youth have not accumulated any points for a period of ten (10) years with the AQHA or any other respective breed organisation, they are eligible to re-apply as a Novice.

64.3 Programs - It is not compulsory for any Affiliate to run Novice classes on their programs. High points at Shows – it is up to the Affiliate if they wish to run Novice High Points.

64.4 Novice Achievement Award Ten (10) points in a Novice class (must have five (5) "A" points).

64.5 Youth to Amateur

From the day you are eligible to apply for an Amateur Permit you may also apply for a Novice Amateur Ticket.

If a Youth has achieved twenty (20) or more points in Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Trail, Showmanship, Boxing, Ranch Riding or a Youth from a respective breed organisation has achieved twenty (20) or more points in any of the above classes, they will not be eligible to compete in Amateur Novice classes.

64.6 Amateur or Select Amateur to Professional and back again

If you have gained Novice Amateur points and you relinquish your Amateur or Select Amateur Permit, and then reapply for Amateur or Select Amateur status in the future, then the points you had gained previously will be brought forward.

65. PROFESSIONAL HORSEMEN DIVISION

The AQHA recognises Professional Horsemen as an integral part of the Association.

Being a member of the AQHA Professional Horsemen, entails carrying out the role of providing service to the AQHA industry, recognising the need to do so in a professional manner, and to deal with the public with the highest degree of integrity.

To adhere to the professional standards of the Australian Quarter Horse Association and to work to further its goals and objectives.

To ensure that the welfare of the AQHA is paramount and that every horse shall, always, be treated humanely and with dignity, respect, and compassion.

Levels and Recognition of Attainment, plus application forms, fees due and details, are available on the Association website.

65.1 Limited Pro Horsemen Permit

To apply for Limited status a person must be a financial AQHA member and hold a current AQHA Professional Horsemen permit.

Criteria for eligibility - Will not have gained three (3) wins in the specified class within the last five (5) years at AQHA State and National Shows and any other show as approved by the Association, ensuring the class consisted of six (6) or more entrants.

No longer eligible - When a Limited Pro Horsemen has either three (3) open wins or six (6) limited wins in a specific class, ensuring that the class consisted of six (6) or more entrants, they will no longer be eligible to compete in this Division.

Fee - There is no fee required when applying for Limited status but must be applied for on the Official Forms.

Limited Division will be offered in Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle and Trail only, and will be run concurrently with horse age divisions.

Lapsed Permit - If a Pro Horsemen does not renew their Pro Horsemen Limited permit, for any period of time, they will be required to re-apply for Limited status and any wins gained in previous Limited Pro Horsemen division will be brought forward and included in the calculations to determine their eligibility to compete in the Limited Pro Horsemen division.

66. NOVICE HORSE CLASSES

Implemented for the following recognised AQHA classes in an All-Age Novice Horse division only:

- a) Trail, Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Riding, Reining and Ranch Riding;
- b) To be run as a standalone class;
- c) Equipment and Attire as per AQHA current Rules;
- d) At Affiliate shows offering Novice Horse classes, and aged classes, horses eligible may only enter in Novice Horse or aged class, not both (excluding Futurity's, Maturity's & Feature Events);
- e) Novice class points will not be counted towards AQHA Annual National and State High Point Awards;

- f) **Eligibility:** Any horse that has not gained 20 or more points in any of the disciplines in a) above ;
- g) All placings in Novice Horse classes, and aged horse classes, will receive points as per AQHA Rulebook and go towards their 20-point total in any discipline;
- h) **Ineligible:** Once a horse has received 20 points in any discipline, eg. Trail, the horse is no longer eligible for Novice Horse in that discipline and must cease immediately from showing in Novice Horse classes in that discipline;
- i) Application for AQHA Novice Horse permit for registered quarter horses, must be completed and recognised by the office before the horse is eligible to compete.
- j) *Horses registered with the Appaloosa or Paint Association are eligible for this class if they have a Novice Horse Permit from their relevant breed association, where the rules regarding Novice eligibility are similar to those of the AQHA.*

67. HORSEBACK RIDING

The AQHA Horseback Riding is an “honour system” which allows riders to log hours spent riding registered Australian Quarter Horses. To participate in Horseback Riding the participant must:

- a) Be a financial member of the AQHA. Logged hours will only be recorded whilst the membership is financial;
- b) Not be currently participating in any other type of point scoring or competitive event;
- c) Ride a registered Quarter Horse belonging to a financial member. The rider does not have to own the horse/s ridden. ie. Hours can be earned on more than one (1) horse;
- d) Participants must complete an official Application Form, available from the Association, and return it to the Association with the application fee as determined by the Board from time to time;
- e) On approval and processing of the application, official log sheets will be forwarded which are to be completed each time you ride. Once the required number of hours has been logged for a reward, forward the completed log sheets to the Association to receive your personalised reward. Hours that can be logged include, exercising a horse, trail riding, mustering etc.

68. RACING The Association accepts wins and placings from racing organisations approved by the AQHA.

Points for Racing can be collected in the same manner as performance points provided that an official Race Result Form is completed and returned to the Association within 30 days from the date of the race, or no points will be allocated.

1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
2.5	0.5	1	0.5																											
6-10	1	2	1	0.5																										
11-15	3	2	1	0.5																										
16-20	4	3	2	1	0.5																									
21-30	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																								
31-40	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																							
41-50	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																						
51-60	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																					
61-70	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																				
71-80	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																			
81-90	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																		
91-100	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																	
101-110	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																
111-120	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5															
121-130	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5														
131-140	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5													
141-150	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5												
151-160	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5											
161-170	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5										
171-180	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5									
181-190	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5								
191-200	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5							
201-210	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5						
211-220	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5					
221-230	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5				
231-240	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5			
241-250	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5		
251-265	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5	
265-280	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5
281-300	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

