

SECTION THREE (3)

SHOW & PERFORMANCE

40. AQHA DISCLAIMER

AQHA's Disclaimer of Responsibility for Safety and well being of Event participants:

Show management is responsible for the condition of event premises; the conduct and competence of show staff and other representatives; implementation of show activities and classes; and all other aspects of the event.

The AQHA does not assume or accept duty or responsibility for safety at any sanctioned event in regard to 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.

41. GENERAL

- a) The rules in this Rule Book must be adhered to at all AQHA Affiliate sanctioned events, including shows and for organisations that been granted Program approval;
- b) No Affiliate run event is sanctioned by the AQHA unless the AQHA has been notified in writing prior to the event taking place;
- c) An Event Planning Checklist must be completed before commencement of the event, and sent to the Association office within fourteen (14) days of the completion of the event;
- d) 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;
- e) The rules pertaining to Amateurs/Select Amateurs and Youth must be adhered to in all equine competitions;
- 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) 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;
- h) Scores in go-rounds or eliminations will not be counted towards placings – only the scoring in the final will be accepted;
- i) **Combining Classes** – At the direction of the Judge and Show Management, junior and senior classes, junior and three year old classes or all three classes (senior, junior and three year old) may be combined only when

there are two or less entries in one or both divisions, or all-age classes can be split.

If a show wishes to combine a junior and senior bit reining class and has a hackamore/snaffle bit reining class, the hackamore/snaffle bit class still can be recognised as an approved class.

Entries can be accepted after a class is combined. If classes are combined and additional entries are accepted such that there are now three or more entries in both open classes and youth divisions, classes must be split back the way they were originally offered.

42. APPROVAL

- a)** Show or program approval will not be granted to:
 - i)** any show or program, on the dates of the AQHA National Show, or on the day of the Annual General Meeting;
 - ii)** any State Championship show within twenty-one (21) days of the National Show in the State that the National Show is held, unless sanctioned by a majority of the Board of Directors;
 - iii)** any show or program, on the same day as an already approved show or program, within 150km normal road distance from town to town;
- b)** The Association will not grant approval for any show to be held on the same dates as any State Show or scheduled Judging clinic/seminar, in that State;
- c)** The Association will not grant approval for any show to be held on the same dates as the National Show in any State;
- d)** To gain AQHA approval, an approved event 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: See Rule 48;*
- e)** Shows or programs, that have been granted approval in the following point's year, are subject to any rules that become effective from 1st August of that year;
- f)** Approval is only given six (6) months in advance for any Show or program, with the exception of State shows;
- g)** AQHA Affiliates, and other recognised organisations, may apply for approval of their program and:
 - i)** they must apply on an official application form;
 - ii)** they must apply thirty (30) clear days prior to the show;
 - iii)** the name of the Judge must be lodged with the AQHA office twenty-one (21) days before the first day of the show;
 - iv)** A non AQHA affiliate can only run five (5) approved programs per show season.
- h)** No Show or program will be considered until all paperwork, as requested by the Association, has been lodged with the appropriate fee, and is complete and correct;
- i)** All approved shows and programs, depending on the type of program, (see Rule 46 and 47) must be officiated by an AQHA Associate Judge, AQHA

Accredited Judge, AQHA or AmQHA Ranch Versatility Judge, AmQHA Judge or an International Judge who is ticketed with the AmQHA. NB: An AQHA Trail Judge can only judge trail classes;

- j) All approved shows or programs, which have an AmQHA judge are encouraged to run the minimum approved AmQHA show program;
- k) 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;
- l) 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 management; enforcement of AQHA Rules and Regulations; quality of event; and service to AQHA members;
- m) 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;
- n) Only foreign AQHA Affiliates will be given permission to run approved shows in their country;
- o) Changes cannot be made to an approved program that affects the approval of such program - ie: 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;
- p) It is strongly recommended that approved programs have a nominated closing date for entries. Once entries close, committees will be aware of the response and can better organise the show in regard to eligibility of entrants/horses, patterns and judging requirements etc;
- q) 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.

42.1 Show Management must provide a Youth division for youth exhibitors, three (3) years to eighteen (18) years of age as of 1st August of the current showing year, see Youth Rules 63; and an Amateur and Select Amateur division for eligible Amateur exhibitors see Rule 62.

42.2 Halter Classes

- a) No Performance Registered horse and/or Pending registration horses are eligible to compete in closed Quarter Horse halter classes;
- b) Only horses that a Registration Certificate (Q) or Appendix Certificate (A) has been issued by the AQHA, can compete in approved Halter classes;
- c) Geldings, that are still listed as stallions, according to AQHA records at the time the show results are processed, will be disqualified.

42.3 Performance Halter

- a) No Amateur or Youth classes to be held;

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

42.4 Performance Classes

- a) Only stallions, mares, spayed mares and geldings two years old and older are eligible to compete in approved performance classes. See Rule 43 for age clarification and maximum number of classes that can be held. The exception being, that yearlings can compete and earn points in the Amateur, Select Amateur and Youth Showmanship at Halter classes, also yearlings can compete and earn points in Led Trail, Hunter in Hand and Yearling on Lunge;
- 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

For the purpose of determining eligibility for competition the age of a horse will be calculated on the basis of a breeding calendar year starting 1st August every year. For example, a horse foaled any time between 1st August, 2016 and 31st July, 2017 (weanling) for the breeding records the foal is a 2016 born horse. It is considered to be one (1) year old on 1st August, 2017 (yearling) and two (2) years old on 1st August, 2018.

43.1 Three Year Olds

- 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 horse categories, not in both;
- b) A horse can compete in a three (3) year old class from 1st August of its three (3) year old year.

43.2 Two Year Olds

- 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 31 March of its two (2) year old year and must have reached a minimum age of twenty-four (24) months;
- b) Only the following performance classes can be offered for two (2) year olds: 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 categories, 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.

43.3 Yearlings

Can only be shown in a maximum of four (4) performance classes at the same show.

43.4 Weanlings

Weanlings cannot be shown before 1st January of their weanling year and must have reached a minimum age of eighteen (18) weeks.

43.5 Horse age divisions

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

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, unless otherwise specified.

44.1 Halter: Horse, Youth and Amateur

AQHA Performance Registered horses cannot compete in Halter classes. For Association Registered Quarter Horses, in relevant age groups, as per Rule 46.2 a) and sex divisions at approved AQHA Shows and in AQHA approved Programs, "A" points apply otherwise:

- 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 at non approved shows, "B" points;
- c) A horse cannot be shown in it's AQHA halter class and an AQHA Performance Halter class at the same show;
- d) Spayed mares cannot be shown in any halter class.

44.2 Performance Halter – No Amateur or Youth

If Performance Halter is offered, the minimum classes to be held are:

Performance Halter Gelding

Performance Halter Mare

Performance Halter Stallion

Winner and 2nd placegetters of these classes are eligible for Champion & Reserve in their respective gender Champion class.

Supreme Halter Exhibit, or a class of similar style is not point scoring.

44.3 Performance Classes

If approval is granted will gain points towards ROMs and points are eligible to count towards Annual High Point Awards if applicable.

ARENA SORTING: *Horse, Amateur and Youth*

BARREL: *Open, Divisional or Open, Ladies*

BOXING: *Novice Youth and Novice Amateur*

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 \$7500 Novice; Novice Non Pro or Open Non Pro or \$15,000 Non Pro or \$7500 Non Pro;*

DRESSAGE: *Preliminary, Novice, Elementary (only 2 consecutive levels), Amateur, Youth*

ENDURANCE: *Horse*

EVENTING: *Horse*

HACK: *Height over 14hh, Junior Rider, Senior Rider, Youth, Amateur;*

HUNT SEAT EQUITATION: *Amateur and Youth only*

HUNTER HACK: Horse, Amateur, Youth
HUNTER IN HAND: Horse only
HUNTER UNDER SADDLE: Horse, Amateur, Youth
LED TRAIL: Yearling and 2 year olds only
LUNGE LINE: Yearling and 2 year olds only
PLEASURE DRIVING: Horse only
RANCH RIDING: Horse, Amateur, Youth
RANCH VERSATILITY: Horse, Youth, Amateur
RACING; Horse only
REINING: AQHA Horse, Amateur and 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;
RIDERS WITH DISABILITIES: Classes as per RWD rule 97
ROPE & TIE: Horse, Rope and Tie, Men's Rope and Tie
SHOW HUNTER: Horse 14hh & over, Amateur, Youth,
 Senior or Junior Rider;
SHOW JUMPING: Open, Youth
SHOWMANSHIP: Youth, Amateur
SPORTING: AQHA - All age Horse, All age Youth, All age
 Amateur
STEER UNDECORATING: Ladies
STEER WRESTLING: Horse only – Mens, Open
STOCKMANS CHALLENGE: Classis or Classic
 Premiership or Open Challenge or Open Premiership
TEAM PENNING: All age Horse, All age Youth, All age
 Amateur
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
WESTERN DRESSAGE: Youth, Horse Level 1, Level 2,
 Level 3 (2 consecutive levels only)
WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP: Amateur, Youth
WESTERN PLEASURE: Horse, Amateur, Youth
WESTERN RIDING: Horse, Amateur, Youth
WORKING COWHORSE: Bridle, Open and Youth
NB: 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 recognise the organisations, listed in the paragraph below 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.

ABHA Australian Barrel Horse Association: Barrel
ABCRA Australian Bushmans Campdraft and Rodeo Assoc: Breakaway Roping Ladies and Youth, Campdraft, Ladies Barrel, Ladies Steer Udnecorating, Rope & Tie, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Youth Sporting
AERA Aust. Endurance Riders Assoc.: Endurance

ARB Australian Racing Board: Racing
APC Australian Polo Council: Polo
APRA Australian Professional Rodeo Association: Breakaway Roping Ladies & Youth, Ladies Barrel, Ladies Steer Undecorating, Rope & Tie, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Youth Sporting
ASCA Australian Stockmans Challenge Association: Stockmans 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 Equestrian Internationale: Dressage
NBHA National Barrel Horse Association: Barrel, Youth Sporting
NCCA National Campdrafting 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 Reining Cow Horse Association: Working Cow Horse
NRHA, RA National Reining Horse Assoc. and Reining Australia: Reining
PAA Polocrosse Association of Australia: Polo Crosse
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.
- a) At Approved Shows, or for approved programs, High Point Horse Awards must be advertised as either High Point Performance Horse (all Performance classes excluding Halter), or High Point Horse which includes Halter and Performance;
 - b) Awards must include the relevant point scoring classes on the program;
 Eg. All approved Youth classes must go to High Point Youth; all approved Amateur classes must go to High Point Amateur; and all approved three (3) year old classes must go to High Point three (3) year old;
 - c) 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;

- d) 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 given points towards high point awards at any approved show and end of year awards when an individual places twice in the one class;
- e) 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.
- f) Points not to be included in High Point Horse of Show are: Points earned for Champion and Reserve Champion at Halter, Special classes i.e. Futurities etc;
- g) Tie - In the case of a tie occurring in a High Point Award, the tie will be broken by:
 - i) the greatest number of first place ribbons;
 - ii) the greatest number of second place ribbons;
 - iii) the greatest number of third place ribbons, and so on.

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 g);

h) Ranch Versatility

To gain a Ranch Versatility 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.

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

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 Ranch Versatility Show

A Ranch Versatility Show is defined as a standalone event. **Divisions:** Must run the following divisions for each class to gain approval: All Age Youth, Amateur and an All Age Horse. Two (2) Youth age groups and a Select Amateur class can be offered.

For "A" approval an AQHA or AmQHA Ranch accredited Judge must be used and run under the rules of the AQHA. There are four (4) categories with seven (7) classes in total.

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

To gain approval an event must:

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

Eg: 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.

46.3 "A" Approved Shows or Programs

All classes offered at the show must be listed on the program when applying for approval.

a) Mandatory Halter Classes:

Six (6) Halter classes restricted to Quarter Horses only that are registered with the AQHA being:

Stallion 4 years and over

Colt 3 years and under

Champion & Reserve

Gelding 4 years and over

Gelding 3 years and under

Champion & Reserve

Mare 4 years and over

Filly 3 years and under

Champion & Reserve

If three (3) classes are being held in each sex division, it is recommended that between August and December they be Yearling, 2 and 3 year olds, 4 years and over. From January to July, Weanling, 1 year to 3 years old and a 4 years and over;

b) Mandatory Performance Classes

Minimum of three (3) Performance classes must be chosen from each group listed in Rule 46.5.

46.4 "AA" Approved Show or Program

All classes offered at the show must be listed on the program when applying for approval.

- a) "AA" Show must be run over a minimum of two (2) days;
- b) Minimum \$1000 mandatory prize money. This prize money is to be paid out and split between at least five (5) of the Open mandatory classes (excluding Cutting, Youth & Amateur);
- c) For a show to meet minimum requirements and have its results recognised, there must be a minimum of twenty-four (24) registered Quarter Horses exhibited in approved classes (i.e. throughout the whole show). Exception: Northern Territory and Tasmania are geographically disadvantage and therefore must have a minimum of 14 registered Quarter Horses exhibited in approved classes throughout the whole show;

- d) Beginner, Improver/Green Rider, Rookie or walk/jog type classes can be run at any "AA" or Multi Judge approved show or program;
- e) **Mandatory Halter Classes:**
 Nine (9) Halter classes restricted to Quarter Horses only that are registered with the AQHA being:
 Stallion 4 years and over
 Colt 2 & 3 years
 Colt 1 yr & under
 Champion & Reserve
 Gelding 4 years and over
 Gelding 2 & 3 years
 Gelding 1 yr & under
 Champion & Reserve
 Mare 4 years and over
 Filly 2 & 3 years
 Filly 1 yr & under
 Champion & Reserve
 If four (4) classes are being held in each sex division, it is recommended that between August and December they be Yearling, 2 and 3 year olds, 4 years and over. From January to July, Weanling, Yearling, 2 & 3 years old and a 4 years and over;
- f) **Mandatory Performance Classes**
 Minimum of five (5) Performance classes must be chosen from each group as listed in Rule 46.5.

46.5 Groups

Youth Group: Showmanship, Trail, Western Pleasure Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Reining, Hack, Dressage, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter, AQHA Sporting and Ranch Riding. **Divisions:** There can be two (2) or three (3) age divisions or an All Age Youth division. **NB:** Dressage, Hack, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter, AQHA Sporting and Ranch Riding will be an All Age Youth division only.

Amateur Group: Showmanship, Trail, Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Reining, Hack, Dressage, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter, AQHA Sporting and Ranch Riding. **Divisions:** There can be two (2) classes being Amateur Junior Horse and Amateur Senior Horse or an All Age Amateur class. **NB:** Showmanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Hack, Dressage, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter, AQHA Sporting and Ranch Riding will be an All Age Amateur class only.

Select Amateur Group: Showmanship, Trail, Western Pleasure, Hunter under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Reining, Hack, Dressage, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter and Ranch Riding. **Divisions:** There can only be one (1) division for each Select Amateur class.

Open Group

AQHA Sporting: All age class only.

Dressage: horses can only compete in two (2) consecutive tests at any one show.

Hack: Horse (any height 14hh and over).

Hunter Hack: if one class held must be All Age, if two (2) classes held must be Junior and Senior Horse.

Hunter in Hand: must be either an All Age; or a Yearling and 2yrs & over; or a Yearling, Junior and Senior.

Lungeline and Led Trail; will be either a Yearling or a 2 year old class or both.

Ranch Riding: If one (1) class held All Age Horse, if two (2) classes held must be Junior and Senior Horse.

Reining: If one class is held it will be All Age.

If two (2) classes are held they are to be Senior and Junior horse classes; or

If three (3) classes are held they are to be Senior, Junior and Snaffle Bit/Hackamore.

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

Note: 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.

Show Hunter: will be either one class only or under 15hh and 15hh and over.

Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle and Trail:

From 1st August to 31st December if only one (1) class held it is to be All Age. If two (2) classes are held they are to be Senior and Junior. If three (3) classes are held they are to be Senior, Junior and three (3) year old classes.

From 1st January to 31st July if only one (1) class held it is to be an All Age. if only three (3) classes are to be held they are to be Senior, Junior and either a Three (3) year old or a Two (2) year old.

If four (4) classes are held, they are to be Senior, Junior, Three (3) year old and Two (2) year old classes.

Western Riding: An option if no suitable Reining surface available;

All Age or if two (2) classes are held they are to be Senior and Junior horse classes.

Working Cow Horse: If one (1) class held it will be All Age; two (2) classes held they will be Senior Cow Horse and a Junior Cow Horse; If three (3) classes held they will be Senior, Junior and a Hackamore/Snaffle bit horses five (5) years and under as of 1st January of current show year.

Approved RWD Classes

If approval is sought to run RWD recognised classes on a program, then the assumption of responsibility for safety by Show Management, is required by AQHA as an express condition to be granted approval for these classes.

Only geldings or mares can be shown in RWD classes.

46.6 Multi Judged Show

A Multi Judged show must be held over a minimum of two (2) days. *Exception: refer to j) below.*

- 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 result in separate results being submitted to the Association; therefore two (2) sets of points will be awarded. Two (2) 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 Affiliate can apply to run no more than two (2) Multi Judged shows per show season;
 - c) A Multi Judge Show can be either:
 - i) two (2) x "A" class shows; or
 - ii) one (1) x "A" class and one (1) x "AA" class show; or
 - iii) two (2) x "AA" class shows;
 - d) Beginner, improver/green rider, rookie or walk/jog type classes can be run at any Multi Judge approved show;
 - e) Applications must be received by the Association thirty (30) days prior to the show date for a Multi Judged Show. All classes being held at this event must be on the program when applying for approval;
 - f) Application for approval must be on a Multi Judge Show application form and the applicant must nominate the Judges to the Association twenty one (21) days before the first day of the show;
 - g) Two (2) X "A" shows - The same program must be used for both "A" shows;
 - h) "A" and "AA" shows –. The "AA" program must be used for the "A" and the "AA" shows;
 - i) Two (2) X "AA" shows – The same program must be used for both "AA" shows;
 - j) Any of the above combination of shows can be held over a one (1) day show which will be limited to a maximum of sixty (60) classes in total for the whole show. NB: Beginner, improver/green rider, rookie or walk/jog type classes will be included in the total of sixty (60) classes stated in this rule;
 - k) 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;
 - l) All rules and regulations pertaining to approved classes and prize money must be adhered to as per the type of show being held;
 - m) It is recommended that two sets of High Point Awards are presented and that they be of similar standard and value.
- 47. SPECIAL EVENT** - An AQHA Affiliate only, can run an unlimited number of Special Events per show season and single "A" points will be allocated.
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) combined;
 - d) **Halter and Led Show** – must have a minimum of twenty five (25) classes and covers Halter, Lungeline, Hunter in Hand and Led Trail;
 - e) **Cattle Show** – any AQHA recognised cattle classes.

48. STATE AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS

State Show Tender

- a) All State Championship Shows must be tendered for. Applications will be approved by the Board of Directors;
- b) 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;
- c) All Affiliates, in that State, can tender to run that State's Quarter Horse State Championships;
- d) At State and National Championships the Show Secretary and the Show Manager must be financial AQHA members;
- e) AmQHA approved classes: the Show Manager and Show Secretary must be financial members of the AmQHA and a written application for approval, on official AmQHA application form, along with appropriate fees, must be lodged with the AmQHA.

48.1 All State and National Championship shows must fulfil "AA" show criteria.

48.2 Application for State and National Championship shows will be lodged with the Association by the 1st 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.

48.3 Judges

- a) National Shows will use an AmQHA Judge who holds a current AmQHA Judges ticket;
- b) State Championship Shows held in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria will use an AmQHA Judge who holds a current AmQHA Judges ticket;
- c) NT, SA, TAS and WA State Championship Shows: Where the organisers of these State Championship Shows are unable or unwilling to retain an AmQHA ticketed Judge the show organisers must appoint an Accredited AQHA Judge;
- d) All State Shows who employ an AmQHA ticketed judge must run the minimum approved AmQHA Show program.

48.4 General

At State and National Championship Shows:

- a) No immediate family (spouse, defacto partner, in-laws, son, daughter, father, mother, sister or brother) of the Judge, show manager, show secretary, arena director or ring steward can enter or exhibit horses;
- b) Only horses registered with the AQHA can compete in any class, including Feature events, and the owners of the horses must be financial members of the AQHA;
- c) All exhibitors must be financial members of the AQHA in their own right;
- d) The program must run continuously from the first class on the program to the last class on the program. Feature style classes can be run throughout the State Show program. No other classes can be run on the State Show dates;

- e) It is mandatory to drug test a minimum of three (3) horses. Drug testing is to be carried out on a minimum of one (1) Halter and two (2) Performance classes. With the exception of Tasmania and Northern Territory who must test a minimum of one (1).
- 48.5** At State Championships all strappers, handlers must be a member of the Affiliate running the State Show or the AQHA. At the National Championships all strappers and handlers must be a financial member of the AQHA.
- 48.6 State Shows Prize Money**
Minimum prize money required at State Shows is as follows: Queensland, Victoria, NSW, \$3000;
All other States \$1000.
- 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. Such a fee is to be collected by show management.
- 49.2** Entry fees, if any, to be charged for a class, must be specified on the application. Any scheduled class to be held with no entry fee, must be so designated on the show application. No change in specific entry fee will be permitted after approval without permission from the AQHA.
- 49.3** 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.
- 49.4** No show management will require an exhibitor to enter, or pay entry fee of a horse in a halter class in order 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.
- 49.5** Show management will maintain adequate written records, sufficient to establish to the Association's satisfaction, upon request, that each exhibitor's entry fee was paid as required above. Such records will be preserved for at least twelve (12) months from the date of the show. Failure to maintain and preserve such records will be cause, for the Association, to disallow the class and either refuse entry of show results or, if previously entered, remove them from the Association's record.
- 49.6** Failure on the part of Show Management to either maintain or preserve such records as required above, will create the assumption that the requisite fees in question, were not paid in accordance with the above rule, with the burden of persuasion on Show Management, and the individual exhibitor, to prove otherwise.
- 49.7** No AQHA member will be required to be a member of any Affiliate in order to compete at an approved show.
- 50. SHOW RESULTS**
- a) The results of any Approved Show or Program must be completed in their entirety on official forms or electronic files replicating those forms as prescribed by the Association and forwarded to the Association office within fourteen (14) days after completion of the show.

If not adhered to, a late fee will be imposed upon the Club/Association running 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 the 14th August in that year or the points will not be counted towards end of year awards but will be recorded towards ROM's etc;*

- b) If fewer than five (5) competed in the class, all horses in the class will be listed in order;
- c) The Show Management must report on the official forms the full names of all horses, together with their registration numbers, all Youth and Amateur names and membership numbers, placing and the name and membership number of the exhibitor together with the exact number of exhibitors in the class;
- d) Other than AQHA "A" or "AA" shows, where an exhibitor desires that the performance of a horse, Amateur or Youth be awarded points by the Association, it is his/her responsibility to notify the Association of such performance by correctly completing the Official Show Result Form and forwarding it 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 thirty (30) days of such show. If not received in this time frame the points will not be allocated. *Exception: Any shows held in the month of July each year, point's sheets MUST be received by the 14th August in that year or the points will not be recorded;*
- e) Where the AQHA has an agreement with an approved performance body to submit results on behalf of the competitors at an approved event, the competitors do not need to submit the Official Show Result forms to the Association office. *Exception: Any shows held in the month of July each year, the results MUST be received by the 14th August in that year or the points will not be counted towards end of year awards but will be recorded towards ROM's etc;*
- f) All Approved Shows and programs must use an entry form which contains information required in accordance with Rule 50 c). Entry forms must be completed by each person entering the show and returned to the Show Secretary. Once in the possession of the Show Secretary these forms must be kept for a period of at least twelve (12) months and must be available for inspection by the AQHA during that period;
- g) It is the duty of a competitor to report to the Association office within ten (10) days, any infraction of rules at approved and unapproved events. 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

- 52.1** 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. 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. 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.
- 52.2** For the purposes of this rule, exhibition/competition is deemed to have commenced when the exhibit and/or rider/handler has entered the marshalling area or has come under the direct control of show management (Typically Marshall/Steward) prior to entering the arena.
- 52.3** 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.
- 52.4** Any AQHA approved show, or at a show which has an approved program, which fails to pay for services rendered by third parties in connection with the holding of the event (i.e., judge's fees, cattle charges, facilities, etc.) or prize monies to the exhibitors, can be denied AQHA approval for present and future shows. Further, the Show Manager and/or Show Secretary can be denied privileges of the Association and suspended from membership.
- 52.5** By entry and participation in AQHA Approved shows, or in a show that runs an approved program, an owner and exhibitor agrees that the Association, Show management and their agents and representatives can photograph, film or tape any portion thereof, and use their likenesses 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.
- 52.6** 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).
- 52.7** An exhibitor is responsible for errors on the entry blanks. A horse entered in the wrong class will be transferred to its correct class after the judging program has been printed.
- 52.8** Any horses entered in an approved show, or for competition in an approved program, must be listed under his 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 recorded owner.
- 52.9** An exhibitor may enter one (1) or more horses in a class but each horse may have only one (1) rider per class.
- 52.10** Show management may inspect the Registration Certificate (or certified copy of both sides of the Registration Certificate) of each horse entered in an approved class.
- 52.11** Show management 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.

- 52.12** 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.
- 52.13** It is mandatory that all patterns and courses be posted at least one (1) hour prior to the class commencing.
- 52.14** At the discretion of the Judge and Show management, Junior and Senior classes, Junior and Snaffle Bit/Hackamore classes or all three (3) classes (Senior, Junior and Snaffle Bit/Hackamore) may be combined only when there are two (2) or less entries in one (1) or both divisions, or all age classes can be split.
If a show wishes to combine a Junior and Senior Reining class and has a Snaffle Bit/Hackamore Reining class, the Snaffle Bit/Hackamore class will still be recognised as an approved class. Entries will be accepted after a class is combined.
- 52.15** In all performance classes, all horses shown under saddle are to be ridden astride.
- 52.16** 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.
- 52.17** No exhibitor can be tied, buckled or fastened in the saddle in any manner or by any means during competition.
Exception: Refer to Rule 97
- 52.18** In all performance classes where each entry performs individually, the order of competition will be determined by Show Management.
- 52.19** 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.
- 52.20** It is recommended for horses working on the rail that each individual have approximately 4.5 metres between himself/herself and the next horse.
- 52.21** The management of any show will determine whether or not an elimination is necessary, the number of go rounds to be held and the number of horses to be shown at each performance.
- 52.22** If there is elimination, each horse must be ridden by the same rider who rode it in the elimination.
- 52.23** 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.
- 52.24** 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.
- 52.25** Attire for competitors/handlers in the marshalling areas and show arena, whilst show is in progress, see Rules in Section Five (5)

- 52.26** Attire to be worn by 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: cap/hat, long western style pants/jodphurs, safe enclosed footwear and a shirt with sleeves.
- 52.27** Attire for any person who has cause to enter the show arena to help set up trails etc. must be dressed in: cap/hat, long western style pants/jodphurs, safe enclosed footwear and a shirt with sleeves.
- 52.28** Any person aged eighteen (18) years and under is not permitted to handle/ride/exhibit colts/stallions at any approved AQHA Show or program or AQHA sanctioned event. The only exception is NCHA/NRHA or Reining Australia affiliated classes. This rule is to be strictly enforced by show management.

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) With the exception of ribbon presenters, all other Officials must be eighteen (18) years and over.

53.3 Show Secretary

- a) Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Show Secretary who can furnish proof that he/she is 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 be held responsible for any fees collected on behalf of the AQHA. In addition, any cash payments made to the Show Secretary for these fees will be converted to a money order or cheque before being sent to the AQHA;
- d) The Show Secretary will have jurisdiction over preparing and mailing all entry blanks and catalogues. He/she will enforce the arrival and departure times as shown in the catalogue or as advertised;
- e) The Show Secretary is responsible for the completion of all results that must be forwarded to the Association and to file with the Association any incident reports from that show, plus the Event Planning Checklist and the Judge Evaluation forms;
- f) A Show Secretary can hold the position of Show Manager at the same show.

53.4 Show Manager

- a) Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Show Manager who can furnish proof that he/she is 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 Management (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 in regards to the Show arena under the guidance of either the Show Manager or if no Show Manager, then responsible to the Show Management (Committee).

53.6 Show Management

- a) Show Management (Committee) will at all times extend every effort to satisfy the comfort of all horses, exhibitors, spectators and officials. He/she will be held responsible for maintenance of clean and orderly conditions throughout the show;
- b) Show Management 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 he/she is 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 his/her mind that he/she has been selected to help the Judge – not to advise the judge. He/she 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 final outcome of the class;
- f) When the Ring Steward is not actively engaged in his/her duties, he/she will place himself/herself 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 at all times 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 he/she advises. 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 The Judge has the authority to remove exhibitors from the ring/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 Any ties, for first (1st) place only, will be as per the individual class rules in Section Five.

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 for those classes 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. RECORD OF PERFORMANCE POINTS

57.1 The competition performance of 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 horse is a financial member at the time of competition. Amateur and Youth Members must be financial members, plus an Amateur must have a current Amateur permit, at time of competition.
Exception: see National and 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 show that is approved by the AQHA.

57.5 To be eligible for Performance 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 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 1st August to 31st July in any year. Points will be earned on the actual number of horses exhibited in the class (Refer Table in Rule 60).

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 (14.0 hands). For the purpose of this rule, where the class is restricted to horses exactly 142cm (14.0 hands) and under, the class will be deemed to be restricted to horses under 142cm (14.0 hands).

57.9 Champion:

- a) Champions from Halter & 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 2nd 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 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.
- 57.12 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.
- 57.13 Polo and Polocrosse:** Horse points as per Rule 60.
- 57.14 Dressage, Showjumping and Eventing:** Points awarded as per Rule 60. No points will be allocated for Club days. All FEI and EA Dressage tests are given points for Official and Associate level tests, if the test score is over 54%. NB: Dressage Preparatory level does not gain points.
- 57.15 Hack and Show Hunter Galloway/Horse**
- a) Show Hunter 14hh and not exceeding 14.2hh;
 - b) Show Hunter over 14.2hh and not exceeding 15hh;
 - c) Show Hunter over 15hh and not exceeding 16hh;
 - d) Show Hunter over 16hh;
 - e) A horse cannot be shown in Show Hunter and Hack classes at the same show, a choice must be made.

58. ANNUAL AWARDS

- 58.1 Annual Awards:** The Board of the Australian Quarter Horse Association reserves the right to decide, from time to time, the awards that will be made in any one (1) year. 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 year end awards during that points 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 – SLIDING SCALE TABLE

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
0.5																													
1	0.5																												
2-5	2	1	0.5																										
6-10	3	2	1	0.5																									
11-15	4	3	2	1	0.5																								
16-20	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																							
21-30	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																						
31-40	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																					
41-50	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																				
51-60	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																			
61-70	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																		
71-80	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																	
81-90	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																
91-100	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5															
101-110	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5														
111-120	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5													
121-130	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5												
131-140	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5											
141-150	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5										
151-160	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5									
161-170	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5								
171-180	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5							
181-190	22	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	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					
201-210	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				
211-220	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			
221-230	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		
231-240	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	
241-250	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
251-265	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
266-280	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
281-300																													

61. ROMS AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS Each of the following awards can only be won once by any particular horse.

Points will be gained during the lifetime of the horse, and will not be limited to any one (1) year. To be eligible, horses must be registered in the Association's Stud Book, the Appendix Registry or the Performance Registry.

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.

All awards are Open Awards unless otherwise described.

61.1 Register of Merit Halter May be awarded by the Association at its discretion to any registered horse after it has been awarded twenty (20) halter points, of which at least fifteen (15) must be 'A' points.

61.2 Register of Merit Performance

May be awarded by the Association, at its discretion, to any registered horse after it has been awarded twenty (20) points in more than one (1) performance class, excluding Racing, of which at least fifteen (15) must be 'A' points.

61.3 Register of Merit (Any Single Performance Class)

May be awarded by the Association, at its discretion, to any registered horse after it has been awarded twenty (20) points in any particular performance class, of which at least fifteen (15) must be 'A' points.

61.4 Superior Halter Horse May be awarded by the Association, at its discretion, to a registered horse after it has been awarded sixty (60) halter points, of which at least thirty (30), must be 'A' points.

61.5 Superior Performance Horse

(Any single Performance class) May be awarded by the Association, at its discretion, to any registered horse after it has been awarded sixty (60) points in any particular performance class, of which at least thirty (30) must be 'A' points.

61.6 Century Awards

(Halter or Any Single Performance Class)

May be awarded by the Association, at its discretion, to any registered horse after it has been awarded the following points:

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

61.7 Australian Quarter Horse Champion

May be awarded by the Association, at its discretion, to any registered horse after it has:

- a) Been awarded at least twenty (20) Halter points, of which at least fifteen (15) must be 'A' points; and
- b) Been awarded at least twenty (20) points in each of two (2) separate performance classes, of which at least fifteen (15) must be 'A' points in each of the two (2) separate performance classes; and
- c) Been awarded at least ten (10) points at State or National level (horses born after 1.8.94).

61.8 AQHA Supreme Champion

May be awarded by the Association, at its discretion, to any registered horse after it has:

- a) Been awarded at least a Superior Award in Halter; and
- b) Been awarded at least three (3) Superior Performance awards in any class; and

- c) Been awarded at least a ROM in one (1) of the following performance categories: Racing, Steer Wrestling, Calf Roping, Campdraft, Cutting or Working Cowhorse.

Note: This ROM must not be from the previous three (3) Superior Awards in Rule 61.8 a) and b) and been awarded twenty five (25) points or more at National or State Championship classes.

61.9 AQHA Performance Medal

May be awarded by the Association, at its discretion, to any registered horse after it has:

- a) Been awarded three (3) Superior Performance Horse awards in any class; and
- b) Been awarded at least a ROM in one (1) of the following performance categories: Racing, Steer Wrestling, Calf Roping, Campdraft, Cutting, Working Cowhorse; Western Riding; Reining; and
- c) Been awarded twenty five (25) or more points at National or State championship events.

61.10 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.

61.11 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.

61.12 Special Achievement Recognition

- a) 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;
- b) In order for results from special events to be accepted as a part of AQHA records, the following criteria must be met:
 - i) the organisation sponsoring the event must be National in scope. The AQHA may, at its discretion, grant approval for any event they deem appropriate to be added to the list of events qualifying for special recognition;
 - ii) the event must be open to all breeds of horses;
 - iii) the placing and/or standings must be presented to the AQHA by the relevant organisation within sixty (60) days following the event.
- c) If a registered Australian Quarter Horse wins one of the following classes, it will earn a Special Achievement Recognition award, which will be noted on its performance record:

NCHA CUTTING HORSE FUTURITY

NPHA 2 YR OLD WESTERN PLEASURE FUTURITY

NRHA/RA REINING HORSE FUTURITY

WARWICK GOLD CUP

Any registered Australian Quarter Horse that competes in the Olympic Games qualifies for recognition.

61.13 AQHA Certificate of Achievement

The AQHA Certificate of Achievement for twenty (20) 'B' class points in any one (1) award category. This means

that if you have earned twenty (20) or more 'B' points in Campdrafting, etc., then you will receive an Achievement Award for that class and so on.

Points cannot be combined; i.e. ten (10) Sporting and ten (10) Campdrafting, the points must be earned in one (1) class. You can get an Achievement Award in as many categories as you earn points in, providing you reach twenty (20) points in each category.

61.14 RWD Awards and Recognition

- a) **RWD Rider awards** may be awarded at the Associations discretion to any RWD Rider
Certificate of Achievement – ten (10) "B" points or ten (10) "A" and "B" combined
Register of Merit – twenty (20) or more points in any particular class, fifteen (15) of which must be "A"
Superior ROM – fifty (50) or more points in any particular class, twenty five (25) of which must be "A";
- b) **RWD Horse awards** may be awarded at the Associations discretion to any RWD horse.
Certificate of Achievement – ten (10) "B" points or ten (10) "A" and "B" combined
Register of Merit – twenty (20) or more points in any particular class, fifteen (15) of which must be "A"
Superior ROM – fifty (50) or more points in any particular class, twenty five (25) of which must be "A".

62. AMATEUR AND SELECT AMATEUR

At the discretion of the Judge and Show Management, Amateur and Select Amateur classes may be combined at a show, only where there are two or less entries in either divisions.

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 fifty (50) years and provides proof of age, which must be in the form of a copy of a drivers licence or birth certificate, then their Amateur Permit will be endorsed as to allow them to compete in Select Amateur classes;
- c) When a show program offers Select Amateur classes and both Junior and Senior Amateur classes in Western Pleasure, Trail, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Riding and Reining, then a person with a Select Amateur Permit, may enter either the Junior Amateur or the Senior Amateur classes on a different horse to the one they ride in their Select class, as long as the age of horse rule applies and the Amateur, or their immediate family, own the horse. A horse will not be used more than once by the same competitor in any class. eg. A horse cannot compete in Select Amateur Trail and Senior Amateur Trail;
- d) A Select Amateur, choosing to compete in a Select class at a show, is not confined to the other Select

Amateur classes at that show. Eg. A person who competes in the Select Amateur Hunter Under Saddle can compete in the Amateur Hunt Seat Equitation on the same horse;

- e) Points earned in Select Amateur classes only count towards Select ROM's and Select Annual Awards.

62.2 To Gain an Amateur/Select Amateur Permit

- a) The Permit application form must be completed in its entirety and sent to the AQHA office, with the correct fees, for processing. These Permits are to be renewed annually;
- b) The person applying for this Permit must be a financial member of the Association and hold an individual membership in their own name, either a Full, Life, Hon. Life Membership;
- c) The person applying for the 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." NB: You cannot show in an Amateur/Select Amateur class until such time as your application is successful and been processed.

62.3 Approval of an Amateur/Select Amateur Permit

Once a Permit has been approved the following rules apply:

An Amateur/Select Amateur cannot receive remuneration or compensation for Showing and/or Training any horse or instructing any person in riding, driving or exhibiting.

An Amateur/Select Amateur can only exhibit a horse owned by themselves or their immediate family in any class, (this is any class any discipline).

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 ("immediate family" Rule 62.6)

Ownership of horses exhibited by the Amateur/Select Amateurs must be evidenced by the records of the Association.

Amateurs/Select Amateurs need to be aware that until such time as a Transfer of ownership or Lease notification has been processed by the Association, the horse cannot be shown by the Amateur/Select Amateur who is transferring/leasing the horse into their name or their immediate family's name.

- 62.4** Prize money is not to be considered remuneration. Judges fees are not to be considered remuneration. NB: If you are a Judge in Australia you cannot hold an Amateur Permit with the AmQHA.

- 62.5** Payment of fees for entries, stables, camping, bedding and any levies incurred at a show, by any person other than the Amateur/Select Amateur or the Amateur's/Select Amateur's spouse, Defacto partner, parents, child of the family, grandparents, brother(s) or sister(s) will be considered remuneration.

- 62.6** Immediate family – Spouse, Defacto partner, parents, child of the family, grandparents, brother(s), sister(s).
- 62.7** Horses owned in partnership or jointly with any person other than the Amateur/Select Amateur's immediate family do not fulfil the ownership requirements for Amateur/Select Amateur.
- 62.8** An Amateur/Select Amateur may ride the same horse, in a different Amateur/Select class as those of another Amateur/Select Amateur, where the rules pertain to Rule 62.6 are met.
- 62.9** In order to gain points, Association Amateur/Select Amateurs can only show under Association Amateur Rules.
- 62.10** Every person competing in an Amateur/Select Amateur class must possess a current Amateur/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.
- 62.11** No horse may be shown by more than one (1) competitor in any one (1) class.
- 62.12** Amateurs/Select Amateurs may exhibit two (2) horses in individually judged classes.
- 62.13** In regards to Amateur/Select Amateur classes and high point awards at shows refer to Rule 45.
- 62.14** For further situations not covered by the Amateur/Select Amateur rules, the rules applying to open classes will apply.
- 62.15** Youth – Upon application to the Association, a free Amateur Permit is made available for any Youth their first year out of youth, as long as that youth possess a financial individual membership in their own name. Youth who wish to apply for an Amateur Permit must meet the criteria in Rule 62.
- 62.16** Sponsorship – An Amateur/Select Amateur cannot accept sponsorship for payment of any show fees, levies, entry fees, stable and camping fees, cleaning fees, including transportation to and from the show or membership fees.
- 62.17 Amateur/Select Showing Lease**
Amateur and Select Amateurs are allowed to exhibit leased horses. The Association recommends that the lessor and the lessee have a legally formalised lease contract.
- a) The Lessor cannot sell the horse, prior to the expiry date, unless the Lessee agrees;
 - b) If the leased horse is sold, prior to expiry date, notification in writing, to the Association, from both the Lessor and the Lessee is required;
 - c) Termination of a lease prior to the expiry date then notification in writing to the Association is required, from both the Lessor and the Lessee;
If termination is prior to the expiry date, then the horse cannot be shown in Amateur or Select Amateur classes until the original expiry date has been reached. Exception: Refer to Rule 62.17 b);

- d) All Show Lease Notifications must be:
 - i) signed by both the Lessor and the Lessee and lodged with the Association before the Lessee has rights to the horse;
 - ii) for a minimum of six (6) months;
 - iii) renewed by submitting another signed Show Lease Notification form prior to expiry date;
- NB: If no notification received by expiry date the lease will be terminated by the Association.
- e) The Amateur who leases the horse can show the horse in amateur and open classes and all other rules pertaining to Amateur or Select Amateur eligibility for showing apply;
 - f) An Amateur or Select 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 organization;
 - g) **International Lease Notification**

That a minimum of a thirty five (35) day lease notification will be made available to International Amateur/Select Amateur visitors to Australia that wish to show in Amateur/Select Amateur classes at shows. The Lease Notification must be in place, with the Association, prior to the Amateur/Select Amateur submitting nominations for a show. The Amateur/Select Amateur must meet the Associations Amateur/Select Amateur eligibility criteria and must have an Amateur/Select Amateur permit with the Association. If this lease notification is cancelled prior to the expiration of the lease notification, then the owner of the horse cannot show this horse in Amateur/Select Amateur classes till the lease notification period has expired.

62.18 Ineligibility or breach of rules.

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

62.19 Professional to Amateur

A person wishing to relinquish their professional status with the view to holding Amateur/Select 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.

62.20 Amateur Halter Competition

If Amateur Halter classes are held then the minimum number of classes to be held are:

- Amateur Gelding 2yrs & under
- Amateur Gelding 3yrs & over
- Champion & Reserve Gelding
- Amateur Filly 2yrs & under

Amateur Mare 3yrs & over
Champion & Reserve Filly/Mare
Amateur Colt 2yrs & under
Amateur Stallion 3yrs & over
Champion & Reserve Colt/Stallion

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 as long as the Amateur who originally qualified the horses leads one (1) of the horses in that class.

62.21 Performance Classes for Amateur/Select

- a) Select Amateur classes – only one (1) class to be held in: Hack, Hunter Hack, Dressage, Showmanship, Western Horsemanship, Trail, Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Under Saddle, Ranch Riding, Western Riding, Reining, Western Pleasure, Ranch Versatility;
- b) Amateur classes - only one (1) class to be held for Hack, Hunter Hack, Dressage, Showmanship, Western Horsemanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Ranch Riding, Ranch Versatility. Western Pleasure, Trail and Hunter Under Saddle can be run as All Age or Junior and Senior Amateur Horse, depending on the type of program.

62.22 Amateur/Select Awards

a) Amateur/Select Register of Merit

Any single Amateur/Select Amateur class as listed in Rule 62.21 may be awarded a Register of Merit by the Association at its discretion to any registered horse and Amateur Rider or Select Amateur Rider if it has been awarded twenty (20) points, fifteen (15) of which must be 'A' points. Only points from Amateur or Select Amateur classes;

b) Amateur/Select Superior Register of Merit - Horse and Rider

Requires fifty (50) or more points, in any particular class, twenty five (25) of which must be "A" points;

c) Amateur/Select Champion Award

May be awarded by the Association, at its discretion, to any registered horse and Amateur or Select Amateur Rider after it has been awarded three (3) Amateur/Select Amateur Registers of Merit in any Amateur/Select Amateur class excluding Showmanship at Halter;

d) Amateur/Select Versatility Award: Horse and Rider

Register of Merit Awards in five (5) different Amateur or Select Amateur classes.

62.23 Amateur Century Awards

(Halter or Any Single Performance Class)

May be awarded by the Association, at its discretion, to any registered horse after it has been awarded the following points:

Bronze Century 100 points - Minimum 75 "A" points
Silver Century 200 points - Minimum 150 "A" points
Gold Century 300 points - Minimum 225 "A" points

63. YOUTH RULES AND REGULATIONS

63.1 The AQHA provides a Youth Division 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 classes, is seven (7) years old, exception Rule 63.15 and 63.16; and
- 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 competing or taking part in an AQHA sanctioned event, must have written permission from their parent/guardian to be at that event as an exhibitor or participant and in the case of a show, the parent/guardian must also sign the entry form.

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

63.3 Youth may exhibit two (2) horses in individually judged classes. Refer to Rule 45 in regards to Youth classes and 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 effect 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 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.

63.6 Youth Leasing Horses. Youth are allowed to exhibit leased horses. The AQHA recommends that the lessor and the lessee have a legally formalised lease contract.

- a)** The Lessor cannot sell the horse, prior to the expiry date, unless the Lessee agrees;
- b)** If the leased horse is sold, prior to expiry date, notification in writing, to the AQHA, from both the Lessor and the Lessee is required;
- c)** Termination of a lease prior to the expiry date then notification in writing to the AQHA is required, from both the Lessor and the Lessee;
If termination is prior to the expiry date, then the horse cannot be shown in Youth classes until the original expiry date has been reached. Exception: Rule 63.6 b).
- d)** All Show Lease Notifications must be:
 - i)** signed by both the Lessor and the Lessee and lodged with the AQHA before the Lessee has rights to the horse;
 - ii)** for a minimum of six (6) months;
 - iii)** renewed by submitting another signed Show Lease Notification form prior to expiry date;
NB: If no notification received by expiry date the lease will be terminated by the AQHA;
- e)** The Youth who leases the horse can show the horse in Youth and open classes and all other rules pertaining to Youth eligibility for showing apply;
- f)** Any 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.

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 to Rule 97)

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 one (1) class.

An exhibitor may not show more than one (1) horse in any one class except in individual working classes (Reining, Working Cowhorse, 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 When a Youth exhibitor and/or his/her father, mother, sister, brother, grandparents, step parents or legal guardian or any other representative/s acting on behalf of the exhibitor is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, the AQHA can suspend the rights of such exhibitor and/or the exhibitor's father, mother, sister, brother, grandparents, step parents or legal guardian or any other representative/s acting on behalf of the exhibitor, to participate in future sanctioned events 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 Halter – Youth

If Youth Halter classes are run, the minimum number to gain approval is as follows:

Youth Gelding 2yrs & under

Youth Gelding 3yrs & over

Champion & Reserve Gelding

Youth Filly 2yrs & under

Youth Mare 3yrs & over

Champion & Reserve Filly/Mare

Note: No Youth Halter Stallion/Colt classes can be held.

63.14 Youth Age Requirements and age divisions

a) For horse show purposes the age of an individual on 1st August of that year will be maintained throughout the entire year. Example - A Youth, who has a birthday in July and is eighteen (18) years of age on 1st August, may show throughout the entire year as an eighteen (18) year old until 1st August the following year;

b) It is recommended that where there are large classes, they be divided into age groups so as to provide more equal competition. The age divisions listed below will not apply to Youth Halter classes;

c) Ridden Classes: If there is to be one (1) class, undivided, the age group is to be seven (7) years to eighteen (18) years;

If there are to be two (2) classes, the age divisions must be:

Seven (7) to 13 years and 14 to 18 years

If there are to be three (3) classes, the age divisions must be: 7 to 11 years, 12 to 14 years, 15 to 18 years;

- d) Showmanship:** If there is to be one (1) class, undivided, the age group is to be five (5) years to eighteen (18) years;

If there are to be two (2) classes, the age divisions must be:

five (5) to 13 years and 14 to 18 years

If there are to be three (3) classes, the age divisions must be: 5 to 11 years, 12 to 14 years, 15 to 18 years;

- e)** Age groups may be combined at a show, at the direction of the judge and the show management;
- f)** Minimum age of any youth exhibitor in any Working Cowhorse 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.

63.15 Youth Lead Line

- a)** For youth three (3) to six (6) years of age as at 1st August;
- b)** No 2 or 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;
- e)** This is a non point scoring class.

63.16 Youth Walk Jog/Trot

- a)** For youth five (5) to ten (10) years of age as at 1st August;
- b)** No 2 or 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;
- e)** This is a non-point scoring class.

63.17 Youth Points

- a)** To be eligible to be awarded points for Youth classes, including Pony Club, the youth must:
- i)** be a financial Youth member of the Association;
 - ii)** comply with the requirements as to youth age;
 - iii)** 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.

63.18 Youth Awards

Youth performance awards may, at the Association's discretion, be awarded on the following basis:

- a) Youth Register of Merit – twenty (20) or more points in any particular class, fifteen (15) of which must be "A";
- b) Youth Superior ROM – fifty (50) or more points in any particular class, twenty five (25) of which must be "A";
- c) Youth Champion – fifty (50) or more points are earned in five (5) different type of classes, twenty five (25) of which must be "A";
- d) Youth Versatility Award - Register of Merit awards in five (5) different class categories.

63.19 Youth Horse Awards

Youth Horse Awards may at the Association's discretion be awarded on the following basis:

- a) Youth Horse Register of Merit – twenty (20) or more points in any particular class, fifteen (15) of which must be "A";
- b) Youth Horse Superior Register of Merit – fifty (50) or more points in any particular class, twenty five (25) of which must be "A";
- c) Champion Youth Horse - may be awarded to any Stud Book Registered, Appendix Registered or Performance Registered horse after it has won fifty (50) or more points in Youth classes.

Provided at least twenty (20) points are 'A' points, and at least five (5) 'A' points have been awarded in each of three (3) different Youth classes.

63.20 Pony Club Awards

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

To be eligible for any or all of the awards listed below, the horse must be registered with the Quarter Horse Association and the owner of the horse must be a financial member and be ridden by a financial Youth member. Twenty (20) points must be gained. The horse must be entered and exhibited under the horse's registered name as it appears on the Association's register. A 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 14th August in that year or the points will not be allocated.

- a) **Pony Club Eventing Register of Merit** – twenty (20) points must be earned in a One Day Event run by a Pony Club;
- b) **Pony Club Dressage Register of Merit** – twenty (20) points must be earned in a Dressage Event run by a Pony Club;
- c) **Pony Club Jumping Register of Merit** – twenty (20) points must be earned in a Show Jumping Event run by Pony Club;
- d) **Pony Club Sporting Register of Merit** – twenty (20) points must be earned 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.

64. NOVICE YOUTH AND NOVICE AMATEUR

64.1 Classes: Only seven (7) classes in total will be offered being: Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Trail, Showmanship and Boxing.

64.2 Eligibility: You must hold a financial Full membership and an Amateur Permit with the AQHA or a financial Youth membership.

- a) If you have achieved an Amateur/Youth ROM with the AQHA, or a respective breed organisation, in any of the above classes, then you are NOT eligible as a Novice in that class but would be eligible for the class that you haven't achieved a ROM in;
- b) If a Youth 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;
- c) Any person competing in the Novice classes MUST have a Novice Ticket with their relevant breed organisation, and the rules for gaining that Novice Ticket through their relevant breed organisation must be rules similar to the AQHA;
- d) 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;
 - i) a Amateur cannot compete in the Novice class and the Amateur class at the same show;
 - ii) a Select Amateur cannot compete in the novice class and the Select Amateur class at the same show;
 - iii) and the same applies for Youth classes at the same show.
- e) Novice Amateur and Novice Youth can compete in the Amateur and Youth classes on the program if no Novice classes offered;
- f) If an 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 Points gained

All points gained in a Novice class will go towards the Amateur/Youth ROM's.

64.5 Novice Achievement Award Ten (10) points in an individual Novice class (must have five (5) "A" points).

64.6 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 an AQHA ROM in Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Trail or Showmanship or a Youth from a respective breed organisation has achieved twenty (20) or more points on any of the above classes, fifteen

(15) of which must be “A” points, they will not be eligible to compete in Amateur Novice classes.

64.7 Amateur to Professional and back again

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

64.8 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.

65. 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 AQHA office) and return it to the office 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 AQHA office to receive your personalised reward. Hours that can be logged include, exercising a horse, trail riding, mustering etc;
- f) Awards will be given when the following hours are attained:
50 hours, 100 hours, 250 hours, 500 hours, 750 hours, 1000 hours, 1500 hours, 2000 hours, 5000 hours.

66. 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 office within thirty (30) days from the date of the race, or no points will be allocated.

67. AFFILIATE ENTITLEMENTS

For Affiliate entitlements, please see current listing on the AQHA web site.