

## INTRODUCTION

The Western International Walking Horse Association "WIWHA" was organized and incorporated February 8, 1980. It is composed of five directors and an alternate from each of the Pacific Northwest member clubs and groups. The officers and directors of WIWHA serve on a volunteer basis receiving no reimbursement other than some expenses when approved. The corporation objectives are to promote all aspects of the Tennessee Walking Horse both, as a breed as well as the Walking Horse Industry. These objectives include, but are not limited to sponsorship and affiliation of shows, exhibitions and/or competitions for this breed; obtaining certification by the United States Department of Agriculture to train and license Designated Qualified Persons (DQPs) to inspect Walking Horses; to license qualified persons to serve as judges at Walking Horse exhibitions and competitions; to administer and execute rules, regulations and sanctions concerning the conduct and activities of owners, exhibitors, trainers and breeders of Walking Horses, to the extent that said conduct and or activities relate to Walking Horse shows, exhibitions and/or competitions, or to the extent that said conduct pertains to the classification, conduct and operation of shows, or to general matters affecting exhibitors., Judges, DQPs and show officials. Finally, to do all such lawful acts and things necessary or proper to promote the general welfare of the Walking Horse Industry, for the accomplishment of any objectives set forth herein, or any other objectives which shall be recognized as proper and lawful for such a trade association.

The WIWHA was formed as a result of Pacific Northwest Walking Horse owners, exhibitors and interested groups joining together to promote the Walking Horse in areas where a local organization was limited. Early in the formation of WIWHA, the Association was certified by the United State Department of Agriculture, as were other groups in the Midwest and Tennessee, to regulate our walking horse industry as required by the Horse Protection Act (HPA) and to conduct training workshops for the DQP program. Western International, in cooperation with the National Regulatory Association (now known as National Horse Show Commission), train and provide knowledgeable and qualified DQPs. Shows that affiliate with WIWHA are provided with DQPs and any other assistance that is needed without additional cost to the exhibitor or show management.

WIWHA, INC.  
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	
I. DEFINITIONS	3
II. MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATION RULES	4
A. procedures	
B. Affiliation/Sanctioning Fees	
C. Privileges of Affiliating/Sanctioning	
III. SHOW MANAGEMENT, OFFICIALS, AND EMPLOYEES	5
A. Board of Directors	
B. Duties of Show Management	
C. Duties of Show Secretary	
IV. SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS	6
A. General Rules	
B. Entries	7
C. Attire Requirements for Exhibitors	8
D. General Requirements/Equipment for Horses	9
E. Special Requirements/Equipment for Flat-Shod Pleasure Versatility Classes	11
F. Special Requirements/Equipment for Halter Classes	
G. Drugs and Medications	12
H. Amateur and Professional Status	
V. DIVISION AND CLASS RULES AND REQUIREMENTS	14
A. Class Definitions	
B. Performance Division	15
C. Show and Park Pleasure Division	17
D. Flat-Shod Pleasure Division	18
E. Halter Division	34
F. Equitation Division	
G. Special Classes	38
H. Racking Horse Classes	
VI. JUDGES AND JUDGING SYSTEMS	39
A. Classification of Judges	
B. Licensing Process	
C. Rules and Responsibilities of a Judge	40
D. Regulations Governing Judges	
E. Disciplinary Actions	41
F. General Judging Procedure	
G. Judging Systems	42
VII. DESIGNATED QUALIFIED PERSONS (DQPS)	44
A. Licensing Process	
B. Duties of a DQP	
C. Standards of Conduct/Regulations Governing DQPs	
D. Authority/Responsibilities of a DQP	45
E. DQP Inspection Guidelines	
VIII. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES	48
A. Affected Individuals, Firms, Corporations, or Partnerships	49
B. Violations	
C. Penalties	50
D. Subsequent Violations	52
E. Other Penalties	
F. Additional Penalties	
G. General	
H. Suspensions/Notification Procedures	53
I. Owner Exemption from Liability	54
J. Payment of Fines	
IX. PROTESTS, COMPLAINTS, VIOLATIONS, AND HEARINGS	55
A. Definitions	
B. Show Management Jurisdictions and Proceedings	
C. WIWHA Hearing Committee and Proceedings	56
X. OPERATING PLAN	60

## **I. DEFINITIONS**

- A. Age of Horse.** For horse show purposes, a horse shall be considered to be one year old on the first day of January following the date of foaling. Exception: Foals born in October, November, and December are eligible for classes along with foals born the following year.
- B. Affiliated/Sanctioned Sales.** All sales which have been accepted for this privilege by the Western International Walking Horse Association, or any other of the recognized organizations that license judges and publish a current Rulebook.
- C. Affiliated/Sanctioned Shows.** All shows which have been accepted for this privilege by the Western International Walking Horse Association, Inc. or any other of the recognized organizations that license judges and publish a current Rulebook.
- D. Designated Qualified Person (DQP).** A person licensed by the WIWHA to detect or diagnose horses which are in violation and to otherwise inspect horses for the purposes of enforcing the Horse Protection Act and WIWHA Rules.
- E. Exhibitor.** Any rider, driver, handler, or contestant who shows or exhibits any horse in a horse show, horse exhibition, horse sale, or horse auction.
- F. Exhibiting.** For horse show purposes, exhibiting means showing in competition at a horse show, exhibiting a horse at a sale, presenting the National Colors at a horse show or other event, or any other public exhibition of a horse.
- G. Hearing Committee.** The Hearing Committee is established to hear alleged violations, impose penalties, and any other matters that the Association may direct.
- H. Height of Horse.** The height of all animals shall be stated in hands instead of inches. A hand is four inches. Maximum height shall be reckoned as so many hands "and under" while minimum heights shall be reckoned as "over" a given number of hands. Measurement shall include a horse's shoes and pads. At a given show, a horse that measures 15.2 hands and under must elect to show in 15.2 and Under Classes or Over 15.2 classes, but shall not be permitted to show in both.
- I. Horse or Pony.** The term "horse" as used in these rules denotes either a horse or pony. When the term "horse" or "pony" is used in prize lists and catalogues of shows where height is one of the qualifications of the class, the word "horse" shall designate animals over 15 hands and the word "pony" shall designate animals 15 hands and under. A mature horse is one that is five years of age or over. An animal 15 hands or under may compete as a horse in one class and a pony in another class at the same show.
- J. Horse Protection Act (HPA).** The federal Horse Protection Act of 1970, as amended by the Horse Protection Act Amendments of 1976, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1821 *et seq.*
- K. Immediate Family.** For horse show purposes, the term "immediate family" shall include the following: husband, wife, parent, stepparent, child, stepchild, brother, sister, half brother and half sister, stepbrother and stepsister, in-laws of the same relations stated herein, grandparents, and grandchildren.
- L. Measurement of Height Entries.** The exhibitor shall stand the animal on a smooth, level surface, in such a position that the front legs are vertical and the backs of the hocks are in a vertical line with the points of the horse's quarters. The head should be held low enough to reveal the highest point of the withers from the ground. The arm of the Measuring Standard shall be placed over the highest points of the withers and no measurement taken at any other part of the horse's body shall count. The Standard must be a straight, stiff, unbendable stick and should be provided with a plumb bob or spirit level to make sure the standard is perpendicular from the withers to the ground and that the cross piece is parallel with the ground surface.
- M. Non-Affiliated Show.** A show that is not affiliated with an organization that licenses DQPs and judges, and publishes a current rule book.
- N. Owner.** For horse show purposes, the term "owner" means the person shown as the owner by the records of the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association (TWHBEA) or a person who has a bona fide lease on said horse.
- O. Show Employees.** For horse show, sale or exhibition purposes, the term "show employees" shall include and refer to the following: Managers, Announcers, Ringmasters, Secretaries, Gate Attendants, Ring Clerks, Farriers (optional), and other persons engaged directly by the show.

**P. Show/Sale/Exhibition Management.** For horse show, sale or exhibition purposes, the term “show management” shall refer to the personnel representing the sponsoring organization.

**Q. Show Officials.** For horse, sale or exhibition show purposes, the term “show officials” shall include and refer to the following: Directors, Officers, Chairman of the Show Committee, Judges, DQPs, Veterinarians, and Timekeepers.

**R. Sore.** When used to describe a horse, sore means: (1) an irritating or blistering agent has been applied, internally or externally by a person to any limb of a horse; (2) any burn, cut, or laceration has been inflicted by a person on any limb of a horse; (3) any tack, nail, screw, or chemical agent has been injected by a person into or used by a person on any limb of a horse; or (4) any other substance or device has been used by a person on any limb of a horse or a person has engaged in a practice involving a horse, and, as a result of such application, infliction, injection, use, or practice, such horse suffers, or can reasonably be expected to suffer, physical pain or distress, inflammation, or lameness when walking, trotting, or otherwise moving, except that such term does not include such an application, infliction, injection, use, or practice in connection with the therapeutic treatment of a horse by or under the supervision of a person licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State in which such treatment was given.

**S. Specialty Classes.** No canter required.

**Note:** *Unless the context clearly indicates to the contrary, the use of one gender shall include all genders and the use of the singular shall include the plural (and vice versa)*

**T. Suspensions.** All WIWHA penalties, including fines and suspensions will apply to any event regardless of affiliation or non-affiliation.

**U. Rule Book** The official rules and regulations of the WIWHA shall be embodied in a booklet entitled “WIWHA Rule Book”. The Rule Book shall be added to, amended by, or deleted from, by the acts of the Rules & Enforcement Committee and Board of Directors as set forth herein. However, notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the Board of Directors, if it perceives an immediate need, may add, amend, or delete any rule, effective upon the adoption of the addition, amendment, or deletion, by the affirmative vote of more than eighty percent (80%) of the entire Board.

## **I MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATION RULES**

### **A. PROCEDURES FOR AFFILIATING OR SANCTIONING A SHOW OR SALE**

1. Any show desiring to affiliate or sanction may apply, upon its agreeing to use a licensed judge and approved Designated Qualified persons (DQPS) in all saddle, breeding, model, halter and equitation classes and to abide by all the Rules, regulations and procedures of the WIWHA. When a request for affiliation is received, an application form and all necessary information will be promptly forwarded to Show Management.

2. Any sale desiring to affiliate may apply, upon its agreeing to use only approved DQPs and to abide by all the Rules, regulations and procedures of the WIWHA. When the request for affiliation is received, an application form and all necessary information will be promptly forwarded to Sale Management. The appropriate fee must be included with any application submitted.

3. To allow Affiliation or Sanctioning approval, application should be made not less than 15 days prior to the show date.

4. Show Management must ensure that all participants agree to be subject to the WIWHA Rule Book. ((See IV B.2)

5. Show or Sale Management shall furnish the WIWHA within 15 days after the show the following:

(a) Copy of a properly executed class sheet, showing all entries and class winners, including complete names and addresses of both owners and trainers on all horses inspected. Class sheet must also include the registered name and number of the horse, the trainer's license number, and the amateur or youth card number. (Not required of Sale Management.)

(b) Show or Sale Manager's Report on the form furnished by WIWHA

(c) Copy of Premium List and/or Program or Sale Catalog.

(d) Judges' Cards if the show utilized more than one judge.

### **B. AFFILIATION/SANCTIONING FEES**

Member organizations of WIWHA will not be charged a show affiliation fee. Non-member organizations or shows will be charged a fee of \$100.00 for shows where all or a majority of classes are Walking Horse classes, and \$25.00 for shows where a majority of classes are not Walking Horse classes. Fees outside of our normal affiliation area will be set by WIWHA directorship. Payment must accompany the completed application.

### **C. PRIVILEGES OF AN AFFILIATED SHOW OR SANCTIONED SHOW/SALE**

1. Cooperation of WIWHA, including assistance in obtaining the services of Judges and approved DQPS.
2. Services of the WIWHA Board and Hearing Committee.
3. Protection of Show Managers and/or Sale Management through the use of licensed DQPs as set forth in the Horse Protection Act (HPA) and the Regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).
4. Services of the WIWHA Official Rulebook

### **III. SHOW MANAGEMENT, OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES**

#### **A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors of the sponsoring organization of a show, sale or exhibition or the governing body in charge, shall be responsible for the operation of the show, sale or exhibition. They will be responsible for the appointment of a show manager, who will be responsible for the running of the show, sale or exhibition who must also be available at all times during the show, sale or exhibition to act in executive capacity.

#### **B. DUTIES OF SHOW, SALE OR EXHIBITION MANAGEMENT**

It shall be the duty of the Show; Sale or exhibition management to enforce all the Rules of the WIWHA from the time entries are admitted to the show grounds until their departure. In particular, it shall be their duty:

1. To use a DQP approved by WIWHA
2. To provide access during all scheduled performances an ambulance or a station wagon equipped with a stretcher, plus a registered nurse or qualified first aid personnel. It is recommended that a physician be present at all shows.
3. To see that animals required to be measured shall be correctly measured according to the rules.
4. To order the measurement of any horse whose height or length of foot is protested by an exhibitor. Such measurement shall take place immediately, to the end that there be no change by re-shoeing. The decision of the Show Officials shall not be reviewable by WIWHA. If the DQP believes that an injustice is done at a show, he or she shall report the same to WIWHA.
5. To eliminate, without waiting for a protest to be made any entry that is known to be ineligible.
6. To receive and act upon Protests in accordance with the Rules, and to report whatever action is taken to WIWHA. In the event that a person participating at a show shall commit an offense or violation described in the Rules, Show Management may, at their discretion, disqualify that person from further participation in their show only. Any such offense shall be reported to the WIWHA for whatever further action is deemed necessary.
7. To pay premiums and other indebtedness of the show
8. To obtain, if necessary, the Guest cards for the Judges.
9. To provide a telephone at shows where horses are stabled overnight.
10. To employ a Judge currently licensed by SHOW/WIWHA and send notification of this to WIWHA. It is recommended a contract be used.
11. To provide all necessary physical facilities to accommodate the show, sale or exhibition including an area set aside for the inspection of horses by DQP's and a pre show warm up area. Show Management must also provide the necessary personnel and supplies for the DQP to carry out his or her duties.
12. To accept responsibility to insure that all Rules regulations and procedures stated in this RuleBook are followed.
13. To provide a veterinarian on the grounds or on a stand-by status at the show.
14. To abide by all decisions made by a Judge or DQP, and in no way attempt to influence a Judge's decision or his or her procedure.
15. To furnish and maintain control over all lubricants for use at the show or exhibition.
  - \* All substances are prohibited on the pastern area (above the hoof, but below the fetlock) of any horse being shown or exhibited at any horse show or exhibition except glycerin, petrolatum, and mineral oil or mixture thereof.
  - \* Any such lubricant is permitted to be applied only after the horse is inspected by the Show manager or his representative and may be applied only under the supervision of Show Manager or his or her representative. Show Management is required to make the show's lubricants available to USDA personnel so that they may obtain samples for laboratory analysis.
16. To cooperate in whatever way requested with the USDA and WIWHA.
17. To fulfill the obligations of affiliation sanctioned shows and sales as set forth in this RuleBook. (III B.4 page 9)
18. To take reasonable steps to insure that all entries in classes where measurements are required are in compliance with the rules. It is mandatory that show officials resolve any protest regarding measurements. See Rule xxx
19. To take steps to insure the personal safety of all officials representing the WIWHA.
20. To keep exhibitors and trainers informed of all changes in the printed program.
21. To insure that no manager or DQP serves as a Judge or DQP at his or her own show.
22. To insure that no Show Manager, DQP, Judge, Announcer or Ringmaster competes in a show at which they are participating in an official capacity, nor shall any horse owned by any of the above be shown at such show. Exception: an Announcer or Ringmaster and his or her immediate family may show prior to working in an official capacity as Announcer or Ringmaster.

23. To disqualify any exhibitor and his or her entries if there is just cause and to rule that he or she forfeit winnings and ribbons at that show, and if necessary, to have the horses of such exhibitor removed from the show grounds without being held liable for damage. All such actions must be reported to WIWHA.

24. To cause to be posted in a conspicuous place during the show, the Judge's cards, or copies thereof, at multi-day shows.

25. To include as many Pleasure and Equitation Classes as possible.

### **C. DUTIES OF SHOW SECRETARY**

1. The Secretary shall apply annually to WIWHA for affiliation. The WIWHA may withhold assignment of a date for an affiliated show if the show has indebtedness recognized by the WIWHA.

2. The Secretary must furnish a copy of the prize list to the WIWHA immediately upon publication.

3. The Secretary should furnish the DQP with the following:

\*Class sheets on each class that is to be inspected.

\*Copy of prize list and/or Program.

4. The Secretary of each affiliated show shall have a copy of the current WIWHA/SHOW Rule Book available for reference at all times during the show.

5. The Secretary shall report in writing to the WIWHA, any act on the part of any person deemed prejudicial to the best interests of the WIWHA. Matters to be so reported include removal by an exhibitor of his horses from the show grounds, or withdrawal from the show after it has commenced, without permission.

6. The Secretary shall furnish the Judge in each class a card corresponding exactly with the specifications as shown in the Prize list, or amended if in conflict with the Rule Book.

7. The Secretary shall provide a number card for each entry, which shall be worn on the exhibitor's back, clearly visible to the judge at all times when in competition.

8. The Secretary shall be responsible for all matters in connection with entries.

9. The Secretary shall, at the earliest possible moment, notify interested exhibitors if a class does not fill and is canceled.

10. The Secretary must keep on file class entry sheets and any other required forms for at least six months after the show, indicating the winners, post or other added entries, scratches and corrections in all classes.

\*Class entry forms must be signed by exhibitor, trainer or agent and must include complete names and addresses of both owners and trainers on all entries. Amateur and Youth Exhibitor Card numbers and Trainer's License number must be included on the entry form. Horse registration number must be included on the entry form, unless the horse is a country pleasure entry.

\*The Secretary must send in the Show Managers report form listing the Judges, DQP's and Show Officials officiating at the show along with number of entries, horses, and tickets written to WIWHA immediately following the show.

## **IV. SHOW RULES AN REGULATIONS**

### **A. GENERAL RULES**

1. The rules of WIWHA shall take precedence over the rules of any other committee. All divisions, sections, and classes for which rules are provided herein must be conducted accordingly and shall not be held under any rules that are not in agreement.

2. Every show and every person participating therein including exhibitor, owner, lessee, manager, agent, rider, driver, handler, contestant, judge, DQP, show official, or employee is subject to the by-laws and Rules of WIWHA and to the local rules of the show. Every person participating in any show recognized by WIWHA is subject to the provisions of WIWHA whether or not the particular class in which he participates is operated under WIWHA Rules.

3. **Rule changes:** Rules for a current year will become effective when adopted at Annual Meeting and shall take precedence over any previous rules. Any show which issues its prize list and begins its show before March 1st shall be governed entirely by Rule Book of the previous year, with amendments. Any show, which issues its prize list before March 1st and begins its show on or after March 1st shall be governed by the current Rules.

WIWHA shall furnish a list of changes in the Rules, insofar as they affect prize lists, to all affiliated shows scheduled to be held on or after March 1st, which issue their prize lists before March 1st.

4. **Class Interruptions:** In the event that a class in which horses compete, whether together or individually, is stopped while in progress due to storm, accident or other emergency, the following procedure shall govern:

a. The class when recommended shall be held over in its entirety and no consideration shall be given to the performance during the original session.

b. If the class is continued at a succeeding session of the show, it shall be held over in its entirety.

c. If classes are postponed to a day not included in the original show dates, exhibitors are entitled to a refund of entry fees and are relieved of any obligation to show back in postponed classes.

5. **Sweepstakes:** When a Sweepstakes Class is offered, providing for a division of entry fees, either with or without moneys added by the show committee, the total to be distributed shall include the entry fees of all entries listed on the catalogue or on the class sheet, whether or not the horses are shown, unless a show stipulates in its prize list that portion of the entry fees which will be withheld.

## 6. Serviceable soundness for Horse Show Purposes

a. All horses shown at a show must be serviceable sound. The official veterinarian's decision, if requested by the Judge, as to the serviceable soundness of a horse shall be final. If the official veterinarian is not immediately available or call on, the Judge's decision as to serviceable soundness of a horse shall be final.

b. The official veterinarian's decision, if requested by the Judge, as to the serviceable soundness of horse shall be final. If the official veterinarian is not immediately available or called on, the Judge's decision as to serviceable soundness of a horse shall be final.

## 7. Challenge Trophies

a. A challenge trophy is a trophy donated to or offered by a show, which must be won a specified number of times under specified conditions in order to, be permanently retired. When originally placed in competition it becomes the property of the Show Committee, and cannot be with drawn by the donor.

b. The conditions under which a challenge trophy may be retired shall not be changed without the consent of the trophy donor or his legal representative and of all who have qualified as potential winners of such trophy, except in the event that the conditions stipulated are in conflict with the current rules of WIWHA. In such an event, the Show Committee shall confer with WIWHA as to procedure.

## 8. Prize Lists

a. If errors are discovered prior to the date of the show, exhibitors should be notified upon receipt of entries, or in writing when they arrive at the show.

b. If classes are added or premiums increased, exhibitors should be notified in writing at least five days prior to the show. Post entries must be accepted in such classes.

9. **Stallions:** Stallions shall be barred from Youth Exhibitor Classes with the exception being Walking Pony Classes.

## 10. Retirement Ceremonies

a. In the event that a retirement ceremony shall be allowed at the request of the owner of a horse, said horse shall not be permitted to compete at that show. Any horse thus officially retired shall be barred for life from further competition, except by special permission of WIWHA.

## 11. Time Schedules

a. The announced order or time for classes shall not be changed unless notice is given to exhibitors, Judge(s) and DQP(s) affected.

b. Provided the order of events is not changed; Show Committee shall have the privilege of calling any class up to 30 minutes ahead of its scheduled time. Exhibitors should be ready for classes in reasonable time and may not protest such advance of schedule.

c. When it is found that a class is being delayed by horses not ready to perform, the entrance gate may be closed at the order of the Judge(s) or Show Management, provided warning is issued and exhibitors are given three minutes in which to appear at the entrance gate ready to participate. Judging shall not commence until the gate is closed. An official timer must be appointed to enforce this rule.

12. **Classes for Horse and Exhibitor:** In a class where the performances of both horse and rider are considered, the horse and rider together shall constitute an entry.

## B. ENTRIES

1. In order for the DQP to inspect horses, all class entry sheets must contain the following information:

### (a) Tennessee Walking Horse Classes:

Horse's official name and registration number.

Trainer's name, address and license number (If owner is trainer, sign both trainer & owner).

Owner's name and address

Amateur name and card number

Youth exhibitor name and card number

**Note:** Each entry must be registered with the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association (TWHBEA)

### (b) Racking Horse Classes:

Horses official registered name and current registered owner's name.

Trainer's name and license number (if the trainer is also the amateur/owner, put "same as owner" in the trainer column.

Owner's name and address

Amateur name and card number

**Note:** Each entry must be registered with the Racking Horse Breeders' Association (RHBA)

### (c) Country Pleasure Classes:

Owner's name and address

Horses are otherwise exempt from the above requirements.

Horses entered in these classes are not eligible to show in any of the Walking Horse Lite-Shod, Plantation, or Amateur Trail Pleasure Classes at the same show.

2. The entry blank of each show must contain a certification to the WIWHA signed by the exhibitor or his representative, to the effect that:

***“Every entry shall constitute an agreement that the person making it, owner, lessee, trainer, manager, agent, coach, exhibitor, and the horse shall be subject to the by-laws and the Rules of WIWHA and the local rules of the show. Further it shall constitute a declaration that the horse and/or rider is eligible as entered and that the owner and all of his representatives are bound by the by-laws and Rules of WIWHA and the show and accept as final the decision of the Hearing Committee, or the WIWHA as the case may be, on any question arising under said bylaws and Rules, and agree to hold the show, WIWHA, their officials, directors and employees harmless for any action taken.”***

The above statement must be printed on all official entry blanks. Failure of a show to print this statement on every entry blank and to require that such entry blank be signed shall constitute a violation of WIWHA Rules and render the show liable to penalty. Should an exhibitor, his agent, or trainer fail to sign an entry blank as required, his first entrance into the ring as an exhibitor shall be interpreted as his acceptance of the Rules of WIWHA and shall ipso facto render him subject to said Rules. Violation of the Rules in connection with entries may be cause for disqualification of the exhibitor, agent and/or trainer by Show Management.

**3. Horses Names:** Horses must be named and the same name and registration number must be listed in all classes. A horse must be entered under its originally recorded name unless the name has been officially changed. It must also be entered under the name of the owner of record, or of the registered farm name. A thirty (30) day grace period will be allowed after the sale of a show horse to have the papers transferred. (Proof of purchase and actual sale date required.) Double registered horses: If a horse has different names with different breed registries, the horse must be entered using the registered name of the breed in which the horse is being shown.

**4. Trainer's License, Amateur Card and Youth Exhibitor Card Numbers:** To be eligible to show, everyone must have a trainer's license, amateur card, or a youth exhibitor card number. All amateur exhibitors participating in open or amateur driving classes (e.g. fine harness, versatility driving, carriage driving, show pleasure driving, park pleasure driving, two wheel bike class) shall be required to have an amateur driving card issued by the WIWHA or other licensing organization. For definitions of professional, amateur and youth exhibitor, see Rule V.A

**5. Combined ownership:** Horses must be entered in the names of combined owners, if so registered with the TWHBEA. Combined-ownership horses are eligible to be shown in owners' and amateur owners' classes and may be shown by either owner or any member of their immediate family.

**6. Substitutions of Exhibitors:** Substitution of an exhibitor may be made during a class only in case of injury to, or illness of, the original exhibitor. No substitution of rider is permitted in equitation classes.

**7. Cancellation or Withdrawal of Entries:** A show may adopt its own policy covering the refunding of fees to an exhibitor who cancels his entries prior to the show's beginning.

**8. Fees and Fines.** All fees and fines shall be paid in U. S. currency and drawn from a U.S. bank. any returned checks shall result in an additional charge or fee, as determined by the WIWHA and disclosed in the schedule of fees provided in the Show Managers information materials.

**9. Unpaid Accounts.** Any exhibitor, owner, or trainer who fails to pay any account(s), fines or service charge due to Show Management, Horse Sales Management or WIWHA shall be subject to suspension by WIWHA. Upon receipt of notice that a trainer, exhibitor or owner has not paid all accounts owed as a result of participation in said show, WIWHA shall notify said person, firm or corporation that settlement must be made within 15 days or he, she or it shall be suspended until said account is paid in full. If a person other than an owner, exhibitor or trainer was responsible for making said charges at any show, then the owner, trainer or exhibitor on whose behalf said charges were made shall be subject to suspension until said account is paid in full.

**10. Post Entries:** Post entries are any entries made after the advertised closing date for inclusion of entries in the printed program. Whether or not a show desires to accept post entries should be clearly stated in the prize list and no exceptions shall be made. Exception: If classes are added or premiums increased, exhibitors should be notified in writing at least five days prior to the show. Post entries must be accepted in such classes.

#### **11. Refusal of Entries**

**(a)** In addition to entries of persons suspended or expelled by WIWHA, Show Management may reserve the right to refuse the entry of an exhibitor who has demonstrated unsportsman-like behavior at a show or has conducted himself in a manner which brings discredit to the show, its management, officials, or employees, provided that the exhibitor so excluded shall have the right to be heard on the issue by Show Management before the refusal of entry is made. The excluded exhibitor shall have the right to appeal the decision of show Management to the WIWHA Board of Directors which may over rule the decision of show management by the official vote of 75% of the entire board.

**(b)** Show management may require a horse to qualify for entry in the show or may set a limit as to the number of entries that will be accepted in any class or division, provided the method to be used is so stated in the prize list.

**12. Leases.** An official lease of a horse shall be construed as bona fide ownership.

**C. ATTIRE AND REQUIREMENTS FOR EXHIBITORS** It is the tradition of the show ring that riders, drivers, and handlers be correctly attired for the classes in which they compete, that attendants be neatly dressed, and horses properly presented. Show Management may, at its discretion, bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience. Correct attire for Walking Horse presentation consists of the following, unless otherwise noted:

1. English Riding Habit (Saddle Suit)
2. English Spurs (use of spurs is optional)
3. Riding Boots.
4. Pants tie downs, or underpasses.
5. Gloves (optional)
6. Hats (homburg, top hats, derby, snap brim or helmets)
7. Exhibitor's hair must be neat and well groomed.
8. Long hair should be styled so the back number can be seen easily.
9. Horse and/or stable advertising will not be allowed in the show ring.
10. Fine Harness Attire: Men are to wear riding suits with hats, business suits with hats, formal wear with hats, or dress trousers with sport coat and hat. Ladies are to wear riding suits, formal or cocktail wear, or dress with appropriate top. Exception to this attire is not permitted. Ladies are encouraged to wear long skirts or use lap robes. Skirts and slits in dresses are not to be above the knee without the use of a lap blanket. Gloves for men and ladies are recommended but not required.
11. Grooms Attire: The trainers are to see that their grooms are properly attired.
12. Safety helmets are allowed in all divisions.
13. All exhibitors not meeting attire requirements must be penalized in final judging.

#### D. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND EQUIPMENT FOR HORSES

1. All entries shall be clean, neatly trimmed, in good flesh presenting a healthy appearance, and outfitted in clean and appropriate tack.

2. All horses must use an English saddle, except where division or class rules permit otherwise.

3. Standard Walking Horse Single Rein, Bridle, and Bit: While any standard Walking Horse bit may be used, a gag bit with no shanks is not considered a standard Walking Horse show bit. Severe bits are discouraged and bleeding of the mouth or muzzle must be penalized in the final judging. Shanks in excess of 9 1/2 inches in length are prohibited on Plantation Pleasure Horses. Shanks are measured from the very top of the metal to the very bottom of the metal, including the rings to which the cheeks and reins are attached. Quick change bridles and reins are not permitted.

4. Full blinders of any type are not permitted on the show grounds at anytime. Refer to penalty section.

5. Communication devices may be used in all classes, excluding equitation.

6. The use of Vet Wrap will be allowed in the cannon bone area on the front legs, and on the cannon bone down onto the ankles on the rear legs. The color is to blend in reasonably with the color of the horse.

7. Names of horses, stables, trainers or exhibitors are prohibited on show equipment in the show ring; however, inconspicuous name plates on bridles and saddles are acceptable. Failure to observe this Rule is cause for dismissal from the show ring of the entry in violation or of the entry of the stables whose name is observed in the ring.

8. **Artificial Markings and Appliances:** Any change in color of markings other than mane, tail or hoof is prohibited. Only clear grooming materials are allowed on the hide and hair. Materials may be used to remove stains. All artificial appliances other than those set forth in this section are prohibited. Refer to penalty section.

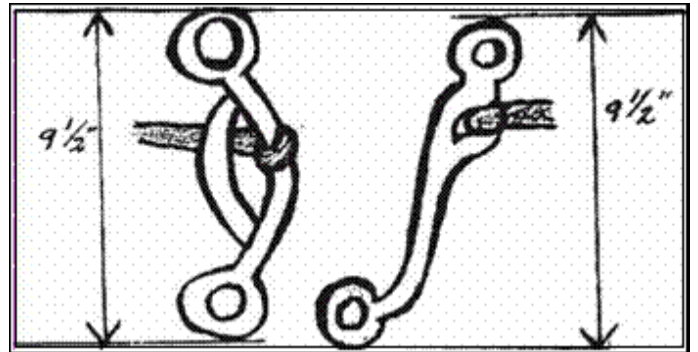
9. **Whips.** Whips of four feet or less are allowed in any Class where English attire and equipment are used. No item may be used inside or from outside the ring while showing a horse, except one whip per handler no longer than four feet, including the snapper. Whips up to six feet are permitted in any class in which the horse is driven. No lashes or appendages or any other appliances of any kind are permitted to be attached to the whip. A whip of this kind is not permitted in a warm up ring or show ring. No whip may be handed across the rail to an exhibitor. Refer to penalty section.

10. **Hoof Bands:** Metal hoof bands, such as used to anchor or strengthen pads and shoes are permitted, so long as they are placed at least one half inch below the coronet band. **Exception:** The use of hoof bands on flat shod horses is allowed on the show grounds, but not in the show, sale or exhibition arena.

#### 11. Action Devices

(a). Boots or collar devices may be on a horse's front pasterns. Such device must not have rigid, sharp or rough edges, and must not have seams on the top or bottom that are not covered with a soft roll, and must be closed and securely fastened with a keeper. Boots or collar devices may not exceed six (6) ounces in weight, except for soft rubber or soft leather bell boots and quarter boots that are used as protective devices.

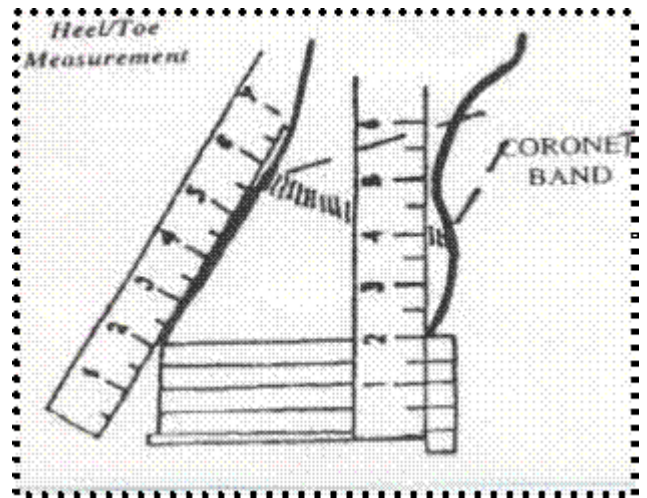
(b) A chain not to exceed six (6) ounces in weight (including fastener) may be used on the horse's front pasterns. A horse may carry link-type devices of different weights as long as a single device does not exceed the weight limit. Such action devices shall have not twisted or double links, and each link must be the same size, configuration and weight. The action device may be fastened by a strap of soft leather, nylon, cotton, or other similar material. When fastened, the ends of the links shall not be more than three inches apart. The links and fastener shall present a smooth surface to the horse. An action device must not touch the coronet band. Link-type action devices shall have no loose ends or dropped links.



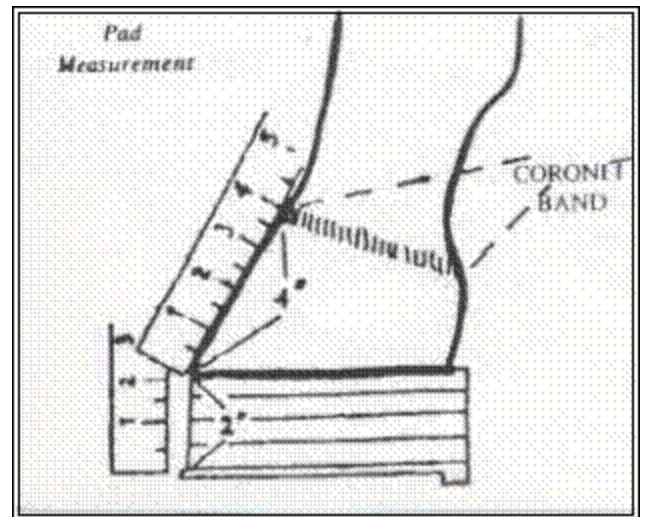
More than one action device on any one limb of a horse is not permitted. Plastic chains are not permitted. Refer to penalty section.

(c) Hardwood, stainless steel or aluminum rollers of uniform size, weight, and configuration, which are, smooth and free of projections, protrusions, rust, corrosion, or rough or sharp edges are permitted. Such rollers shall not exceed six ounces in weight, including the weight of the fastener..

**12. Heel/Toe Measurement:** Toe length must exceed the height of the heel by one inch or more. The length of the toe shall be measured from the coronet band (where hard and soft material meet), at the center of the front pastern along the front of the hoof wall to the ground. The heel shall be measured from the coronet band, at the most lateral portion of the rear pastern, at a 90-degree angle to the ground, not including normal caulks at the rear of the horseshoe that do not exceed 3/4 of an inch in length. That portion of caulk at the rear of the horseshoe in excess of 3/4 of an inch shall be added to the height of the heel in determining heel-to-toe ratio.



**13. Pad Measurement:** The amount of pad, or artificial extension, permitted on any horse two (2) years of age or older will be determined by the natural hoof length. The amount of artificial extension, whether accomplished with pads, acrylics or any other material of combination thereof, must not exceed 50 percent of the natural hoof length. The natural hoof length is measured from the coronet band at the center of the front pastern along the front of the hoof wall, to the distal portion of the hoof wall at the tip of the toe. The thickness of the pad, or artificial extension, shall be measured from the distal portion of the hoof wall at the tip of the toe at a 90-degree angle to the proximal (foot/hoof) surface of the shoe.



**15. Pads on Yearling Horses:** Pads or other devices on yearling horses (horses up to two (2) years old) that elevate or change the angle of such horses' hooves in excess of 1 inch at the heel are not permitted.

**16. Insertion of Material Between the Pad and the Hoof.** Any object or material inserted between the pad and the hoof is not permitted, except for acceptable hoof packing, which includes pine tar, oakum, live rubber, sponge rubber, silicone, commercial hoof packing or other substances used to maintain adequate frog pressure or sole consistency.

**17. Shoe Size:** The maximum shoe size is 1 1/2 inches wide and 1/2 inch thick with a 1 inch turnback for a caulk. The turnback is measured from the inside of the fold. The maximum thickness of shoe and caulk is 1 inch.

**18. Weight on Yearling Horses.** Any weight on yearling horses, except a keg or similar conventional horseshoe, and any horseshoe on yearling horses shall not weight more than 16 ounces.

**19. Rubber Foundation:** A rubber foundation used in lieu of a shoe cannot be more than 1/2 inch in thickness

**20. Half Rubber Foundation:** A half rubber foundation used in lieu of half a shoe cannot be thicker than the corresponding half shoe. Example: With a 3/8-inch thick shoe, rubber cannot be more than 3/8 inch thick. With a 1/2-inch thick shoe, rubber cannot be more than 1/2 inch thick.

**21. Half Metal Shoe:** A half-metal shoe in front with rubber on the rear half used for the foundation must be in apposition (there can be no gap between the metal shoe and the rubber).

**22. Weight Bearing Surface:** The weight bearing surface of the shoe must be level.

**23. Rockback Pads:** Rockback pads cannot extend below the weight-bearing surface (bottom of the shoe).

**24. Lead or Other Weights:** Lead or other weights cannot be attached to the outside of the hoof wall, the outside surface of the horseshoe, or any portion of the pad except the bottom surface within the horseshoe. Pads may not be hollowed out for the purpose of inserting or affixing weights, and weights may not extend below the weight-bearing surface of the shoe. Hollow shoes or artificial extensions filled with mercury or similar substances are prohibited.

**25. Break-over:** The break-over point of the shoe cannot be any further back than the tip of the toe on the natural hoof.

**26. Pressure Shoeing.** Shoeing a horse, or trimming a horse's hoof in a manner that will cause such horse to suffer, or can reasonably be expected to cause such horse to suffer pain or distress, inflammation, or lameness when walking, trotting, or otherwise moving is strictly prohibited.

**27. Acrylic.** Acrylic can be used to repair and mend a foot where the shoe has been thrown and the foot has been damaged. Acrylic or any other material cannot be used for the purpose of extending the length of the natural hoof in any manner on both feet, which includes the toes or heels. Acrylic can be used to fill in around the nail holes or cracks on the sides of the hoof.

**28. Shoeing:** In Park Pleasure and all other flat shod Pleasure and Versatility classes shoes will be attached only by nails. Other than the shoe and nails used to attach them, no other substance or device of any nature or description including, but not limited to, adhesives shall be on the bottom of the foot.

## **E. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AND EQUIPMENT FOR FLAT-SHOD PLEASURE AND VERSATILITY CLASSES**

1. A. Barefooted horses may be shown; however, judges must disqualify lame or tenderfooted horses.
2. There shall be no curb chain or caveson adjustment upon the reverse.
3. Braids shall be worn in English and Halter classes, but not in Western.
4. Rhinestones or sequined brow bands and caveson fronts are prohibited.
5. Curb chains or straps must be flat against the jaw and be at least 1/2 inches wide. Cross chain cavesons are prohibited.
6. Martingales and tie downs are prohibited. **Exceptions:** TWH Over Fences, Barrel Racing, and Pole Bending Classes.
7. Snaffle bits are permitted. Severe bits must be penalized in the final judging. Shanks over 9 ½ inches are prohibited. Gag bits without shanks are not allowed.
8. In Western classes, silver mounted equipment shall not count over good working equipment.
9. Equipment approved for either English or Western class is approved for trail classes, but not a combination thereof.
10. Exhibitor's apparel shall be either English or Western, but not a combination of both.
11. Dress for versatility classes shall be neat and appropriate.
12. Action devices and tail braces are prohibited on show grounds or in the show ring. .
13. Bosals or ordinary ring snaffles may be used on four-year-old or younger western flat-shod pleasure horses. When using a bosal or snaffle, the rider may use two hands on the reins. The ordinary ring snaffle bit has a broken mouth piece with conventional O-rings, egg-butt, or D-rings, and the ring must be no larger than four inches in diameter. Optional loose chin strap of leather or nylon only is permitted. Reins should be attached above the chin strap. Bosal may be used in Poles, Barrels, Trail or Reining Classes.
14. Australian stock saddles are not approved as either English or Western tack.
15. Side saddles are approved equipment in flat-shod pleasure and versatility classes.
16. In timed events and/or individually worked classes such as barrels, pole, western riding, trail, etc. a particular horse counts as one entry no matter how many people exhibit it. The only time a horse can be entered in a timed event or trail class with two different exhibitors/contestants and count as two entries is if the class is an open class and one of the exhibitors/contestants is an adult and other is a youth exhibitor, and this is allowed only if there is no other class for the adult or youth exhibitor.

## **F. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AND EQUIPMENT FOR HALTER CLASSES**

1. Mares, stallions, and geldings shall be shown in a bridle.
2. Weanlings and yearlings shall be shown in a show halter, snaffle bit optional.
3. In Model Classes, entries must wear a show bridle.
4. Tail braces, switches and humane tails are permitted on mares, stallions, and geldings but are prohibited on weanlings and yearlings.
5. In Model Classes, entries may wear a tail brace and/or humane tail, unless the class is pleasure model.
6. Pads may be used on mares, stallions and geldings in conformance with WIWHA equipment rules, but unnatural exaggerated and artificial gaits shall be penalized. Yearlings shall be permitted to be shod with a buildup not to exceed one inch, excluding the shoe, which shall be no larger than 3/8 inch thick and 3/4 inch wide and weigh no more than 16 ounces. No lead can be added to the pads. Shoes on weanlings are prohibited.

7. Model entries may be shown as shod for show or pleasure use, so long as they conform to WIWHA equipment rules and show in their respective classes.
8. Boots or action devices are prohibited on all entries.
9. Braids in the manes and/or foretops are optional.
10. Whips not to exceed four feet in length including snapper are permitted for use by exhibitors.

#### **G. DRUGS AND MEDICATIONS**

1. No horse shall be allowed to show if that horse has been administered any forbidden substance by any means. A forbidden substance is any stimulant, depressant, tranquilizer or local anesthetic. (Stimulants and depressants are defined as medications which stimulate or depress the circulatory, respiratory or central nervous systems). Also prohibited is the use of "ginger" and any drugs regardless of how harmless or innocuous they might be, which by their very nature mask or screen the presence of the aforementioned prohibited drugs, or prevent or delay testing procedures.
2. Full use of modern therapeutic measures for the improvement and protection of the health of the horse including phenylbutazone is permitted, unless the drug given also stimulates or depresses the circulatory, respiratory or central nervous system.
3. Acceptable Lubricants. All foreign substances are prohibited on the pastern area (above the hoof, but below the fetlock) of any horse being shown, exhibited, or offered for sale at any horse show, exhibition, or horse sale or auction, except glycerin, petrolatum, and mineral oil, or mixtures thereof. Any such lubricant is permitted to be applied only after the horse has been inspected by the DQP and may be applied only under the supervision of Show Management or his/her designee.
4. Exhibitors are cautioned against the use of medicinal preparations and tonics of any kind, the ingredients and quantitative analysis of which are not specifically known, as many of them contain forbidden substances.
5. Any blood withdrawn for drug testing procedure shall be administered by or under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian in within fifteen (15) minutes of the horse leaving the show ring. Blood tests shall be the only recognized form of drug testing.
6. A hearing pertaining to drugs or medications will be held in accordance with Rule X. The trainer, owner, and/or exhibitors responsible for the condition of said horse, will not be suspended, or a horse barred from competition until after the conclusion of the hearing and a written ruling thereon has been made. Trainer, owner, and/or exhibitors of said horse may be required to forfeit all prize money or sweepstakes and any trophies, ribbons and "points" won at said competition. The trainer, owner, and/or exhibitor must pay a fee of \$50.00 to show management. Points accumulated toward year end awards prior to said show may be nullified. Refer to penalty section.

#### **H: AMATEUR AND PROFESSIONAL STATUS**

##### **1. Amateur Status:**

- (a) A person is an amateur for horse show purposes who, after his or her 18th birthday, does not engage in any activities which would cause him to be classified as a professional.
- (b) Any person who has not reached his 18th birthday is declared to be an amateur. For horse show purposes, a Youth exhibitor is an individual who, on January 1st of the show year, has not yet reached his 18th birthday. If an exhibitor is 17 on January 1st and turns 18 on January 2nd, the exhibitor is still eligible to show as a youth exhibitor all that year.
- (c) **Amateur and Youth Exhibitor Application and Card:** To be eligible to show in amateur and/or youth exhibitor classes at WIWHA Affiliated Shows, every amateur and youth exhibitor must have a current Amateur Card. These must be renewed each year. Amateur, Amateur Driving and Youth Exhibitor applications should be made to the appropriate licensing committee containing the name of the applicant, address, date of birth, telephone number (including area code), and accompanied by the required fee. The Amateur and Youth Exhibitor Card Rule will be enforced. Amateur Application and \$10.00 fee to the WIWHA Records Secretary. Applications will be available at each show office. AHSA, WSH, WHOA, OSH Amateur cards will also be accepted. Youth Exhibitor Application (no charge) to WIWHA Secretary. Applications will be available at each show office.
- (d) Standing a breeding stallion, buying/selling, and boarding horses does not affect a person's amateur status.
- (e) The following shall not affect amateur status: The writing of books or articles for horse show purposes; The acceptance of remuneration for judging or serving in the capacity of DQP at horse shows; The reimbursement of exhibitor for expenses without profit, or the acceptance of a small token of appreciation, other than money, for exhibiting.
- (f) If there is a question of whether a person is a professional or an amateur; determination shall be made by WIWHA.
- (g) Anyone who requests a person to exhibit in an Amateur Class and then pays or remunerates that person in excess of what is allowable as provided for in paragraph (E) above shall be subjected to disciplinary action by WIWHA. Refer to penalty section.

##### **2. Professional Status:** (Refers to any breed of horse, not just the Tennessee Walking Horse.)

- (a) **Professional.** A professional is any adult or adults who have the responsibility for the care, training, custody or performance of a horse. Professionals are responsible for a horse's condition and to know the bylaws and Rules of the WIWHA and, the penalty provisions of said Rules and regulations.

(b) A person is a professional and must obtain a trainers' card for horse show purposes if, after his or her 18th birthday, he or she accepts remuneration for any of the following activities, whether or not it is the principal means of his or her income, excluding Halter Professionals.

1. Accepts remuneration for employment in connection with horses in a show.

2. Accepts remuneration for exercising, schooling, riding, driving. A person can retain their amateur status if they give riding lessons but do not train horses.

3. Exhibits in horse shows any horse for which he or she or a member of his or her immediate family accepts remuneration for training for a person outside of the immediate family. **Exception:** One may exhibit a customer's horse in an open class.

4. Accepts remuneration for employment in any capacity, rides or shows in halter in horse shows, any horses which his or her employer or member of the immediate family of such employer owns, boards or trains.

(c) **Halter Professional.** A person who shows at halter any horse for which he or she accepts remuneration for training weanlings and yearlings for a person outside of his or her immediate family. A person who holds a trainer's license, or is otherwise classified as a professional, shall also be deemed to be a halter professional. A halter professional is not precluded from having amateur status in classes under saddle provided he or she meets the appropriate criteria.

### 3. Relative of a Professional

(a) Any member of a professional's family who has reached his/her 18th birthday is a professional if he/she aids or assists in the activities which make the aforesaid a professional.

(b) Any member of a trainer's immediate family, who has reached his and/or her 18th birthday, shall be considered a professional if he and/or she show a customer's horse. This provision shall apply to exhibiting at any horse show. **Exception:** A trainer's immediate family may show a customer's or co-owned horse in an open class and not jeopardize their amateur status.

(c) The doing of clerical work of itself or the giving of financial aid of itself is not to be deemed "aiding or assisting".

### 4. Change of Status:

(a) Any person who has been a professional and who desires to be re-classified as an amateur on the grounds that he or she no longer engages in the activities which made he/she a professional must notify WIWHA in writing. The person may submit to the WIWHA an amateur application supported and accompanied by two or more notarized letters outlining the applicant's activities for the previous year(s) involved and testifying that the applicant has not engaged in any activities which would make him or her a professional as outlined in Rule V.H.

(b) Persons who have requested a change of status from professional to amateur and are currently serving their waiting period, which is equal to the period that he or she has held a Trainer's license, may be issued an interim card by the WIWHA for an annual fee. Such persons may show in open classes.

(c) The burden of proving amateur status is on the applicant. Any person that can satisfactorily prove that he/she has not engaged in any activity which would make him or her a professional for a period equal to the period that he or she has held a Trainer's license may be declared to be an amateur.

(d) Any person that can satisfactorily prove that he or she has not engaged in any activity which would make him/her a professional for a period of one year, may upon application, be declared to be an amateur by the WIWHA.

(e) **Misrepresentation of Status:** Any person who, under these Rules, is a professional and knowingly and falsely represents himself or herself to be an amateur in order to exhibit in Amateur Classes, and any person who violates any of the provisions of this Rule, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

## V. DIVISIONS, CLASS RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

### A. CLASS DEFINITIONS

**1. Open Classes.** An Open Class is one which is open to horses of any age, size or sex, as specified on the class sheet, irrespective of the ribbons previously won, and in which there is no limiting qualification for the rider.

**2. Amateur Classes:** An Amateur Class is one in which every contestant enjoys amateur status. All amateur exhibitors are required to obtain an amateur card to be eligible to show.

(a) Amateur Classes may be restricted to riders who are no longer eligible to compete as a youth exhibitor, in which instance the prize list shall specify "18 and Over".

(b) Amateur Classes may be offered using the specifications as set forth in the respective Rules. If Amateur Classes are offered leading to a Championship Class, judging specifications employed shall be those governing Amateur Classes rather than those of the Championship Class.

### 3. Youth Classes.

(a) For horse show purposes, a youth exhibitor is an individual who, on January 1st of the show year, has not yet reached his or her 18th birthday. If an exhibitor is 17 on January 1st and turns 18 on January 2nd, the exhibitor is still eligible to show as a youth exhibitor all that year. Youth exhibitors are required to obtain a youth exhibitor card to be eligible to show. A youth exhibitor may compete in an amateur class, unless the prize list specifies otherwise.

(b) In the event that Show Management wishes to divide Youth Exhibitors' classes, it may offer separate classes for boys and girls or offer several age limits. The following three age limits are suggested but may be varied depending on local conditions:

11 years and Under

12-14 years

15-17 years

When divided as above, no exhibitor shall compete in more than one section. This rule does not apply to the Equitation Division where only the exhibitor is being judged.

(c) If a youth comes into the ring and cannot handle the horse and it is a danger to the youth, the Judge or Show Manager shall excuse the entry. If the parent determines the youth cannot handle the horse, he or she may request, after proper identification, that the entry be excused and the judge shall comply.

(d) Strapping or taping youth exhibitors' shoes to their stirrups is strictly prohibited in these classes and if detected entry shall be excused.

(e) Stallions shall be barred from any class the conditions of which specify that a youth exhibitor is to ride.

**Exception:** Walking Pony Classes, in which stallions are permitted.

### 4. Owners' Classes

(a) An Owners' Class is one in which every exhibitor is either an amateur who owns the entry being shown, or is an amateur member of the owner's immediate family unless otherwise stated in the prize list.

(b) Owners' classes, which specify "18 and Over", shall be limited to exhibitors who are no longer eligible to show in youth exhibitor classes.

(c) Owners' Classes may be offered in any division using the specifications as set forth in the respective Division Rules. If Owners' Classes are offered leading to an Owners' Championship, judging specifications should follow those of the Owners' Class rather than those of the Championship Class

(d) Combined ownership is permitted in Owners' and Amateur-Owners' Classes. Combined ownership may be in corporate form. Any horse which is jointly owned, and one owner receives remuneration for training, is considered a customer's horse. The horse is ineligible to be shown in owner/amateur classes by the owner (who is receiving remuneration) or his or her immediate family.

(e) Any time there is a question as to ownership of a horse, the owner in question, upon request must provide sufficient proof of purchase to the satisfaction of the WIWHA within the time specified. This rule shall be strictly enforced.

### 5. Ladies or Gentlemen's Classes.

(a) Ladies Classes shall be restricted to lady exhibitors who are 18 years of age or older, which should be so stated on the prize list.

(b) Gentlemen's Classes shall be restricted to gentleman exhibitors who are 18 years of age or older, which should be so stated on the prize list.

(c) Ladies' or Gentlemen's' Classes may be offered using the specifications as set forth in the respective Rules. If Ladies' or Gentlemen's' Classes are offered leading to a Ladies' or Gentlemen's' Championship, judging specifications should follow those of the Ladies' or Gentlemen's' Class rather than those of the Championship Class.

### 6. Novice and Limit Classes.

(a) A Novice Horse or Exhibitor Class is open to horses or Exhibitors which have not won three first place ribbons at WIWHA Affiliated Shows (or any other TWH affiliated shows) in the particular performance division in which they are eligible. Eligibility of a novice entry is established as of the date of the closing of entries.

(b) A Limit Horse/Rider Class is open to horses/riders, which have not won six first place ribbons at WIWHA Affiliated Shows in the particular performance division in which they are eligible. Eligibility of a limit entry is established as of the date of the closing of entries.

#### **7. Local Classes.**

(a) A Local Class is one in which entrance is restricted by management to horses owned by residents of a specified locale and which is so described in the prize list. Results of Local Classes shall not be considered in determining show championships awarded on points, nor will they count toward end of the year awards.

(b) Classes, which are restricted to members of a club, shall be included in the above definition unless memberships are open to and easily obtainable by all exhibitors.

(c) In classes, which restrict entries by states, such as "Washington Bred", the word "bred" shall be understood to mean foaled in the state (but not necessarily mated there). Classes so restricted shall be included in the Local Class definition.

(d) Any show may offer Local Classes or complete Local Divisions. When this is done, the meaning of the local designation must be fully and clearly defined. Class specifications shall follow those listed in the respective Rules as closely as possible.

**8. Model Classes:** Model Classes may be offered. They may be divided as to age, sex, or height as provided above. Model Classes do not qualify a horse for a Championship Class.

**9. In Hand or Halter Classes:** In-Hand or Halter classes may be offered. For each class offered, the prize list shall specify the age, sex, and manner of showing and points to be considered in the judging of the contestants.

**10. Qualifying classes.** An entry shall be deemed to have qualified for a Championship Class, if in an appropriate qualifying class:

(a) It is excused by a Judge after or during the initial lineup without request by the exhibitor to be excused.

(b) It has completed the class.

#### **11. Championships**

(a) Show Management must designate all qualifying classes and may require any and all winners in a qualifying class to compete in a Performance Championship Class provided it is so stated in the premium. Any exhibitor failing to comply shall forfeit all winnings in the qualifying class. If an exhibitor qualifies more than one horse for a Championship Class, he may elect to show only one.

(b) To be eligible to show in a Performance Championship Class, except in a one night show that does not require qualifying, a horse must have been properly entered, shown, and judged in one qualifying class. No two and three-year-old horses that have qualified in a no canter class shall be eligible for a Performance Championship Class requiring three gaits. Horses may qualify for a 2-gait Championship with any 2-gait class in the same division. Horses may qualify for a 3-gait Championship with any 3-gait class in the same division.

(c) To be "shown and judged" in any class in which horses compete together, an animal must perform all required gaits both ways of the ring in the original workout and must remain in the ring up to the point of being excused by the Judge.

(d) A horse showing in a Specialty No Canter Class is not qualified to show in a Championship Class, which requires three gaits.

**12. Changing Divisions.** Within a calendar year, a horse may not be allowed to change divisions more than once, except as between Park Pleasure and Plantation Pleasure, not at the same show, unless there is a bona-fide and recorded change of ownership. A lease will constitute a change of ownership. A lease will constitute a change of ownership without being recorded.

**13.** All classes at WIWHA Affiliated Shows fall under one of the following Divisions: Performance, Show and Park Pleasure; Flat-Shod; Halter; and Equitation. Unless otherwise specified only the horse is judged, though eligibility of the entry for many classes is determined by the classification of the exhibitor. All under saddle classes may be either canter or specialty unless otherwise noted.

### **B. PERFORMANCE DIVISION**

Performance Horse is a horse that has received training to accentuate the natural gaits associated with the breed. Such horses must perform with chains, rollers, boots or collars to give an added dimension to their performance in the ring. Performance Horses must be shown in pads as required by the shoeing rules and regulations. Padded Horses are shown with braced tails, either Walking Horse or humane type and with caps and switches (optional)

#### **1. Criteria for Judging All Classes**

(a) **Conformation:** In general appearance, the Tennessee Walking Horse should have an intelligent look, neat head, well-shaped and pointed ears, clear and alert eyes, and a tapered muzzle. The neck should be long and graceful and the shoulders muscular and well sloping. The back should be short with good coupling at the loins. The animal should be deep in the girth and well ribbed and the chest should be of good proportion and width. The croup should be generally sloping and the hips well muscled with muscular development extending down toward the hocks. The legs should be flat and corded.

#### **(b) Qualifying Gaits**

**1. Flat Walk:** The flat walk should be bold, and four-cornered. The horse should nod the head with every stride and bring each forefoot to the ground a mere second before the diagonally opposite hind foot touches the ground. The forelegs should move straight, breaking at the knees and reaching forward in an elevated arc. The rear legs

should follow through close to the ground, comfortable and over striding the front tracks. Stiff-legged front or rear animation and an irregular gait are not typical of the Walking Horse and the Judge must immediately excuse any horse exhibiting this type of motion from the ring.

**2. Running Walk:** The running walk should be the same general motion as the flat walk, but with additional speed. The horse shall exhibit a smooth gliding, overstepping, four-cornered gait, with greater stride and accelerated head motion. The running walk should be a free and easy gait. Horses exhibiting an exaggerated, hesitating way of going, with a tendency to point with the front feet, are not in form. Twisting of the hocks or stiff-legged rear leg motion shall also be considered a deviation from the true running walk and a horse exhibiting these ways of going should be penalized.

**3. Canter:** The canter should be smooth and straight on both leads, not walking behind, but cantering on both ends with a rolling, rocking chair motion, comfortably in hand. Exaggerated "pumping" of the horse at the canter is not considered good form.

**4. General:** The Walking Horse should move freely in each gait and proceed in a smooth fluid, rhythmic manner. At all gaits, the horse should be flexed at the poll with muzzle slightly tucked. Stiff front or rear leg motion, stumbling, bucking knees, tack of rhythmic timing, pointing, or favoring a particular leg, necessity for excessive pumping or bumping of the horse, or any tendency to rack, pace, or other deviation from the true walk are not typical of the breed. The preceding mannerisms are not considered good form and shall be penalized in judging.

**(c) Presentation:** All entries should be presented clean, neatly trimmed, braided and in good flesh presenting a healthy appearance. Each entry should be outfitted in clean and appropriate tack. The exhibitor of each entry should be neat in appearance, attired in properly fitting riding habits and shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. A horse that has not performed all required gaits shall not be placed over a horse that has performed all gaits.

## **2. Criteria for Judging Fine Harness Classes**

**(a) General:** The fine harness horse shall be the epitome of the show horse. He shall carry himself with quality, class, style and presence.

**(b) Appointments:** To be shown to a light four wheeled buggy with wire spoked wheels and no top. Light harness with martingale and blind bridle with overcheck and snaffle bit is required. Entries are to be shown with braced tails and action devices. Entries are allowed to use a snaffle, Kimberwick or Liverpool bit, shank not to exceed 4 1/2 inches from top to bottom, and are allowed the use of a curb chain,

**(c) Gait Requirements:** To be shown both ways of the ring at a flat walk and running walk. Fine Harness entries are to be judged on the flat walk, running walk, conformation and appearance with emphasis on those characteristics listed in "A". They are not to deviate from the four beat Walking Horse gait and excessive speed shall be penalized.

**(d) Line Up:** Each entry may be unchecked during line-up and shall be allowed one properly attired attendant. Unmannerly entries shall be penalized in the final judging.

**(e) Ring Attendants:** One attendant will be permitted to stand quietly inside the gate during any Amateur or Youth exhibitor class, but must take no action that will affect the performance of the horse.

## **3. Open Classes.** Open to all exhibitors in keeping with specific class requirements outline above.

Suggested classes are:

- Two-Year-Old Class (no canter required).
- Maximum 10 minutes of total workout time.
- Three-Year-Old Class (no canter required)
- Four-Year-Old Class
- Five-Year-Old and Over Class
- Fine Harness Class (no canter required)
- 15.2 Hands and Under Class
- Over 15.2 Hands Class
- Specialty Classes
- Championship Classes.
- Walking Horse Stake

**Note:** Open classes may be divided further by sex of entries. Example: The Two-Year-Old Class may be divided into classes for Two-Year-Old Mares and Two-Year-Old Stallions and Geldings, or any combination of the sexes. A Two-Year-Old Championship may also be offered.

## **4. Amateur Classes.** Open to amateur riders in keeping with specific class requirements outlines above.

Suggested classes are:

- Amateur Exhibitors on Two-Year-Olds (no canter required)
- Amateur Exhibitors on Three-Year-Olds (no canter required)
- Amateur Exhibitors on Four-Year-Olds, Specialty Class (no canter required)
- Amateur Specialty Class (no canter required)
- Amateur Specialty Classes (no canter required)
- Amateur Exhibitors 50 Years Old and Over
- Amateur Exhibitors 60 Years Old and Over

Ladies' Amateur, Exhibitors 18 Years Old and Over (Stallions prohibited)

Ladies Amateur Fine Harness (no canter required)

Gentlemen Amateur, Exhibitors 18 Years Old and Over

Gentlemen Amateur Fine Harness (no canter required)

Amateur Open Classes

Amateur Fine Harness (no canter required)

Amateur Trained no professional training within 30 days.\*

Amateur Trained, no professional training ever

Amateur Exhibitors on 15.2 Hands and Under Walking Horses

Championship Classes

Amateur Stake

*\*Professional training shall include grooming, warming up or riding the horse, bracing, coaching or giving instructions by a professional on the show grounds. Bracing is not allowed by a professional.*

**Note:** Amateur Classes may be limited to Owner-Amateur Exhibitors. Amateur Classes may be divided further by sex of entries. **Example:** the Amateur Exhibitors on 15.2 Hands and Under Walking Horses may be divided into separate classes for Amateur Exhibitors on 15.2 and Under Mares, Amateur Exhibitors on 15.2 and Under Geldings, and Amateur Exhibitors on 15.2 and Under Stallions, or any combination of the sexes as deemed most advantageous by the show committee. Plus, a Championship class for Amateur Exhibitors on 15.2 and Under Walking Horses may be offered.

**Judging Criteria:** The criteria is the same as previously outlined in Rule IV.B.3 for judging Open Classes, with emphasis placed on good manners.

**5. Youth Exhibitor Classes:** Open to youth exhibitors 17 years old and under, in keeping with specific class requirements outlined above. Suggested classes are:

Youth Exhibitors 11 Years Old and Under on Walking Mares and Geldings, (no canter required)

Youth Exhibitors 12-14 Years Old on Walking Mares and Geldings

Youth Exhibitors 15-17 Years Old on Walking Mares and Geldings

Youth Exhibitors 17 years Old and Under on Walking Mares and Geldings

Youth Exhibitor Championships

Walking Ponies, Exhibitors 11 Years old and Under (no canter required)

Walking Ponies, Exhibitors 12-14 Years Old

Walking Ponies, Exhibitors 15-17 Years Old

Walking Ponies, Exhibitors 17 Years Old and Under

Walking Pony Championship

**Note:** Walking Pony Classes are 15 Hands and under. Stallions are permitted.

**Judging Criteria:** the criteria is the same as previously outlined in Rule IV.B.1 for judging Open Classes, with emphasis placed on good manners.

## C. SHOW AND PARK PLEASURE DIVISION

**1. Criteria for Judging All Show Pleasure Classes.** This horse should be the ultimate type of Pleasure Walking Horse. Emphasis should be placed on manners, quality, and suitability to the exhibitor. In the execution of its gaits, the horse should exhibit natural animation and smoothness. A laboring and/or unnatural way of going will not be accepted in a Show Pleasure Horse. The gaits must be performed with a bold, four-cornered movement; with the front legs moving with some elevated animation; with a pronounced and cadenced head motion; with the rear legs following through close to the ground and over-striding the front tracks. It should display soundness and be responsiveness to the exhibitor.

The Show Pleasure Horse is allowed the use of acceptable action devices and pads. Braced tails and humane tails are prohibited in all Show Pleasure Classes.

**2. Show Pleasure Under Saddle Classes.**

(a) The head motion of the breed is very important, and should be cadenced and in time with the horse's movements.

(b) Horses shall be shown with a light rein at all gaits.

(c) Exhibitor may adjust curb chain on reverse.

(d) Braids shall be worn in all classes

(e) Rhinestone or sequined brown bands and cavesson fronts are prohibited.

(f) Curb chains or straps must lie flat against the jaw and be at least 1/2 inch wide. No cross chain cavessons.

(g) Gag bits without shanks are not allowed. Maximum 9 1/2 inch bit requirement.

(h) English tack and attire are mandatory in these classes. Snap brim hat or derby should be worn at the option of the exhibitor. Neatness and taste in attire is encouraged and should be a consideration in the final judging.

(i) Bumping and pumping of the reins will be penalized

(j) Whips or crops not to exceed four feet are permitted in Show Pleasure Classes.

(k) To preclude the requirement of a canter

**Note:** Show Pleasure Under Saddle Classes are open to exhibitors in keeping with general class requirements outlined above. Such classes may include, but are not limited to:

Ladies (Exhibitors 18 years and over)

Men (Exhibitors 18 years and over)

Youth Exhibitor

Junior Horse (four year olds and under, no canter)

Specialty (Show Management is allowed (1) one Aged Open (5 Year and Over) Specialty Class per horse show)

Four Year & Over Open Classes must canter

**3. Park Performance:** Class limited to a maximum size shoe of 1 ½"x ½" with 1" turnback, with bands optional, a maximum 1" pad measured at the heel and an action device of a maximum of 6 oz. Cross chain caveson, braced tails and rock back pads are prohibited. A maximum bit length of 9 ½". This is a two-gaited class and it is not required to back in the line-up. English tack and attire required.

**4. Show Pleasure Driving Classes:** Performance of the horse shall be paramount and in no way overshadowed by equipment turnout. Pleasure qualities are paramount.

(a) The following are suggestions to be used in judging: 70% on performance, way of going, style, condition and manners; 20% on fit, condition and appropriateness of the harness and vehicle; 10% on the conformation of the horse and neatness of the driver.

(b) Driving vehicle may be two or four wheeled and of suitable appearance and safety. Fine harness buggies are not approved as pleasure driving vehicles.

(c) Light harness including blind bridle with snaffle and overcheck is required. Overcheck bit is optional. Entries are allowed to use a snaffle, kimberwick or liverpool bit, shank not to exceed 4 ½ inches from top to bottom, and are allowed the use of a curb chain.

(d) A whip of length appropriate to the horse and cart, and in compliance with other WIWHA rules in regards to whips, may be used.

(e) The horse is to enter the ring to the right and execute the flat walk and running walk both ways of the ring. Reverse is to be executed on the diagonal at a walk or at the direction of the ringmaster.

(f) To be judged on conformation, manners and performance of the traditional gait of the breed.

(g) The horse is to line up and stand quietly.

(h) An uncontrollable horse must be immediately dismissed with assistance if necessary.

(i) The judge must excuse a competitor with unsafe vehicle or harness.

(j) Neatly attired header may enter the ring at lineup and assist in parking the horse or in event of an unsafe situation.

(k) The attire of the exhibitor should be suitable and appropriate for the class and time of day. Gloves are required, but aprons are optional.

**5. Criteria for Judging All Park Pleasure Classes** Park pleasure classes, while remaining in the Show & Park Pleasure division, will be governed by the rules of the Plantation Pleasure classes, specifically Rule D, Article 1 (sections a-g), Article 2 (sections a-c), Article 3, and Article 4. **The exception to these rules is: Park Pleasure horses are allowed the option of using hoof bands.**

#### D. FLAT SHOD PLEASURE DIVISION

A Flat Shod Pleasure Horse performs the three gaits associated with the breed without the use of lubricants, artificial appliances, boots, bands, pads or action devices. Braced tails are prohibited.

**1. Criteria for Judging All Classes.** In all flat shod pleasure classes, a four-beat walking gait with a cadenced head motion (nod) is required.

(a) Any flat shod pleasure exhibiting a crampy way of going or twisting of hocks must be penalized.

(b) At all gaits, bumping or pumping of the reins must be penalized.

(c) In three-gaited classes, a horse that does not canter both ways of the ring cannot be placed above a horse that does. **The canter will be at the option of Show Management in all flat shod classes.**

(d) In a three-gaited class, a horse that is on the wrong lead or is cross-cantering should be penalized.

(e) All flat shod pleasure horses will back (readily on command)

**(f) Classes that use English Equipment.**

Horses shall enter the ring at a flat walk and when the gate is closed, the Judge shall call for gaits in the order of flat walk, running walk, flat walk and canter. The head motion of a Walking Horse is very important - if he isn't nodding, he isn't walking. Horses shall be worked both ways of the ring. Workouts may be held. English tack and attire are mandatory in this class. Snap brim hat or derby may be worn at the option of the exhibitor. Neatness and taste in attire is encouraged and should be a consideration of the Judge in the final judging. Whips or crops not to exceed four feet are permitted in English Pleasure. Bits with shanks over 9 1/2 inches are prohibited. Gag bits without shanks are prohibited. Extremely tight curb chains must be penalized. Judges must severely penalize pumping of the reins in the canter. Exhibitors must ride with light reins in all three gaits. To be judged on the pleasure quality and performance of the horse and neatness and appearance of the horse and exhibitor. Judges must require horses to back on the first line up for conformation judging. Do not sacrifice form for speed.

**(g) Classes That Use Western Equipment.**

Entry shall reflect suitability of the TWH as a western working horse, exhibiting qualities suitable for ranch work. The western pleasure horse works quietly exhibiting an exceptionally smooth, comfortable ride without excessive action or animation. A good western pleasure horse should have a balanced flowing motion with a free and easy gait. The horse should be ridden with a loose rein and should exhibit a four beat walking gait with a cadenced head motion (nod). The head set should be natural - neither excessively nosed out or over flexed at the poll. The head should not be high but should exhibit the type of head carriage of a Tennessee Walking Horse used as a western working horse. Horses in western pleasure are to be reversed away from the rail (to the inside). Reins must be held in one hand and cannot be changed during performance. When using split reins, a hand around the reins or index finger between reins is permitted, but the free hand is not allowed to touch the reins. Romal reins mean an extension of braided material attached to closed reins. This extension is carried in the free hand with approximately a 16 inch spacing between the reining hand and the free hand holding the Romal. The Romal shall not be used forward of the cinch or used to signal or cue the horse in any way. When using the Romal, the hand should be around the reins, but a finger between the reins is not permitted. While the horse is in motion, the rider's hands shall be clear of horse and saddle at all times. The Judge may call for a halt on the rail to test for quietness. Horse must stand quietly on the rail to test for quietness. Horse must stand quietly on the rail and in the lineup, and back freely when asked. Horse should back with head in normal position and mouth closed. (At the discretion of judge or Show Management, the horse may be asked to back clear of the line-up and do a 360-degree neck reined turn, either right or left, rider's discretion.) The horse should wear a western bridle with no cavesson or colored brow band and bits with shanks not to exceed 9 ½ inches. Western tack and attire including hat, boots and long sleeved shirt are mandatory. Chaps, spurs, and lariat may be used at the option of the exhibitor. Australian stock saddles are not permitted. If a western horse is two handed at any time, he must be penalized. **Exception:** A bosal or ring snaffle may be used with two hands on four-year-old and younger western flat shod pleasure horses. If a western horse has a fast, uncontrollable canter or requires pumping or bumping, he must be penalized.

## 2. Pleasure Classes.

### (a) Criteria for Judging Plantation Pleasure Classes

The Plantation Pleasure Horse should display brilliance and show presence while performing the four beat walking gaits. Any tendency to rack, pace or trot should be penalized. Form is not to be sacrificed for speed. The horse is to be well mannered and manageable on a light rein. Manners are paramount for a pleasure horse and should be given serious consideration in judging. The horse should be well balanced both front and rear. He must back readily on command, and responds to exhibitor signals to perform all gaits without necessity for bumping and pumping of the reins.

### (b) Showing or Equipment Requirements for Plantation Pleasure Classes.

While any standard Walking Horse bit may be used, severe bits are discouraged and bits with shanks exceeding 9 1/2 inches are prohibited. **The Plantation shoe must not exceed 1 ½ inches in width or ½ inch in thickness or at option of Show Management must not exceed 1" in width and ½ " thickness with no bare plate or other weight inside the shoe.** The caulk must not exceed a one-inch turnback and the shoe must not extend more than ¼ inch beyond the hoof at the toe. The heel of the shoe must not extend beyond the bulb of the horse's heel when a perpendicular line is drawn from the bulb of the horse's heel to the ground. The use of borium is permitted on the caulks of the pleasure shoes, but the thickness of the shoe and caulk with the borium must not exceed 1 1/8 inches. The use of hoof bands on heavy shod plantation horses is allowed on show grounds but not in competition or exhibition. Welded on clips are not permitted on flat-shod horses. Clips that are drawn from the shoe itself are permitted. No additional weight shall be allowed on or in the hoof, other than the shoe and nails.

### (c) Suggested Plantation Pleasure Classes are:

- Plantation Pleasure Classes.
- Plantation Pleasure Specialty Classes
- Plantation Pleasure Championship classes.
- Western Pleasure Classes.
- Owner-Amateur Trained Classes
- Ladies' Classes.
- Gentlemen's Classes
- Youth Classes.
- Two Year Old Classes. Maximum 10 minutes of total workout.
- Three Year Old Classes
- Four Year Old Classes

**Note:** Classes may be divided further by age and/or sex of horses and/or exhibitors. Classes may be divided into open and amateur.

**(d) Criteria for Judging Lite-Shod Pleasure Horses:** The Lite-Shod Plantation Pleasure Horse should perform the four beat walking gait in a relaxed fashion with an alert and willing attitude. Any tendency to pace, rack, or trot should be penalized. The Lite-Shod Horse should display pleasure qualities necessary for road and trail riding, such as good manners, responsiveness, manageability on a light rein, etc. He must stand quietly and back readily on command.

**(e) Showing or Equipment Requirements for Lite Shod Pleasure Classes**

Any standard Walking Horse bit may be used, however, severe bits are discouraged and bits with shanks exceeding 9 ½ inches are prohibited. The shoe for the Lite-Shod Plantation Pleasure Horse on both front and rear hooves must be no wider than ¾ inch and no thicker than 3/8 inch with the exception of the caulk, which must be no thicker than ¾ inch. The turnback shall not exceed one inch, and the shoe must not extend more than ¼ inch beyond the hoof at the toe. The shoe is not to extend beyond the bulb of the horse's heel when a perpendicular line is drawn from the bulb of the horse's heel to the ground. The use of borium is permitted on the caulks of the pleasure shoes, but the thickness of the shoe and caulk with the borium must not exceed 7/8 inches. **The use of hoof bands on lite-shod horses is not permitted in the show ring or on the show grounds.** Welded on clips are not permitted on flat-shod horses. Clips that are drawn from the shoe itself are permitted. No additional weight shall be allowed on or in the hoof, other than the shoe and nails.

**(f) Suggested Lite Shod Pleasure Classes are:**

- Lite shod Pleasure Classes
- Lite Shod Pleasure Specialty Classes
- Lite Shod Pleasure Championship Classes
- Lite shod Western Pleasure classes.
- Lite Shod Owner-Amateur Trained Classes
- Lite Shod Ladies' Classes
- Lite Shod Gentlemen's Classes
- Lite Shod Youth Classes.
- Lite Shod Two Year Old Classes. *Maximum of 10 minutes total workout.*
- Lite shod Three Year Old Classes
- Lite Shod Four Year Old Classes

**Note:** Classes may be divided further by age and/or sex of horses and/or exhibitors. Classes may be divided into open and amateur classes.

**(g) Criteria for Judging Amateur Trail Pleasure Classes**

The Amateur Trail Pleasure Horse must be Lite Shod (3/8" x 3/4" maximum) and perform the four beat walking gaits with effortlessness geared toward encouraging stamina and longevity on the trails. He should not display a crampy or gimmicky way of going. The horse should exhibit a four beat walking gait with pronounced and cadenced head motion (nod). Animation and action are not desired in a Trail Pleasure Horse and it is not desired for this horse to exhibit driving rear legs with a long overstride. Any tendency to pace, rack, or trot should be penalized. The trail pleasure horse should carry its head in a natural and relaxed position. The horse must be extremely well mannered, responsive and quiet. The horse must be manageable on a light rein at all gaits. He must stand quietly and back readily on command. The trail pleasure horse's canter should be relaxed and consistent with no sign of effort from the exhibitor.

**(h) Showing or Equipment Requirements for Amateur Trail Pleasure classes.**

Any standard Walking Horse bit may be used, however, severe bits are discouraged and bits with shanks over 9 ½ inches are prohibited. **The Trail Pleasure class may be a two, three or four-gaited class. Fourth gait being the trail walk which may be called for at Judge's discretion.** It does not include obstacles and would be judged on the performance of the walking horse gaits and the horses pleasure abilities. The trail pleasure horse may be ridden English or Western, but not a combination of both. Amateur trail pleasure horses are not allowed to show in any other plantation classes (lite-shod, plantation, or country pleasure) at the same show, but they are eligible to show in halter and versatility classes at the same show.

**(i) Suggested Amateur Trail Pleasure Classes are:**

- Amateur Trail Pleasure Classes
- Amateur Trail Pleasure Specialty Classes
- Youth Trail Pleasure Classes
- Youth Trail Pleasure Specialty Classes

**(j). Criteria for Judging Amateur Country Pleasure Classes** The Amateur Country Pleasure Horse must display a walk and a smooth, easy, comfortable intermediate gait with excessive speed in the intermediate gait to be penalized.

**(k) Showing or Equipment Requirements for Amateur Country Pleasure Classes.** The shoe for the Amateur Country Pleasure Class must be no wider than 1 inch and no thicker than 3/8 inch. The Amateur Country Pleasure Class is a two-gaited class, tack is optional (may be English or Western but not a combination of both), and neat attire is accepted. While any standard Walking Horse bit may be used, severe bits are discouraged and bits with shanks exceeding 9 ½ inches are prohibited. Horses entered in the Country Pleasure Class are not eligible to show in Lite-Shod Pleasure, Plantation Pleasure, or Amateur Trail Pleasure classes at the same show. Entries in Country Pleasure Classes are not required to furnish horse registration numbers, amateur or youth exhibitor card numbers, or

trainer's license numbers. A registered Country Pleasure Horse is also eligible for Equitation, Showmanship, and Versatility classes.

**(I) Suggested Amateur Country Pleasure Classes are:**

- Amateur Country Pleasure Classes.
- Youth Country Pleasure Classes
- Championship Country Pleasure Classes

**3. Versatility Classes**

**(a) Criteria for Judging Versatility Classes.**

These classes are designed to allow the flat-shod horse and exhibitor to participate in the maximum number of events. Horses nominated for the TWHBEA Versatility Program accrue points for national awards. ***(Exhibitors interested in nominating a horse or obtaining more information about the program may contact TWHBEA, P. O. Box 286, Lewisburg TN 37091-0286.)*** Versatility Classes shall be judged under the flat-shod pleasure horse criteria. In Versatility Classes, the Youth Division is for riders 17 years old and under.

Versatility classes are open to amateur and/or professional riders as specified by Show Management. the Versatility Classes, when offered under the TWHBEA Versatility Program, are divided into Youth Classes and Adult Classes. Youth Classes are for Exhibitors 17 Years Old and Under competing on mares and geldings. Classes may be divided further by sex of horses and/or exhibitors.

**(b) Suggested Versatility Pleasure Classes are:**

**1. English Pleasure:** Horses shall enter the ring at a flat walk and when the gate is closed, the Judge shall call for gaits in the order of flat walk, running walk, flat walk and canter. The head motion of a Walking Horse is very important - if he isn't nodding, he isn't walking. Horses shall be worked both ways of the ring. Workouts may be held. English tack and attire are mandatory in this class. Snap brim hat or derby may be worn at the option of the exhibitor. Neatness and taste in attire is encouraged and should be a consideration of the Judge in the final judging. Whips or crops not to exceed four feet are permitted in English Pleasure. Bits with shanks over 9 ½ inches are prohibited. Gag bits without shanks are prohibited. Extremely tight curb chains must be penalized. Judges must severely penalize pumping of the reins in all three gaits. Riders must ride with light reins in all three gaits. To be judged on true pleasure quality and performance of the horse and neatness and ability of the rider. Judges must require entries to back on the first line up for conformation judging. Excessive speed should be penalized. Do not sacrifice form for speed.

**2. Western Pleasure.** Entry shall reflect suitability of the TWH as a western working horse, exhibiting qualities suitable for ranch work. The western pleasure horse works quietly exhibiting an exceptionally smooth, comfortable ride without excessive action or animation. A good western pleasure horse should have an easy gait. The horse should be ridden on a loose rein, and should exhibit a four beat walking gait with a cadenced head motion (nod). The head set should be natural, neither excessively nosed out or over flexed at the poll. The head should not be high but should exhibit the type of head carriage of a TWH used as a western working horse. Horses in western pleasure are to be reversed away from the rail (to the inside). Reins must be held in one hand and cannot be changed during performance. When using split reins, a hand around the reins or index finger between reins is permitted, but the free hand is not allowed to touch the reins. Romal reins mean an extension of braided material attached to closed reins. This extension is carried in the free hand with approximately a 16 inch spacing between the reining hand and the free hand holding the Romal. The Romal shall not be used forward of the cinch or used to signal or cue the horse in any way. When using the romal, a hand should be around the reins, but a finger between the reins is not permitted.

While the horse is in motion, the exhibitor's hands shall be clear of horse and saddle at all time. The Judge may call for a halt on the rail to test for quietness. Horse must stand quietly on the rail and in the lineup, and back freely when asked. Horse should back with head in normal position and mouth closed. (At the discretion of the Judge, the horse may be asked to back clear of the line-up and do a 360-degree neck reined turn, either right or left, exhibitor's discretion.)

The horse should wear a western bridle with no cavesson or colored brow band and bits with shanks not to exceed 9 ½ inches. Western tack and attire including hat, boots and long sleeved shirt are mandatory. Chaps, spurs, and lariat may be used at the option of the exhibitor. Australian stock saddles are not permitted. If a western horse does not stand quietly, he must be penalized. If a western horse is two handed at any time, he must be penalized. **Exception:** *A bosal or ring snaffle may be used with two hands on a four- year-old and younger western flat shod pleasure horses.*

If a western horse has a fast, uncontrollable canter or requires pumping of the reins, he must be penalized.

**3. Model:** (To be shown in bridle only.) Two year-old and over stallions, mares or geldings (in Youth Model, mares and geldings only) shall be led into the ring and parked for judging. Conformation and conditioning are paramount. Horses must stand quietly. Unruly entries shall be dismissed from the ring. Unsoundness and/or transmittable faults or weaknesses must be penalized strongly in final judging. A whip not to exceed four feet may be used in model classes. Entries may use either English or Western equipment and attire but not a combination of both.

**4. Pleasure Driving:** Performance of the horse shall be paramount and in no way overshadowed by equipment turnout. Horse to enter to the right (counter clockwise) and work both ways of the ring at flat walk and running walk. Reverse to be executed on the diagonal at a walk or at the direction of the ringmaster. The horse is to line up, stand quietly, and back readily. Pleasure horse qualities paramount. The horse should be judged with the same general qualities as the flat-shod pleasure horse. The following are suggestions to be used in judging: 70% on manners, performance, condition, style and way of going; 20% on fit, condition and appropriateness of harness and vehicle, 10% on conformation and neatness of driver. Snaffle Bit is required; separate overcheck bit is optional. Fine harness vehicles are prohibited in pleasure driving.

**Strongly recommended pleasure driving appointments and rules:**

(a) Harness is traditionally black leather with square patent leather blinders, snaffle bridle with side check or overcheck, and running martingale.

(b) A whip of length appropriate to the horse and cart.

(c) Driving vehicle may be two or four wheel and of suitable appearance and safety. Show management may choose to limit classes to two wheel carts or four-wheel vehicles. It is recommended that large classes be divided by show management. Breaching is not used with wire wheels and is recommended with wooden wheel vehicle. Exhibitor only allowed in the cart except youth exhibitor may have one adult attendant in cart.

(d) Header should be called in at lineup for safety reasons and be allowed to unfasten overcheck and wipe the horse off, but shall not hold the horse. If the header holds the horse, it must be penalized.

(e) Ladies shall wear conservative dress, blouse and skirt, shirt and jodhpurs with apron, saddle suit or day coat and jodhpurs. Men should wear business suit, saddle suit, sport jacket and slacks. Gloves are recommended, apron and hats are optional.

(f) An uncontrollable horse must be immediately dismissed with assistance if necessary. The judge must excuse a competitor with unsafe vehicle or harness.

(g) Show management may offer other classes such as antique or period, drive and ride, and obstacle.

**5. Versatility Driving:** The events in which you would be able to compete and count points are as follows:

(a) **Heritage Driving:** To be judged 50% on performance, 20% on apparel of whip and personnel, 15% on vehicle, and 15% on harness.

1. Apparel: The required costumes should be dated on the vintage of the vehicle, i.e., formal with a formal carriage and sporting with a sporting vehicle. The whip must wear a hat, gloves, lap robe or apron and carry a whip at all times.

2. Vehicle: The antique type vehicles should be sound and safe for driving, the wheels and spokes tight. The horse should be appropriate to the vehicle and there should be a pleasing balance between the two.

3. Harness: The harness should be in good repair, clean, and fit properly. All metal furnishings should match, be secure, and polished.

(b) **Combination/Drive and Ride:** Single horse to be shown first as a pleasure driving horse, and then under saddle at a walk, running walk, and canter. To be judged 50% on performance, manners, way of going and suitability in harness; and 50% on performance, manners, and way of going under saddle. To be driven and ridden by the same person. Snaffle bit required.

(c) **Concours D' Elegance:** The word "elegance" is the essence of this competition. The winner will be the turnout that presents the most elegant effect (vehicle, harness, appointments of horses, driver, passengers, groom, etc.). Performance will not be judged unless it detracts from the elegance of the turnout. Snaffle bit required.

(d) **Obstacle Driving/Time Competition:** To be driven over a prescribed course consisting of no more than 20 obstacles. Faults on the course will be scored as penalty seconds. The winner will be determined by adding the penalty seconds incurred on the course to the time taken to complete the course. Ties for first place will be decided by a drive-off.

(e) **Obstacle Driving/Gambler's Choice:** To be driven and timed over a course of unnumbered obstacles each carrying a specific point value according to its degree of difficulty. Each driver shall attempt to amass as many points as possible in a prescribed time and may negotiate the obstacles in any order. However, the same obstacle cannot be done continuously. When the allowed time has elapsed, a whistle will be blown and the driver must then cross the finish line. The winner will be determined on a high point basis. Time will decide ties. If a tie occurs in both points and time for first place, the winner will be decided by a drive-off.

**6. Two-Gait TWH Pleasure Class (formerly E Z Rider Class):** Two-gaited No Canter Plantation Class to be judged according to Flat shod Pleasure division and Plantation Pleasure Class criteria. This class is designed for the horse and exhibitor, who has not yet mastered the canter. If a horse competes in both a two-gait pleasure class and a canter class at the same show with the same exhibitor, points may be counted in only one division in the versatility program for that show. It will be the exhibitor's responsibility to indicate whether to count the three-

gait points or the two-gait points for that show. Class may be divided into Plantation, Lite-Shod or Trail Pleasure. All WIWHA Rules for that division will apply.

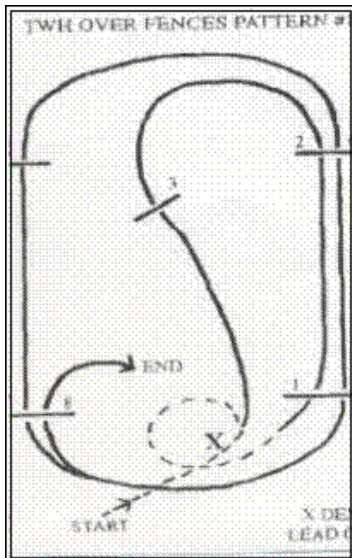
**7. TWH Over Fences:** Fences should simulate obstacles found in the hunting field (poles and rails, brush, wall, gates and coops, etc.) and have the appearance of being solid. Post and rail fences must have a minimum of two rails per fence, excluding ground line. The maximum space between rails should not be more than 12 inches. A ground line (pole) is recommended for all fences. (A pole as long as the jump laid on the ground just below the jump or approximately 18 inches from the base on the approach side.) Jumper fences such as bull's eyes and stripes and spreads of over four feet are prohibited. Wings may be used and if so must be thirty inches wide and twelve inches higher than the top of the fence. A combination fence such as an "in and out" may be used. They count as one fence. Both "a" and "b" should be the same height and twenty-four to twenty six feet is a suggested distance between them used in a ring. A simple fence such as post and rail should be used for the first obstacle on any course. When setting up the distance between single fences, the rule of thumb is to use distance divided by increment of 12 (24, 36, 48, etc.). Exhibitors should have the opportunity to walk the course without their horse to check striding, etc. prior to commencement of the class. A warm-up of two or more fences must be available. The course does not have to be in the ring, but may be set up to the side of the ring, etc., becoming an outside course.

A full circle before starting the course is customary and sets the hunter pace which is carried throughout the course. A circle may be made at the finish. A course should have two directions with one change of lead. Jumps may range from a minimum two feet to a maximum three feet in height. A fence must be at least 20 feet wide or have wings at least 30" wide that are 12" higher than the fence (pen jumps excluded).

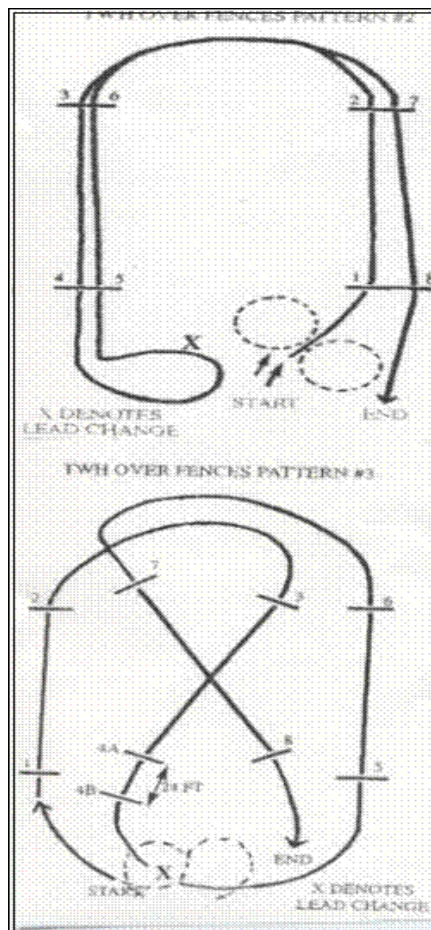
A course consists of eight jumps, of at least four different obstacles. An obstacle may be jumped more than once. Way of going of a consistent, even, safe hunter pace, manners and soundness are to be emphasized. Excessive speed will be penalized. Hunter Pace is defined as a longer flowing canter with enough speed and impulsion to meet and take each jump giving the appearance of grace and ease. It should be maintained throughout the course, including the beginning and the ending circle.

The ideal TWH Over Fences will meet each fence at the proper takeoff spot for a perfect arc over the obstacle. Its jump will be snappy and athletic with the forearms held at or above a parallel line to the ground. The joints of the front legs are tucked tightly in front of the chest and the neck and back arched over the fence. Faults are knockdowns, extra circle, and refusals. Eliminations are third refusals, off course, fall of horse and/or rider, jumping out of order, jumping before jump or jumps are reset. Hard hat, English equipment, snaffle, Kimberwick or Pelham bit are required. Martingales, non-weighted rubber bell boots, polo wraps, and splint boots are permitted in TWH Over Fence classes.;

**TWH Over Fences Pattern 1**



**TWH Over Fences Pattern 2-3**



**8. Water Glass:** Each entrant enters the ring holding a full glass of water and performs the flat walk and plantation running walk both ways of the ring. Horses are required to show a noticeable change in speed between the flat walk and running walk Judge may disqualify any horse that does not demonstrate this change in speed. The exhibitor with the most water left in his or her glass wins the class. In case of a tie, a canter may be called for. One hand only is to be used in holding the glass, out and away from the body of horse and exhibitor. The hand may not cover the top of the glass.

**9. Basic Reining:** Course should be posted prior to class. Western attire and tack required. Approved equipment includes skid boots, splint boots and polo wraps. Scoring will be on the basis of 60 to 80, with 70 denoted an average performance. Each horse will be judged on the neatness, dispatch ease, calmness, and speed with which it performs the pattern. If a horse goes off course or breaks pattern, it will be disqualified.

Faults against the horse (to be scored accordingly, but not to cause disqualification):

Opening mouth excessively (when wearing bit).

Excessive jawing, open mouth, or head raising on stop.

Breaking gaits

Lack of smooth, straight, stop on haunches (a bouncing side ways stop).

Refusing to change leads.

Anticipating signals

Stumbling or falling

Wringing tail

Backing sideways

Knocking over markers

Faults against the exhibitor (to be scored accordingly, but not to cause disqualification):

Changing hands on reins

Two hands on reins (except in straight hackamore classes).

Losing stirrup or holding on.

Any unnecessary aid given by the rider

(such as unnecessary talking, petting, spurring, quirting, jerking of reins, etc.).

Simple lead change

Horses shall enter the ring one at a time in working order from the class sheet. Individual horse and rider shall proceed to Judge. Go to place indicated by the Judge. Judge may select any of the following six basic reining patters. The selected reining pattern shall be posted or announced prior to show time.

**Reining Pattern #1:** The area should be approximately 50 x 150 feet in size. The Judge shall indicate with markers on the arena fence or wall the length of the pattern. Markers within the area of the pattern will not be used. Ride pattern as follows:

1. Run to the far end of the arena, stop and do 2 1/2 spins to the left, no hesitation.

2. Run to the opposite end of the arena, stop and do 2 1/2 spins to the right, no hesitation.

3. Run past center of center, do sliding stop, no hesitation; back over slide tracks to center, hesitate.

4. Make a 1/4 pivot to the left to face left wall, hesitate.

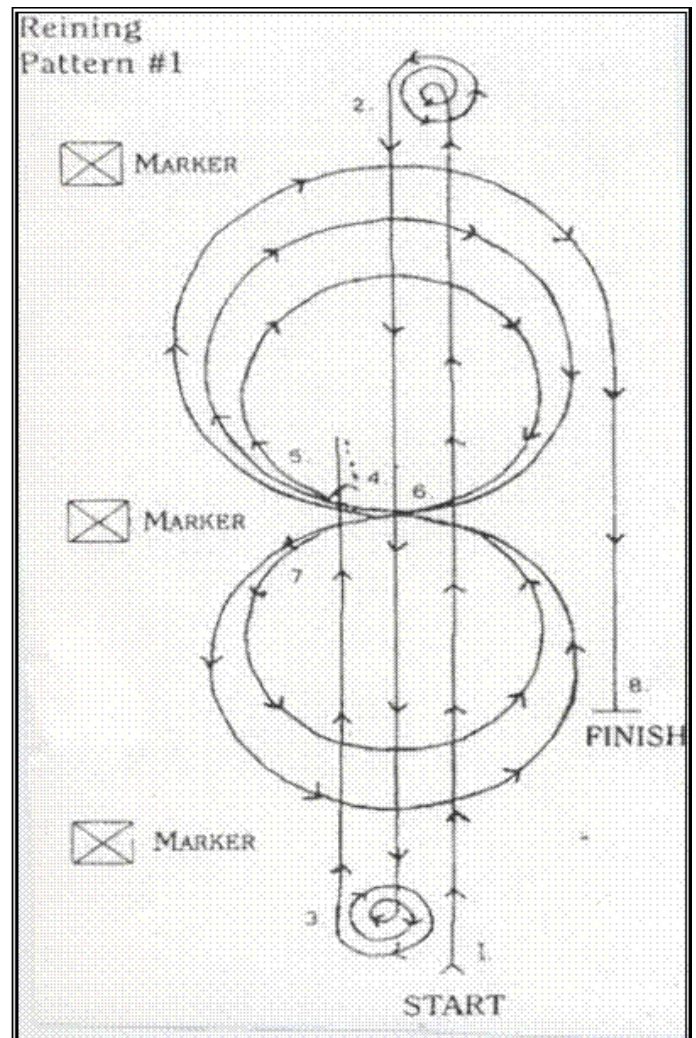
5. Begin on right lead and make two circles to the right, the first small and slow, the second large and fast. Change leads at center of arena.

6. Make two circles to the left, the first small and slow, the second large and fast. Change leads at center of arena.

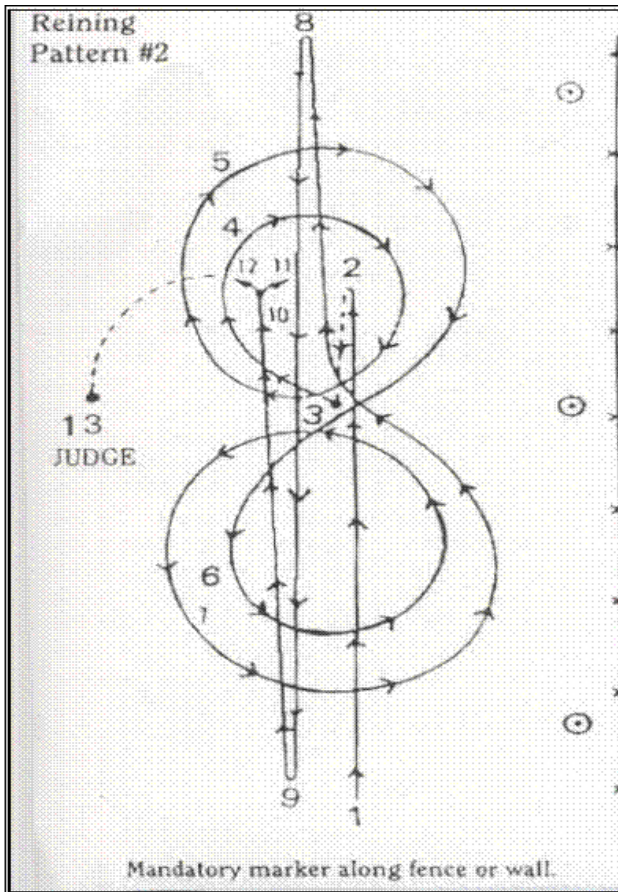
7. Begin a large fast circle to the right, do not close this circle but run straight down side past the center, do a sliding stop. (Stop to be at least 20 feet from wall or fence.)

8. Walk to Judge and stop and remain for inspection until dismissed.

9. The bridle may be dropped at the Judge's discretion.



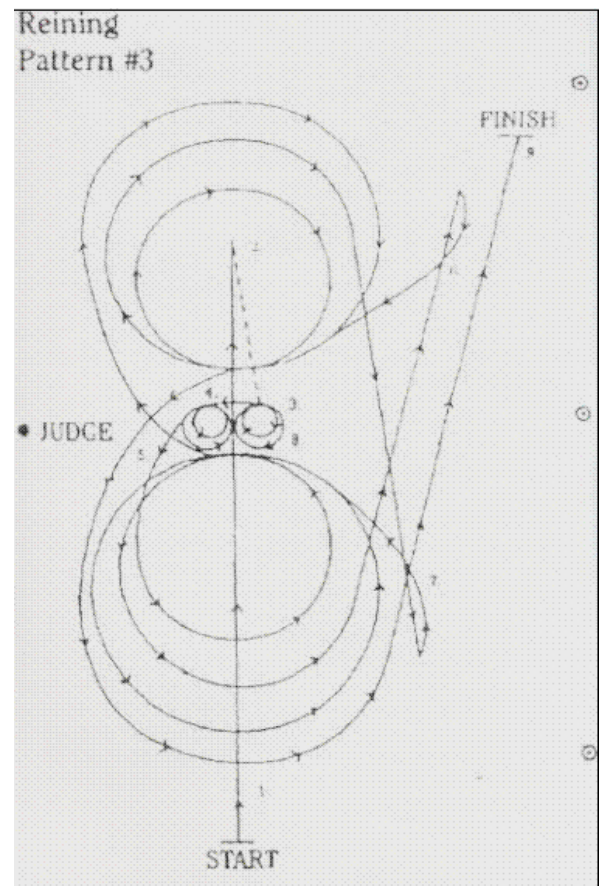
**Reining Pattern #2:** The area or plot should be approximately 50 x 150 feet in size. The Judge shall indicate with markers on arena fence or wall the length of the pattern. Markers within the area of the pattern will not be used. Ride pattern as follows:



1. Run with speed, past center marker.
2. Stop and back up to center of pattern.
3. Settle horse for approximately ten seconds, Start lope. Circles should be made inside the end markers.
4. Ride two circles to the right, the first small and slow, the second large and fast.
5. Ride two circles to the left, the first small and slow, the second large and fast.
6. Left roll back over hocks (should be made past far end marker).
7. Right roll back over hocks (should be made past near end marker).
8. Stop (should be made past center marker). Let horse settle, then in appropriate area of stop, do the pivots.
9. Pivot right or left no more than 90 degrees.
10. Pivot opposite direction, no more than
11. Walk to Judge and stop for inspection until dismissed.
12. The bridle may be dropped at the Judge's discretion.

**Reining Pattern #3:** The area or plot should be approximately 50 x 150 feet in size. The Judge shall indicate with markers on arena fence or wall the length of the pattern. Markers within the area of the pattern will not be used. Ride pattern as follows:

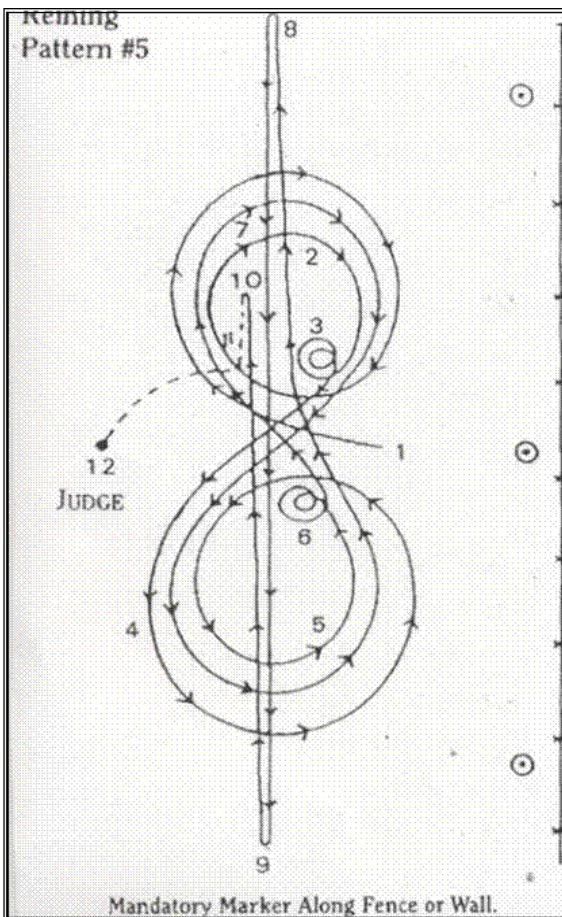
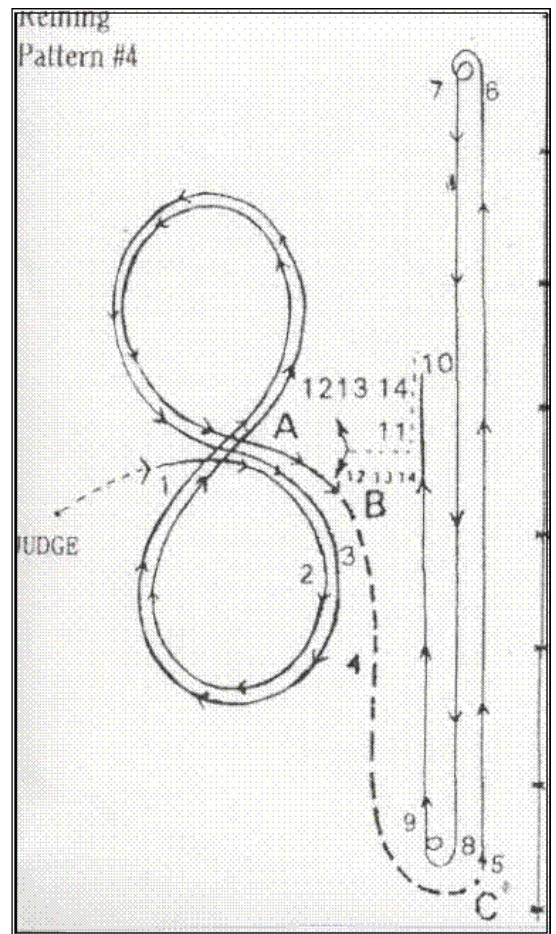
1. Run past center of arena and do a sliding stop.
2. Back immediately to center of arena, hesitate.
3. Do two spins to the right.
4. Do two and a quarter spins to the left, hesitate.
5. Beginning on left lead make a small, slow circle, then begin a large fast circle. Do not close this circle, but run straight down the side past center marker and do a right roll back at least 20 feet from fence or wall.
6. Continue back to center of arena, horse should be on right lead at center, make a small slow circle to the right, then begin a large fast circle. Do not close this circle, but run straight down the side past center and do a left roll back at least 20 feet from wall of fence.
7. Continue back to center of arena, horse should be on the left lead at center.
8. Make a large fast circle to the left at center of arena, change leads and make a large fast circle to the right at center of arena - change leads and begin a large, fast circle to the left. Do not close this circle, but run straight down the side past the center marker and do a sliding stop at least 20 feet from fence or wall.
9. Walk to Judge and stop for inspection until dismissed
10. The bridle may be dropped at the Judge's discretion.



### Reining Pattern #4:

The area or plot should be approximately 50 x 150 feet in size. The Judge shall indicate with markers on arena fence or wall the length of pattern, markers within the area of the pattern will not be used. Ride pattern as follows:

1. Begin work to the right.
2. First figure eight, slow.
3. Second figure eight, faster (lead change must take place at Point A).
4. Proceed from Point B to Point C at flat walk or running walk.
5. Begin run.
6. Sliding stop.
7. Turn away from the rail do a spin and a half, no hesitation; begin run
8. Sliding stop.
9. Turn away from the rail do a spin and a half, no hesitation; begin run.
10. Sliding stop.
11. Back over slide marks. Face Judge, walk a few steps.
12. Pivot right or left, no more than 90 degrees.
13. Pivot the opposite direction, no more than 180 degrees.
14. Pivot in direction taken as #12, no more than 180 degrees.
15. Walk to Judge and stop for inspection until dismissed.
16. The bridle may be dropped at the judge's discretion.



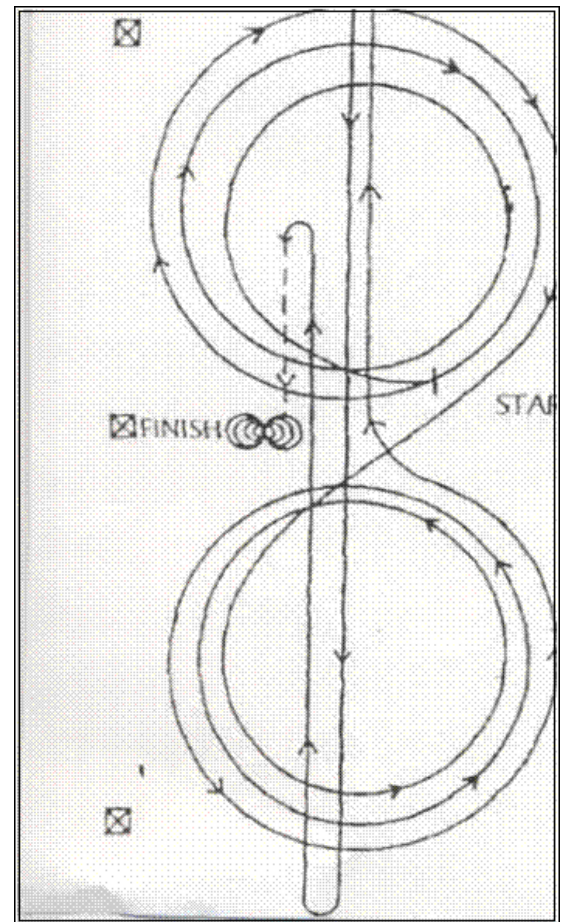
**Reining Pattern #5** The area or plot should be approximately 50 x 150 feet in size. The Judge shall indicate with markers on arena fence or wall the length of pattern, markers within the area of the pattern will not be used. Ride pattern as follows:

1. Starting in the center of the arena, make a large, fast circle to the right.
2. Draw the circle down to a small circle until you reach the center of the arena - stop.
3. Do a double spin to the inside of the small circle in the center of the arena. At end of spins, horse should be facing the left wall, slight hesitation.
4. Begin on left lead and make a large, fast circle.
5. Then a small circle again drawing it down to the center of the arena -stop - no hesitation on these stops.
6. Do a double spin to the inside of the circle, slight hesitation- horse to be facing left wall.
7. Begin on right lead and make a fast figure eight over the large circles and change leads.
8. Run to far end of arena and do a left roll back.
9. Run to opposite end of the arena and do a right roll back.
10. Run back past center of the arena and do a sliding stop. Hesitate.
11. Back over slide tracks.
12. Finish- Walk to Judge for inspection and dismissal.
13. The bridle may be dropped at the Judge's discretion.

## Reining Pattern Number #6

The area or plot should be approximately 50 x 150 feet in size. The Judge shall indicate with markers on arena fence or wall the length of pattern, markers within the area of the pattern will not be used. Beginning at the center of the arena facing the left wall or fence

1. Beginning on the right lead, complete three circles to the right; the first circle small and slow; the next two circles large and fast; change leads at the center of the arena.
2. Complete three circles to the left; the first circle small and slow; the next two circles large and fast. Change leads at the center of the arena.
3. Run up the middle to the far end of the arena past the end marker and do a left rollback-no hesitation.
4. Run to the opposite end of the arena past the end marker and do a right rollback-no hesitation
5. Run past the center marker and do a sliding stop. Back at least 10 feet. Hesitate.
6. Complete four spins to the right.
7. Complete four spins to the left. Hesitate to demonstrate the completion of the pattern.
8. Rider may drop bridle to designated judge.



**10. Western Riding:** A western riding horse is a sensible, free and easy-moving, well-mannered animal which can provide quiet, comfortable and pleasant rides at walk, running walk, and canter over trails and in open country through and over obstacles, and with the handiness and athletic ability to do a variety of jobs on the farm or ranch. Western Riding is neither a stunt nor a race and is not to be confused with an equitation or horsemanship class in which the rider is judged, nor with a western pleasure class. Western Riding is an event where the horse is judged on quality of gaits, lead changes at the lope (flying lead changes), response to the rider, and disposition.

**The dotted line ( . . ) indicates the walk, the dash line ( - - ) the running walk, and the solid line ( \_\_\_ ) the lope.**

**Tack:** Silver tack may be used but shall not be given preference over good working equipment. Saddle is to be a western style and must fit both horse and rider.

Bridle is to be western style. A curb may be either leather or chain, but must be at least 1/2 inch wide and lay flat against the horse's jaw. Split or romal reins may be used.

**Optional Tack:** Breast strap, hobbles on saddle when romal is used, skid boots, splint boots, polo wraps, covered stirrups or tapaderos.

**Prohibited Tack:** Mechanical hackamore, draw reins, tie down, running or other type martingales, caveson, noseband, crops, bats, whips.

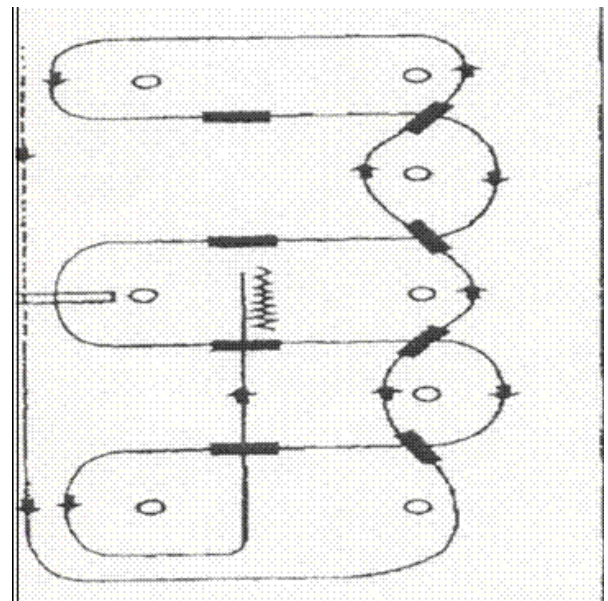
**Attire:** Rider shall wear western style long pants, western style long sleeve, collared shirt, a western hat, and western boots.

**Optional Attire:** Chaps, spurs, coats, vest, jackets, gloves.

## Class Procedures

The horse will be judged on riding qualities of gaits (walk, running walk and lope/canter), flying change of leads, back, response to the exhibitor, and disposition.

This pattern and routine should not be altered. It must be placed and judged as shown above.



- (a) The eight small circles represent markers (cones recommended). These should be separated by a uniform distance of not less than 30, or more than 50 feet.
- (b) The rectangle represents an obstacle (one small log recommended) just high enough to break the horse's stride.
- (c) The long and sometimes twisting line indicates the direction to travel and gaits at which the animal is to move.
- (d) Proceed with the routine as indicated by the pattern. On completion, he/she should ride to the center of the pattern and back the horse as indicated by the pattern.
- (e) The Judge may require an exhibitor to repeat or reverse any part of the routine.
- (f) Only one hand may be used on the reins and must not be changed.
- (g) The hand is to be around the reins. One finger between reins is permitted when split reins are used. While the horse is in motion, the rider's hands must be clear of the horse and saddle.

Penalties:

1. Simple change of leads
2. Not performing specific gait when called for in pattern

Disqualifications:

1. The horse not following the exact pattern
2. Using spurs or rein ends forward of the cinch
3. Unsoundness as determined by the judge.
4. Equipment failing in ring as to make an unsafe condition.
5. Falling of exhibitor or horse.

**11. Trail:** (Course should be posted prior to class) It is suggested that this class be divided into Youth and Adult classes where there are sufficient entries. The Judge may grade each obstacle on a one to ten basis - subtracting points for faults, refusals, excessive time, etc. Judge should request a contestant move on to the next obstacle if too much time is spent on one obstacle.

Individual horse and exhibitor shall negotiate an obstacle course consisting of six obstacles, three of which are mandatory, listed below. Final consideration of the Judge shall include quality and smoothness of performance of the horse and neatness and ability of exhibitor. The ideal trail horse shall negotiate the course with surefootedness; looks at the obstacles, but does not hesitate, yet does not rush along the course; moves willingly without excessive urging of exhibitor. Horse should show willingness to stand quietly on the bridge and not rush off of it. At the gate, the obstacle is not complete unless the gate is closed and should be judged accordingly. Horse should position himself at all times to enable the exhibitor to keep hand on gate until the gate is closed. Entry may be either English or Western, but not a combination of both. Western exhibitor must hold reins in one hand (the exception being a horse four or under wearing a bosal or ring snaffle) and should not be changed during the performance except while working the gate, if necessary. English entries horses may be ridden with both hands on the reins. The use of skid boots, splint boots, polo wrap or other approved leg protection devices is permitted.

A time limit may be set for the course; however, the time itself shall have no bearing on the final placement except as a limit for course completion.

Mandatory Obstacles (may choose any three):

- Opening, passing through and closing gate. (One that does not endanger horse or exhibitor).
- Cavaletti (ride over at least four logs spaced on the ground) these can be in a straight line, curved, zigzag or raised. The space between the logs is to be measured and the path the horse is to take should be the measuring point. The space shall be 15-24 inches; walkover, 3' to 3'6"; lope-overs 6' to 7'. Elevated walkovers should be minimum of 22 inches apart. Lope-overs cannot be elevated.
- Ride over wooden bridge (may be plywood set so as to simulate sound and appearance of bridge). Suggested minimum width shall be 36" wide and at least six feet long. Bridge should be sturdy and safe.
- Ground tie horse, walking a full circle around horse at least ten feet from the horse's body.
- Back horse through "L" shaped course (logs or bales of hay suggested) On ground: 28-inch minimum (space between poles); elevated: 30 inches minimum (space between poles)
- Water hazard.
- One jump not less than 14 nor more than 24 inches high ridden over.
- One jump not less than 14 or more than 24 inches high led over.

**12. Barrel Racing:** In these classes, as in all western events, it is mandatory to wear appropriate western attire, including a shirt with long sleeves and collar, western hat and cowboy boots (Helmets are allowed). The hat must be on the exhibitor's head when he/she enters the arena. A five-second penalty will be assessed if the hat or helmet is not on the exhibitor's person the entire time he/she is in the arena. (Hats held on the body by a stampede string are allowed.)

(a) Western type of equipment must be used. The use of skid boots, splint boots and polo wraps is permitted. Use of hackamore or other type of bridle is the optional choice of the contestant; however, the timer or judge may prohibit the use of bits or equipment that he may consider severe.

(b) The course must be measured exactly. If the course is too large for the available space, then the pattern should be reduced five yards at a time until the pattern fits the arena. Remember to leave adequate space between barrels and any obstacle. The distance from barrel number #3 to the finish-line need not be reduced five yards at a time if there is sufficient room for the horse to stop.

(c) When measuring the area for the barrel course, remember to leave ample room for the horses to complete their turns and to stop at the finish.

(d) A clearly visible starting line shall be provided, either through the use of a rope buried in the ground or one marked by lime. Barrel Racing is a timed event. An electric timer or at least two watches shall be used, with the time indicated by the electric timer or the average time of the watches used by the official timers to be the official time.

(e) The contestant is allowed a running start. Timing shall begin as soon as the horse's nose reaches the starting line and will be stopped when the horse's nose passes over the finish line.

(f) At a signal from the starter, the contestant will run to barrel #1, pass to the left of it, and complete an approximately 360 degree turn around it; then go to barrel #2, pass to the right of it, and complete a slightly more than 360 degree turn around it; then go to barrel #3, pass to the right of it, and do another approximately 360 degree turn around it, and then sprint to the finish line.

(g) This barrel course may also be run to the left. For example, the contestant will start by running to barrel #2, turning to left around this barrel then to barrel #1, turning to the right, then to barrel #3, turning again to the right, followed by the final sprint to the finish line.

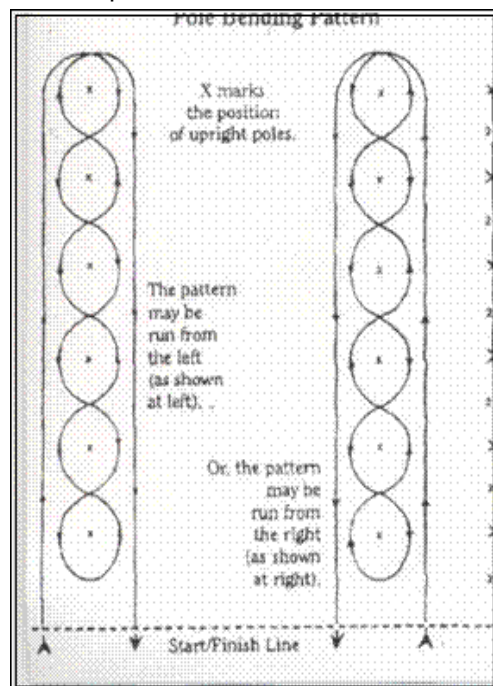
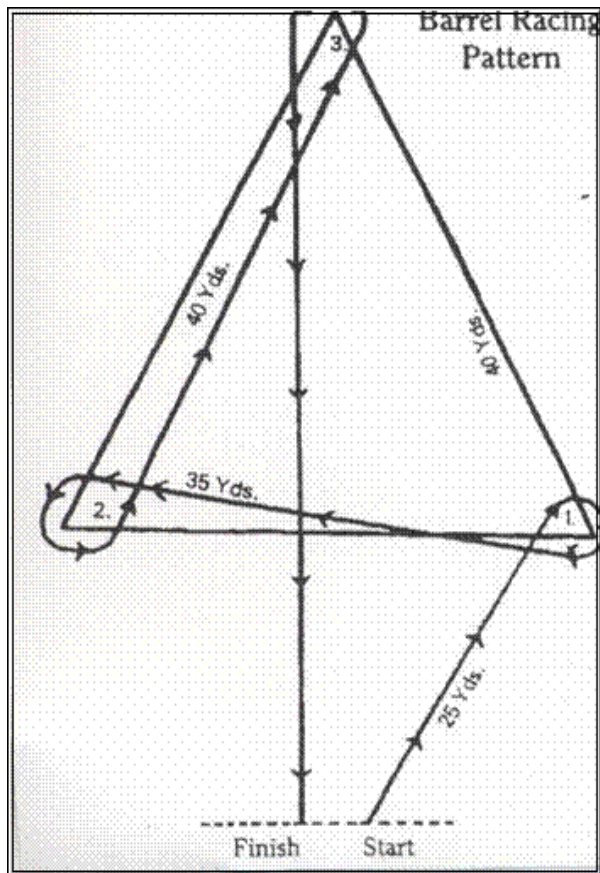
(h) Knocking over barrels shall cause a five-second penalty per barrel. A contestant may touch the barrel with his or her hand in Barrel Racing. A contestant that breaks the pattern or fails to follow the course shall be disqualified.

(i) In the event of a tie, the horse declared the winner in the runoff must re-run the pattern within two seconds of its original time or the runoff must be held again.

**13. Pole Bending:** In these classes, It is mandatory to wear appropriate western attire, including a shirt with long sleeves and collar, western hat and cowboy boots. The hat or helmet must be on the rider's head when the exhibitor enters the arena. A five-second penalty will be assessed if the hat or helmet is not on the exhibitor's person the entire time the exhibitor is in the arena. (Hats held on the body by a stampede strong are allowed.)

(a) Western type of equipment must be used. The use of skid boots, splint boots and polo wraps is permitted. Use of a hackamore or other type of bridle is optional choice of the contestant; however, the timer or judge may prohibit the use of bits or equipment that he may consider severe.

(b) Pole Bending is a timed event. Each contestant will begin from a running start, and time shall begin and end as the horse's nose crosses the line. (A clearly visible starting line shall be provided.) An electric timer or at least two watches shall be used, with the time indicated by the electric timer or the average time of the watches used by the official timers to be the official time.



- c) The pole-bending pattern is to be run around six poles. Each pole is to be 21 feet apart and the first pole is to be 21 feet from the starting line. Poles shall be set on top of the ground, six feet in height and with no base more than 14 inches in diameter.
- d) A horse may start either to the right or to the left of the first pole and then run the remainder of the pattern accordingly. (see pattern)
- e) Knocking over a pole, touching the pole with the rider's hand shall cause a five-second penalty. Failure to follow the course shall cause disqualification.
- f) In the event of a tie, the horse declared the winner in the runoff must re-run the pattern within two seconds of its original time or the runoff must be held again.

**14. Showmanship at Halter:** (Youths 17 and Under)

Designed to furnish the youth exhibitor an opportunity to demonstrate his ability to fit and show a conformation horse. Judging shall be based on exhibitor ability, and no consideration shall be given to the horse except for grooming and fitting. Horses must be two year olds or over. Attire for this class may be either English or Western, but not a combination of both, and must be clean and neat. Whips are not permitted in Western showmanship.

How Judged:

Appearance of Exhibitor (10 points)

- Suitable English or Western attire, but not a combination.
- Attire and person - neat and clean

Appearance of Horse (40 points)

Condition and thriftiness (15 points).

Grooming (15 points).

- Hair coat clean, well brushed.
- Mane and tail free of tangles and clean.
- Hoofs trimmed or shod properly, clinched neatly and hoofs polished.
- Trimming (5 points).
- Inside of ears trimmed.
- Bridle path trimmed.
- Long hair on jaw, legs and pasterns trimmed.

Tack (5 points).

- Tack (halter and lead) should be neat, clean and in good repair.

Showing Horse in Ring (50 points)

Leading (15 points).

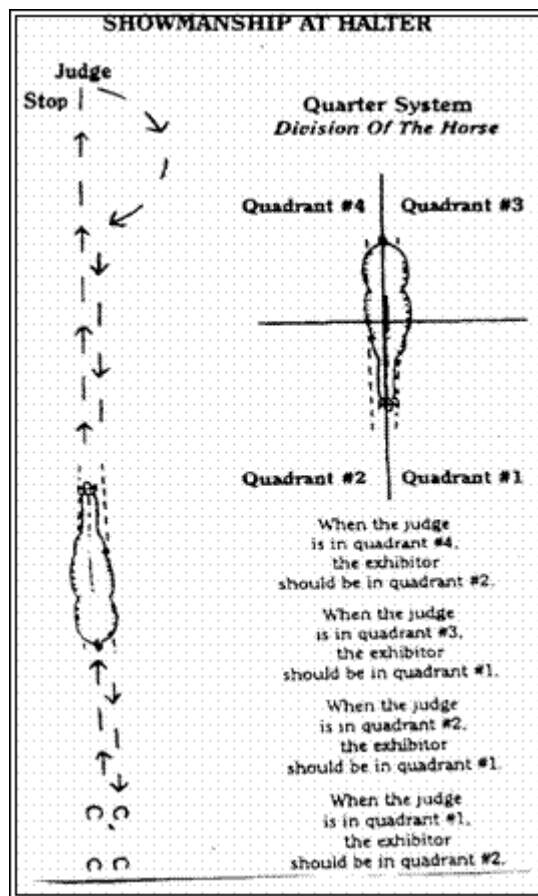
- Enter the ring in the direction indicated by the ring steward and walk until the Judge requests that the horses' line up for inspection. Walk on the horse's left side, holding the lead shank in the right hand, near halter. The remaining portion of the lead shank shall be held neatly and safely in left hand. A tightly coiled or rolled lead shank, or one with fingers inserted or laced through the coils, will be considered a fault in showmanship. Animal should lead readily at a walk and running walk.

After judge has lined up the class, each exhibitor will be requested to move his or her horse individually. When moving the horse, the exhibitor should be sure that the judge gets a clear, unobstructed view of the horse's action. Allow the horse sufficient lead so that he can move freely in a straight line with his head carried at a height appropriate to his conformation. Lead the horse from his left side, with his throatlatch even with the exhibitor's shoulder. Lead the horse the required distance, stop and set the horse up. At the judge's signal turn to the right around the horse, turning him directly over his hocks with his hind feet staying nearly in place.

If the exhibitor is asked to back his horse, he should back him smoothly, one step at a time, as straight as possible for one body length. Do not change hands on the lead shank and use a press-and release technique to ask the horse to back.

Posing the horse (15 points)

- When posing the horse, the exhibitor should stand toward the front facing the horse with his or her toes pointed toward the horse's eye or neck. The exhibitor should not stand directly in front of the horse but should always stand in a position where he or she can keep an eye on the judge. With the quarter system, the horse is divided into four sections by drawing one imaginary line down his back and another across his middle. When the judge is looking at either hindquarter of the horse, the exhibitor stays on the same side as the judge, with his or her toes pointed toward the horse's eye or neck. When the judge looks at either front quarter, the exhibitor crosses to the opposite side of the horse. Both showmanship styles are the same here. When posing the horse, do most of the



showing with the lead shank. The exhibitor should not touch the horse with his or her hand, never change hands on the lead shank or kick the horse's leg into position. Never crowd the exhibitor next to you when in a side by side position. Never crowd the exhibitor in front when lined up head to tail. Always leave a horse's length between you and the next horse.

Poise, Alertness and Merits (20 points).

- Keep alert and be aware of the position of the judge at all times. Do not be distracted by persons or things outside the ring.

15. Dressage. Please refer to rules available from the TWHBEA

## E. HALTER DIVISION

Halter Class entries are presented in hand, in either a halter or bridle as dictated in the specific class requirements, without action devices. Show management should stipulate where the class is padded or flat shod. Entries should be representative of the conformation and natural ability that make the Tennessee Walking Horse distinctive. Entries showing obvious outward signs of being sedated or tranquilized shall be excused by the Judge in Halter classes. Entries in this division should exemplify the ultimate in conformation as set forth in Rule VI E.1 They should be insufficient good flesh to present a healthy appearance, and should be immaculately groomed. Transmittable weaknesses shall be considered to be faults and shall be penalized.

### 1. Criteria for Judging Halter Classes.

- (a) All classes in the Halter Division, with the exception of Model Classes, shall be judged on overall performance, presentation and conformation.
- (b) In **Model Classes**, entries shall be judged on conformation and presentation. Entries should stand quietly.
- (c) In their way of moving, Walking Horse weanlings and yearlings should reflect a natural looseness with free-moving shoulders and an ample overstride. In judging weanlings and yearlings, strong emphasis should be placed on naturalness and those characteristics that are passed on through breeding.
- (d) Entries in Mare and Foal Classes shall be judged 50% on the mare and 50% on the foal.
- (e) In Get of Sire Classes, the stallion is shown in hand with as many as three but not more than five of his get. Get of Sire Classes are judged 100% on get.
- (f) Entries in all classes in this Division shall be led into the ring and proceed, counterclockwise, at a flat walk.
- (g) Weanlings and yearlings shall be shown in hand at a flat walk, reversed and flat walked, lined up and judged. The judge has the option in yearling classes to ask for an accelerated gait after the lineup.
- (h) Mare and Foal Classes and Get of Sire Classes shall be worked at the discretion of the Judge. Horses shall be shown in hand at a walk as directed, lined up and judged.
- (i) Model entries shall be led into the ring, lined up as directed, then judged.
- (j) When entries are parked, they should stand erect with all feet under them, with ears forward. Entries should be alert to whatever is going on. Unruly entries must be penalized.
- (k) No entry may be administered a medication that will alter its disposition or deportment in the ring. When such a medication is suspected by a Judge, he shall have the authority to order a medical examination to determine if such medication has been administered. The WIWHA shall reserve the right to examine any entry to determine if drugs have been administered. Such examination as may be required shall be administered after the class.
- (l) No ginger or any medication may be applied to the entry.
- (m) Any trainer or handler who, in the opinion of the Judge, abuses any entry with a whip or other instrument shall be excused from the class.
- (n) If, in the opinion of the Judge, an entry poses a threat to other exhibitors or, by its behavior, offers an obstacle to other exhibitors, it may be excused from competition.
- (o) All Model and Halter class handlers must wear a collared shirt and tie (optional long or short sleeve shirt). Hats are optional during daytime performances. In plantation Model Classes tack and attire may be English or Western but not a combination of both..

### 2. Divisions of Halter Classes

(a) **In Hand Classes** open to all exhibitors in keeping with specific class requirements outlined above.

Suggested In-Hand Classes are:

Mare and Foal Class

Get of Sire Class

(b) **Halter Classes.** Open to all exhibitors in keeping with specific requirements outlined above.

Suggested classes are:

Open Weanlings

Amateur Weanlings

Open Yearlings

Amateur Yearlings

## Championship Classes

**Note:** Halter classes may be divided further by sex of entries

(c) Model Classes open to all exhibitors in keeping with specific requirement outlines above.

Suggested Classes are:

Model Classes

Model Championship

**Note:** Model Classes may be divided further by sex and/or age of entries. Entries must be two-year-olds or over.

## F. EQUITATION DIVISION

In the Equitation Division, the exhibitor, as opposed to the horse, is judged. Open to youth exhibitor's 17 years old and under and adults 18 and over in keeping with guidelines set forth below.

### 1. Criteria for Judging Walking Seat Equitation Classes.

(a) The Walking Horse's unique center of gravity and gaits require an equitation seat of its own. Referred to as Walking Seat, it is characterized by balance, grace and ease as the rider sits well back on the horse with legs directly under the body to facilitate the extreme collection of the Walking Horse. The term "Equitation" specifically means, "The act or art of riding horseback." Equitation for Tennessee Walking Horses is a very important phase of training and experience for the youth exhibitor. It is an accepted fact that adult exhibitors, amateur and professionals, who have had experience in Equitation, make the finest showmen.

### (b) General Rules

1. Walking Horse Equitation should come under the Equitation Division in all shows.
2. Horses used in this division should be well groomed and properly tacked.
3. All riders in Equitation classes must conform to the rules for personal appointments or be severely penalized.
4. Equitation classes are for rider's 17 years old or younger and adult's 18 years and over. The age of the individual on January 1st shall be maintained throughout the entire year.
5. Fall of the exhibitor will eliminate the entry.
6. Any exhibitor not having his mount under sufficient control shall be dismissed from the ring.
7. No attendant shall be allowed in the ring except at the request of the Judge.
8. When additional tests are desired the Judge's instructions to the exhibitors shall be publicly announced. Tests should be posted one hour before show time.
9. Exhibitors should be familiar with various parts of the horse, tack, and rules on Equitation.
10. Unsoundness of the mount shall not penalize an exhibitor unless it is sufficient to impair the required performance, except such unsoundness that violates the HPA and other Rules as mentioned elsewhere which shall disqualify both horse and rider.
11. Offering of prize money in Equitation is optional. In Equitation Classes, the individual is the competitor and wins the award whereas in other classes, the horse is the competitor.
12. Judges shall penalize those contestants who do not conform to proper appointments. Appointment requirements are based on good taste, which is always in style and allowed.

### (c) Appointments

1. **Personal** The exhibitor of Walking Seat Equitation is to be judged on his skill and form on a horse. The horse and exhibitor should be groomed to meticulous perfection. The exhibitor should exercise good taste right down to the smallest, most minute detail. The exhibitor is required to choose a neat, well-fitted habit with accompanying accessories within the guidelines based on tradition and present-day customs.

A saddle suit/habit of a solid conservative pinstripe is correct both day and evening. Suggested colors include black, blue, gray, green, beige or brown with coordinated accessories. Vests should be worn and may either match or contrast with the suit/habit color. Careful attention should be given the fit of the habit. The coat length should be at least three inches below the fingertips when standing. The jodhpurs should be long enough to rest on the rider's boot top and the bottom of the boot heel showing only the toe of the boot when mounted. A moderate fullness is better than a suit that fits too snugly. Jodhpur underpasses must always be worn snugly against the boot. Small post earrings can be worn to add to the look. A matching or coordinated homburg or wide brimmed saddle derby with a crease in the tope must be worn. The hat must be steamed and rolled to shape. A four-in-hand tie matching or coordinating with the suit color should be worn with a man's style white or pastel shirt. Boots should be of the English type in either calf or patent leather. Gloves shall be worn and should match the suit. English type slip on spurs (either blunt or small rowel) and a short riding crop are optional. The semi-formal or tuxedo type one-button coat suit is suitable to be worn after 6 p.m. only. The acceptable colors are dark blue, brown, gray, or black, with collar or lapels of the same color. Top hat or homburg, dark bow tie, cummerbund, gloves, and dark boutonniere complete the outfit.

The formal or tuxedo type one-button coat suit is also acceptable only after 6 p.m. The acceptable colors are dark blue, brown, gray, and black, with collar or lapels of the same color. Top hat, white bow tie, cummerbund, matching or white gloves, and a white boutonniere complete the outfit.

**The exhibitor's hair must be neat and well groomed. Long hair must be styled above the collar.**

**2. Tack:** All tack should be clean and well kept with shining bits and stirrup irons. Standard English Walking Horse Bridle with a single rein must be used. Colored brow bands are appropriate; however, rhinestones, etc., are not acceptable. Cavesson must be of brown or black leather. Breast straps of brown or black leather are optional. English saddles with four-inch cutback are to be used. Whether of the flat or deep seat variety, the saddle should be the correct size for the exhibitor. Dressage or forward seat saddles are prohibited. Only white leather girths are to be used. Braids should be of the straight plaited variety with no butterflies or other ornamentation.

**(d) Seat and Hands**

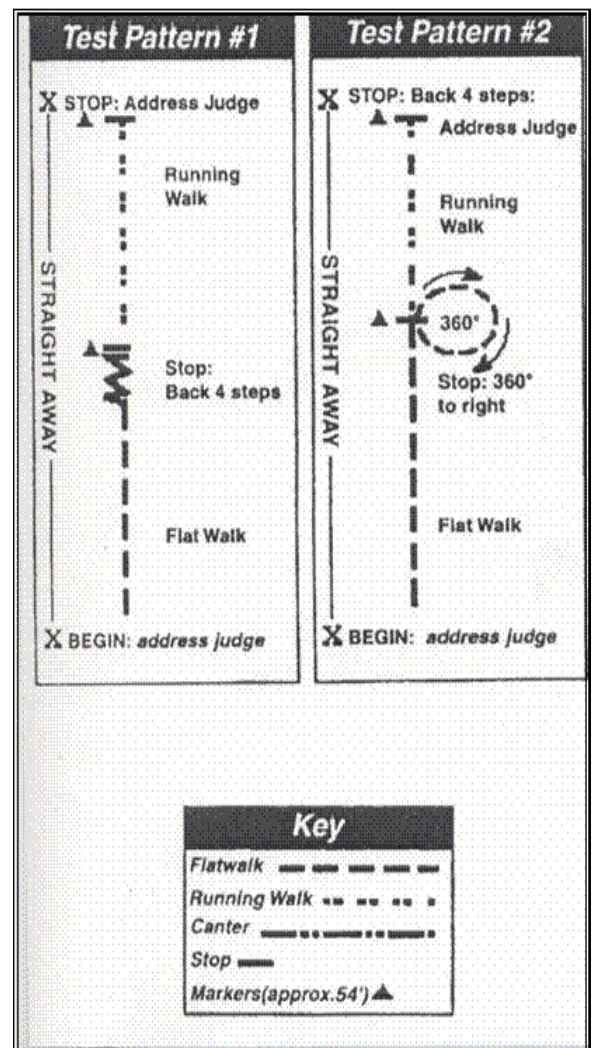
**1. General** The general appearance of the Walking seat Equitation exhibitor should be one of calm, supple workmanship, in perfect balance with effective and easy control of himself/herself and mount. The exhibitor should show his horse well and should exercise good ring showmanship.

**2. Basic Position.**

- Head held high looking forward
- Shoulders square with rib cage drawn up out of the belt.
- Waist should be very supple.
  - Buttocks should be neatly tucked (avoid sway back).
  - Seat deep, close, in deepest part of saddle.
  - Thighs and knees should be in close contact, with toes pointed forward.
  - With foot out of the stirrup, the iron should strike the rider just below the ankle.
  - Ball of foot should rest squarely on the stirrup iron with the weight of the leg lowering the heel below the toe.
- Arm should fall naturally from the shoulder with the elbow on the vertical or slightly forward.
- Forearm parallel to the ground or angling up slightly.
- Hands and forearms should form a "V" when viewed from above. They should be held well over the withers and far enough apart so that the thumbs almost touch when extended. The hands should be light and in unison with the horse, showing adaptability as well as control.
- Rein should be held between the thumb and index finger with the rest of the fingers closing gently around the rein. Closed (or crossed) reins shall be used, with both hands on the reins, and the bight of the rein should be on the right side.
- One should be able to draw a vertical line through the ear, shoulder, hip and heel.

**3. Position in Motion:**

- Start: Should be gradual, smooth. Use necessary leg aids with slight release or rein pressure.
- Flat Walk: Should be true, square flatfooted walk with head motion. Use light bit pressure, with required leg aids and correct speed. Close seat with very little motion in saddle. Hands flexible, but showing no obvious movements.
- Running Walk: A smooth gliding, overstepping, four-cornered gait, with head motion and stride. Reins adjusted for proper bit pressure for individual mount. A close, steady seat with required leg aids. Rider should be supple and alert.
- Canter: Should be smooth, slow and straight on both leads, with a rolling motion with chin well tucked, comfortably in hand. At a flat walk, with outside leg pressure, angle the horse's hindquarters away from the rail use inside leg to gently toe the shoulder. Keep the horse well collected, the hands quiet, pliable and the proper balance as the horse is moved into and through this gait. Voice command is acceptable. Obvious "pumping" motion with hands or body is not acceptable. Close seat, going with roll of horse. Very little motion of rider necessary.
- Stop: To be gradual and easy with no jerking. Increase rein pressure evenly, keeping weight well down in saddle, with yielding legs, light foot pressure applied on irons.



- Park or Square: Horse to stand on all four feet with head up, neck crested, jaw flexible. Feet even front and rear. Light pressure on bit.
- Backing: Should be smooth quiet and straight. Light, even give and take on the reins accompanied by applying and yielding leg pressures. Use flexible wrists and sensitive finger pressures instead of arms to pull. Clucking or using voice commands to move the horse from the parked position or to back are acceptable if done quietly.
- Reverses: Toward rail or on the forehand. Well-collected reins so as not to lose mouth contact. Light pressure applied with legs when turning. Even rein pressure after turn, setting head in correct position for gait requested.

**(e) Class Division and Appropriate Tests:**

**1. Class Routine:**

Enter the ring at the flat walk turning to the right and proceeding in counterclockwise direction. The class shall proceed around the ring at each required gait, and on command, reverse and repeat. Exhibitors should line up on command, be judged individually, and address reins at the request of the judge. Patterns are only to be used in a case of a tie or close decision. A minimum of two to a maximum of five riders may be used.

**2. Youth Class Division**

**Youth Riders 13 and under are required to wear an approved equestrian helmet.**

They should perform on the rail in both directions at the flat walk and running walk.

- a. Youth exhibitors 11 years old and under Tests 1-2
- b. Youth exhibitors 12-14 years old. Tests 1-5
- c. Youth exhibitors 15-17 years old. Tests 1-5
- d. Equitation Championship: Judges may choose from Tests 1-5 or a combination of the additional tests below:
  - Answer questions: Three identical questions may be asked of each rider, one each about anatomy of the horse, tack, and Equitation.
  - Ride without stirrups at any or all gaits. (Stirrups must be left in natural position)
  - Change of canter leads down center of ring.
  - Perform Pattern #4 or #5 at any gait.
  - Perform demonstration exhibit of one minute. (Must be timed)

**3. Criteria for Judging Stock Seat Equitation**

**(a) General Rules.** The general rules of walking seat equitation will apply to stock seat equitation.

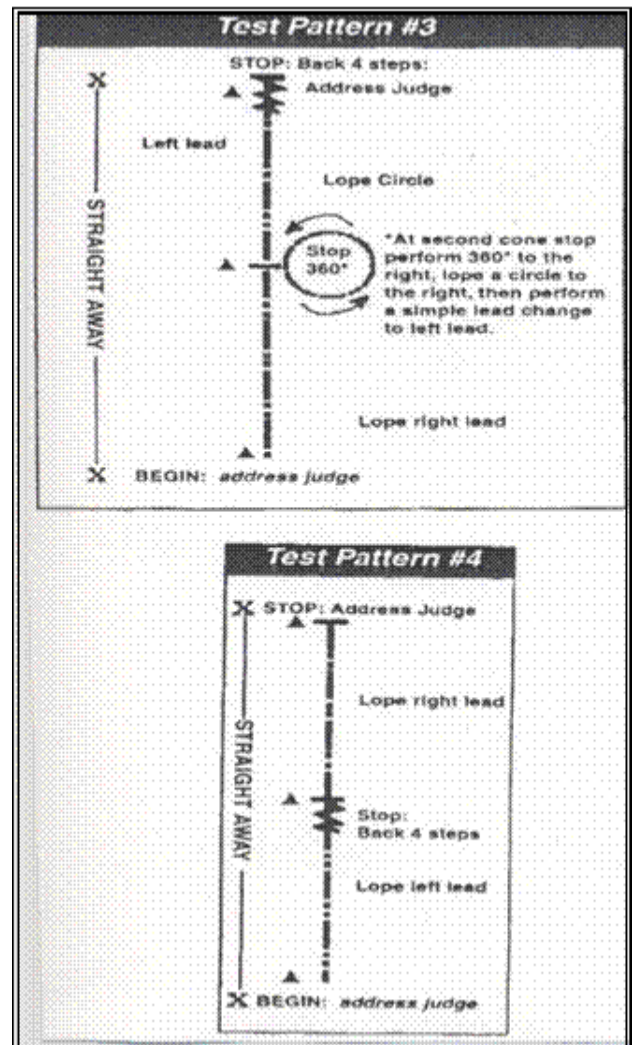
**(b) Appointments**

- 1. Personal** The horse and rider should be groomed to meticulous perfection and should exercise good taste right down to the smallest, most minute detail. Stock seat equitation attire must include: Western hat (shaped and cleaned), long sleeved shirt, western type tie or western type pin at collar, gloves, long pants, and boots. Vest, coordinating western chaps, and/or short western type jacket are optional. Formal attire such as tuxedo type shirts and bow ties are only acceptable after 6 p.m. The exhibitor's hair must be neat and well groomed. Long hair must be styled above the collar.
- 2. Tack.** Should be very clean and well kept. No braids should be used in the horse's mane and forelock in stock seat equitation. A western bridle with no cavesson must be used. Either a split or romal rein will be acceptable. The shanks of the bit must not exceed 9 1/2 inches. The saddle should be of the western type and should be the correct size to fit the exhibitor. (No Australian stock saddles are permitted.) Silver on the bridle and saddle are quite acceptable and should be well cleaned, but should not count over good working equipment.

**(c) Seat and Hands**

**1. Basic Position.**

- Head held high looking forward.
- Shoulders square with rib cage drawn up out of the belt.



- Waist should be supple
- Buttocks should be neatly tucked (no sway back).
- Seat deep, close, in deepest part of saddle.
- Thighs and knees should be in close contact, with toes pointed forward.
- With foot out of stirrup, the stirrup should strike the rider just below the ankle.
- Ball of foot should rest squarely on the stirrup with the weight of the leg lowering the heel below the toe.
- Proper hand position with a split rein: Reins may be held in either the right or left hand, but may not be switched during the class. With a split rein, the rider may place only the index finger between the reins and the remainder of the rein must fall on the same side as the hand the reins are in. The remainder of the rein must never be touched by the off hand during the class. The hand holding the rein should be placed slightly in front of the horn at about the level of the horn. The position of the hand not holding the rein is optional, but it should be kept free of the horse and equipment and held in a relaxed manner, with the rider's body straight at all times.
- Proper hand position with romal reins: The right or left hand may hold the reins, with the remainder of the rein coiled neatly in the off hand. There should be approximately 16 inches between hands with the off hand behind the cinch. The rein hand can have no fingers between the reins and should be held in a fist position just in front of the horn.
- Elbows should be quiet close to the rider's side.
- One should be able to draw a vertical line through the rider's ear, shoulder, hip and heel.

#### 4. Position in Motion

Will be the same as in walking seat equitation with the exception of the horse being worked on a loose rein and reversing away from the rail. The gaits and rules that apply in the western pleasure division will apply in stock seat equitation. The judge may ask for a halt during any gait. The rider should respond quickly and quietly without altering his or her basic position.

#### (d) Class Division and Appropriate Tests:

1. **Class Routine:** Same as walking seat equitation.

2. **Class Division:**

<u>Youth exhibitor's 11 and Under:</u>	Should perform flat walk and running walk both directions of the ring and be asked to back in the lineup.
<u>Youth exhibitors 12-14:</u>	Should perform flat walk, running walk, and lope both directions of the ring and be asked to back in the lineup.
<u>Youth exhibitor's 15-17:</u>	Should perform flat walk, running walk, and lope both directions of the ring and be asked to back in the lineup.
<u>Adult exhibitors 18 and Over:</u>	Should perform flat walk, running walk, and lope both directions of the ring and be asked to back in the lineup.

#### 3. Equitation Classes

(a) **Adult Equitation.** Open to all adult exhibitors' 18 years old and over. Adults use the same class routine as the youth riders. Suggested classes.

Walking Seat Equitation, Exhibitors 18 and Over (No canter)

Walking Seat Equitation, Exhibitors 18 and Over (Canter)

(b) **Youth Equitation.**

Open to exhibitors 17 and under. Suggested classes are:

Walking Seat Equitation, Exhibitors 11 and under (no canter required)

Walking Seat Equitation, Exhibitors 12-14 years

Walking Seat Equitation, Exhibitors 15-17 years

Walking Seat Equitation Championship

(c) **Stock Seat Equitation.** Suggested classes are:

Stock Seat Equitation, Exhibitors 11 and under (no canter required)

Stock Seat Equitation, Exhibitors 12-14 years.

Stock Seat Equitation, Exhibitors 15-17 years

Stock Seat Equitation, Adults 18 and over

**G. SPECIAL CLASSES:** Special Classes may take any form determined by the sponsoring organization. Open to exhibitors in keeping with the general requirements of Rule VI.B.1 and in conformance with the special rules below. Such classes may include, but are not limited to:

**1. Two-Wheel Bike Class (no canter required):** Such classes shall be limited to Walking Horses, and shall be judged on conformation and gaits. Action devices and braced tails are permitted. The three gaits called for shall be flat walk, running walk, and running walk with speed. Entries enter the ring clockwise at a running walk and then are asked to running walk with speed. On the reverse, entries flat walk, running walk and then running walk with speed. At all speeds, entries must stay in form. Animation, brilliance, and show ring presence should characterize the Bike Walking Horse.

**2. Antebellum Costume Classes:** Entries shall be shown in appropriate Antebellum Costumes reflecting a particular historical era or a particular theme. Horses shall be shown in accordance with the Rules of the Pleasure Class in which they compete, and shall be judged 50% on performance and 50% on the costume and appointments of the exhibitor. Lady exhibitors must show sidesaddle; gentlemen shall sit astride. Entries shall be shown at a flat walk and running walk. Horses will not be required to back.

**3. Southern Belles and Beaus Classes:** Entries shall show in authentic Antebellum Costumes of the period. Horses shall be shown in accordance with the Rules of the Pleasure Class in which they compete, and shall be judged 50% on performance and 50% on costume and appointments of the exhibitor. Gentleman riders shall show astride, and ladies shall show sidesaddle. Entries shall be shown at a flat walk, running walk and canter. No action devices shall be permitted.

**4. Speed Walking Horses (no canter required):** Entries in this class shall be shown at the flat walk, followed by the running walk with speed. Horses breaking gaits should be penalized. It is suggested that classes be judged 50% on speed in running walk, and 50% on overall performance and conformation. Action devices and pads are optional.

**5. Amateur Exhibitor-to-Judge Class:** The Judge must be selected by lot after the entries have entered the ring. Horses shall be judged under the same criteria as an amateur entry as previously outlined in Rule VI.

## H. RACKING HORSE CLASSES

A Racking Horse is one, which has received training to enhance this gait. Braced tails are prohibited. Horses may be shown with pads on feet unless class designation is "Flat Shod" Included in this division are.

### 1. Criteria for Judging Racking Horse Classes.

(a) All horses enter to the right at a Show Walk and continue at this gait until the entrance gate is closed after which the judge shall call for performance gaits in the following order: Show Walk, Slow Rack, and Fast Rack. When horses are reversed, the order of gaits shall be Show Walk, Slow Rack, and Fast Rack. Other elements of judging and class procedure will be the same as for any similar situation covered elsewhere in WIWHA Rules and Regulations.

### (b) Qualifying Gaits:

Show Walk. The Show Walk is a smooth collected, showy four-beat gait.

Slow Rack. The Slow Rack is a relaxed four-beat gait showing style and grace.

Fast Rack. The Fast Rack shows the same style and action as the Show Rack but with speed. Form should not be sacrificed for speed.

Style Rack. The Style Rack is a comfortable, easy going rack at which speed is not a factor in judging. (Style classes perform two gaits only: Show Walk and Style Rack)

### 2. Classes

(a) Open These may be further divided and qualified by age, sex, and size.

(b) Amateur These may be further divided and qualified as outlined in rule VI

(c) Youth Exhibitor These may be further divided and qualified as outline in Rule VI

(d) Style Classes

## VI. JUDGES AND JUDGING SYSTEMS

Judges must be chosen from the approved list of the WIWHA and/or SHOW. The WIWHA and SHOW office will furnish a list of approved and qualified judges upon request to persons planning to conduct affiliated shows.

1. Judges shall be licensed in Performance, Pleasure, Halter and Equitation. The procedure for becoming a judge in all classifications is available from the WIWHA Committee. The WIWHA reserves the right to take any and all reasonable measures in determining the qualifications of an applicant. Requirements follow.

- Violation of WIWHA Rules of Conduct may result in loss of license for 12 months.
- Failure to make good within 30 days payment to horse show events will result in loss of license for 12 months.
- Violation of WIWHA Rules of Conduct may result in loss of license for 12 months.
- An Apprentice Judge may not show in the shows in which he is apprenticing.
- An applicant who is denied approval to attend the Judges' Applicant Program three times may not reapply. An Applicant who attends the Judge's Applicant Program three times and is denied acceptance, as an approved judge may not apply.
- At the discretion of the Committee, an Apprentice Judge may be required to apprentice more shows in order to gain additional experience and/or knowledge.

2. **Pleasure Class Judges.** To be certified in the Pleasure Division, a judge must take an additional test given by the Judges Committee.

3. **Versatility Class Judges.** A Judge holding a Versatility license shall be allowed to officiate all Versatility classes.

4. **Equitation Class Judges.** A Judge holding an Equitation license shall be allowed to officiate all Equitation Classes.

5. **Suspended Judges:** Judges suspended or disqualified by WIWHA for a penalty exceeding 60 days, suspended by WIWHA for an HPA violation, or suspended by USDA cannot judge any future shows regardless of previous contracts until suspension or disqualification is completed.

6. **Guest Judges:** A Guest Judge is an individual 18 years of age or over, not enrolled as a Judge to whom the WIWHA or SHOW may grant permission to officiate upon the request of a particular show and for that show only. The

fee for a Guest Judge shall be determined by the Committee and is not refundable. The application must be made on the official form provided for that purpose and must be accompanied by the required fee. The statement on the form that the show holds itself responsible that the individual applied for is familiar with the WIWHA and is capable to adjudicate as requested must be signed by Show Management. (WIWHA discourages use of a Guest Judge.)

#### Restrictions of a Guest Judge:

- Guest approval shall not be issued to anyone who has been rejected by the Judges' Committee.
- Authority to act as a Guest Judge shall not be granted to any person more than once without the approval of the Committee.
- The Committee may refuse to issue Guest Judge Approval to any person who has been reported by an Association or Show Official for acting in a manner contrary to the Rules or prejudicial to the best interest of the WIWHA or any other licensing organization.

**7. Procedure:** Application must be made on the official form and accompanied by the required fee, which is not refundable. No application shall be considered if incomplete and/or fails to meet the deadline.

**8. Fees:** The Committee determines Fees for a Judge's license.

## **B. LICENSING PROCESS**

1. All persons 21 years of age or older desiring to be licensed by WIWHA as a Judge of show horses, pleasure horses, halter or equitation classes shall secure and complete an application furnished by WIWHA. The completed application should be returned to WIWHA with the required fee.

2. In determining the qualifications of an applicant for a Judge's License, the evidence to be considered by WIWHA shall be all evidence presented to WIWHA by the applicant, such evidence as WIWHA may otherwise obtain, and any other facts which may be in the applicant's file. Except as otherwise herein and after provided in these Rules, no person shall judge at a WIWHA show unless he holds a valid license or has been issued a guest card by WIWHA.

3. In determining the qualifications of an applicant for a Judge's license, the evidence to be considered by the WIWHA shall be all evidence presented to the WIWHA by the applicant, such evidence as the WIWHA may otherwise be obtained, and any other facts which may be in the applicant's file. Except as otherwise herein and after provided in these Rules, no person shall judge at a WIWHA show unless he or she holds a valid license.

4. No application will be considered for a Judges' license if that person has been convicted of a felony offense until a period of five years has elapsed from the date of such conviction.

## **C. RULES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A JUDGE**

1. A Judge is obligated to adjudicate each class in conformity with the Rules and specifications of that class as they appear in the WIWHA/SHOW rulebook. He/She is expected to be proficient and to possess a thorough knowledge of the rules of WIWHA/SHOW.

2. Once a class has been judged, it shall not be re-judged, and once the Judge has marked his records and places for awards made, there shall be no changing of the Judge's record.

3. Failure of a Judge to attend a show to which he/she is committed, to perform his duties, and to officiate in the classes to which he/she is assigned shall constitute cause for disciplinary action except in cases of extreme emergency.

4. A Judge, by accepting an invitation to officiate a show, assumes a responsibility to protect Show Management by excusing from the ring all horses suspected of being in violation of the HPA and WIWHA Rules.

5. When a Judge is officiating at a show, he is not to arrive on show grounds until 30 minutes prior to show time.

6. A Judge shall not inspect or discuss any horse entered in the show prior to the start of the show, unless so requested by Show Management. Show Management must be present.

7. No Judge selected to officiate at a show shall be contacted relative to this show by any person having an interest in any horse expected to be shown at such show. All contacts made in violation hereof shall be reported immediately to WIWHA by said Judge.

8. It is the responsibility of a Judge to report any violation to WIWHA.

9. Telephone calls from trainers, exhibitors, etc. are to be reported to the WIWHA and Committees may make a charge and call the person before the committee for a Hearing.

10. Talking to or criticizing a Judge(s) at a WIWHA affiliated show will not be tolerated and Judge(s) or any other show official that are witness to such incident must report the violation to WIWHA or Judges' Committee. The Judge or other show official has no choice except to report the violation. (Exception: Rule VII.D.12)

11. All Judge's licensed by WIWHA must conduct themselves in a manner which reflects credit upon WIWHA, the horse show, and the Tennessee Walking Horse.

12. In all classes in which a horse is shown under saddle, the horse must perform all gaits in order to be judged in overall performance, presentation, and conformation.

13. An entry may, at the discretion of the Judge, be excused from the ring for any infraction or non-compliance of the WIWHA/SHOW Rules or for deviating from the described gaits of the Walking Horse. The entry shall be eligible to show in a succeeding qualifying class if the problem can be corrected.

## **D REGULATIONS GOVERNING JUDGES**

1. A Judge shall not be an exhibitor, rider, or manager at any show at which he is officiating.
2. A Judge shall not adjudicate in any show in which a member of his family or any co-owner, or any horses they own or train are competing.
3. A Judge shall not, during the period of a show at which he is judging, be the houseguest of a person who is exhibiting in the show, or whose family is exhibiting at such show.
4. No horse may be shown before a Judge that has been sold by said judge or by his/her employer within a period of ninety (30) days prior to the show.
5. No horse may be shown before a Judge that has been boarded, owned, trained, or shown by said Judge within a period of one month prior to the show.
6. No horse for which a Judge has acted in the capacity of agent, and/or has collected a commission as the result of a sale, may be shown before that Judge within thirty (30) days (excluding horses bought through a public auction where that Judge was sale manager or owner of that public auction, and this is the only conflict according to the rules.)
7. No one or their immediate family may show before a Judge where either the Judge or exhibitor has remunerated the other person for the leasing, boarding, riding, training, consulting, schooling, assisting, or tutoring of any horse within a period of thirty (30) days prior to the show, stud fees excluded.
8. No exhibitor may compete in an Equitation Class before a Judge by whom his or her parent, guardian or instructor has had any financial transaction in connection with the sale, lease, boarding or training of a horse within thirty (30) days prior to the show, unless the sale or purchase was made at public auction.
9. No exhibitor may compete in an Equitation Class before a Judge by whom he has been instructed, coached or tutored, with or without pay, within thirty days (30) prior to the show. The conducting of clinics or assistance in group activities, unless individual instruction is given, is not considered to be instructing, coaching, or tutoring.
10. Remuneration and expenses paid to a Judge shall not affect the amateur status of the recipient as an owner or exhibitor.
11. An exhibitor may make a request through Show Management for the Judge's opinion concerning that exhibitor's horse. The request must be made at the conclusion of the show. It is urged that the Judge will give his or her opinion courteously and sincerely in the presence of Show Management and in a private setting.
12. A Judge shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect. No person, exhibitor, owner or otherwise, shall direct abuse or threatening conduct toward them, either in the furtherance of their judging duties, or as a result thereof, whether or not the conduct occurs during an approved event or show, or on show grounds. The Judge has no choice exempt to report the violation to WIWHA or SHOW.

## **E. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

1. After a Judge's license has been issued to any person, and such Judge shall demonstrate lack of competence, skill, integrity, cooperation, or the desire to deport himself in a manner as to be worthy of a Judge, the license of such Judge may be suspended or revoked by the WIWHA Committee in the manner and upon such notice as is herein provided.
2. **Forfeit of License.** Judges holding a license with WIWHA who have an indebtedness to a horse show or sale of required fees which are 30 days past due will result in the loss of license for one year and the indebtedness record will be filed in Judge's file. He or she may re-apply for license the following year.

## **F. CLASSIFICATION OF JUDGES**

Judges shall be licensed or certified in six classifications: A, AA, AAA, Pleasure, Versatility, Equitation and Special. The procedure for becoming a judge in all classifications is available from the WIWHA or SHOW Director of Judges and Horse Shows. The WIWHA or SHOW takes any and all reasonable measures in determining the qualifications of an applicant. Requirements for each classification are listed in the SHOW Rule Book.

## **G. GENERAL JUDGING PROCEDURE**

1. All horses shall enter the ring at the flat walk, shall go to the right shall go to the right and may go at ease until the class is called. The gate will be closed when the Judge calls for the first gait, and no entry shall be admitted into the ring after the gate is closed. The Judge then shall call for performance gaits in the following order; flat walk, running walk, flat walk and canter. When horses are reversed, the order shall be flat walk, running walk, flat walk and canter. The second running walk may be called for the last way of the ring as the last gait at the Judge's discretion. As the horses enter the ring and at any time during the class, the Judge must observe their way of going, and if he finds that an entry is in non-compliance as set forth in the Rules, he must excuse the entry immediately.
2. Horses shall be worked both ways of the ring at all required gaits sufficiently for all horses to have performed before each officiating Judge. Horses must perform all required gaits both ways of the ring. A horse that has not performed all required gaits shall not be placed over a horse that has performed all gaits.
3. Horse show or horse exhibition workouts or performance of 2-year old Tennessee Walking and Racking Horses and working exhibitions of 2-year old Tennessee Walking and Racking Horses (horses eligible to be shown or exhibited in 2-year old classes) at horse sales or horse auctions that exceed a total of ten (10) minutes continuous workout or performance without a minimum five (5) minute rest period between the first such 10 (ten) minute period and the

second such ten (10) minute period and, more than two such ten (10) minute periods per performance, class, or workouts are prohibited.

**4.** After the preliminary workout of a class, all horses shall be lined up and inspected by the Judge, unless a qualified Ringmaster or an qualified Official of the Show is present. In the judging of a class, a Judge makes the final decision (on possible Rule violations) as whether to excuse a horse or permit it to remain in the class. Action devices which clearly show the condition of the pastern area need not be removed unless requested by the Judge; however, if boots are used the Judge shall individually instruct that one boot on each horse be removed. The boot shall be shown to the Judge with the lining or underside up. One groom is allowed in the ring to assist in the removal of boots, but must not touch a horse until the Judge individually requests that boot be removed and must not carry extra boots into the ring unless specifically authorized by the Judge. If the Judge finds that an entry does not conform with the Rules, he must excuse the entry immediately.

**5.** At the discretion of the Judge, one groom may be allowed in the ring during the lineup in Amateur and Youth Exhibitor Classes only for the purpose of making adjustments, aiding, assisting and encouraging the exhibitor. The groom may not touch the horse below the knees, unless directed to do so by the Judge.

**6.** In Championship Classes horses may be stripped for conformation at the discretion of Judge or Show Management. Grooms will not touch the horse or tack below the knees unless directed to do so by the Judge. In Championship Classes, two grooms will be allowed.

**7.** There shall be no changing or touching of boots or action devices after the exhibitor has entered the show ring, except in the event of breakage or loss of action device, and then only the broken or lost action device may be replaced. Penalty: Mandatory disqualification from the class.

**8.** Other than an exhibitor's back number, no equipment shall be handed to an exhibitor across the rail once he or she enters the show ring. Violation of this rule results in immediate disqualification from the class.

**9.** Minor adjustments to bridles or curbs which can be made by an exhibitor without dismounting, when horses are being reversed in the ring, shall be allowed, however no assistance in accomplishing this is permitted.

**10.** Time-Outs interrupt a show; therefore unauthorized time-outs will not be permitted.

**(a)** An exhibitor desiring a time-out will ride to the center of the ring, remain mounted and request it of the Judge. The Judge will ascertain the reason for the time-out and either grant or deny the request.

**(b)** After an exhibitor pulls in on the grass; he must obtain a timeout before dismounting. Failure to do so shall require the Judge to excuse the entry; the Judge has no discretion in this regard. Further, the entrance of a trainer or an assistant into the show ring before a time-out is granted shall require the Judge to excuse the entry. The sole exception to this Rule shall be a horse and/or exhibitor in immediate danger of injury in the opinion of the Judge.

**(c)** If the Judge grants a timeout, horses on the rail will go at ease, and a groom or farrier will be ordered in as required. The exhibitor may then dismount. Exhibitors granted a time-out may not make adjustments to any equipment other than that for which the time-out was authorized except for such adjustments as they could make while mounted.

**(d)** Exhibitors at ease on the rail during time-outs may make such adjustments as they can make while mounted, but assistance over the rail is not permitted; physical assistance (touching the horse) is not permitted and will result in the horse being excused.

**(e)** If the Judge finds the reason for a time-out not valid; he or she must order the entry back to the rail immediately.

**(f)** Time-outs may be granted by the Judge for replacement of shoes, replacement of broken equipment (e.g., partially thrown shoe), or in other instances where the Judge finds reasons. In any division, a shoe thrown in the ring must be presented immediately to the judge for his inspection. If a violation is found, the horse is disqualified and a ticket written by the judge, who should retain the shoe and turn it over to WIWHA. Loss of lead weights attached to the bottom of pads shall not be considered breakage of equipment. However, time-outs for adjustments of equipment, such as curb chains, bridles, and action devices, are not allowed. If an action device becomes stuck on a hoof, such action device may be lifted and adjusted to prevent recurrence, under the observation of the Judge.

**(g)** A total of ten minutes in aggregate shall be allowed for each entry for authorized time-outs, but no more than two time-outs per class.

**(h)** All time-outs will begin when justifiable reasons are acknowledged, except for the replacement of shoes, in which event the time-out shall begin the moment the farrier lifts up the horse's foot. Time will be allowed prior to the beginning of time-out for locating thrown shoe.

**(i)** In the event a horse throws a shoe in the warm-up area after being inspected by the DQP, he may choose to have the shoe replaced by the show farrier after he enters the ring to show. He must be charged a time-out with normal time-out rules prevailing.

**11 Workouts:** All horses chosen for a workout must be worked both ways of the ring at each gait asked for by the Judge. A Judge shall not place any entry in a workout unless the entry has performed all required gaits both ways of the ring in the initial performance. Horses not making the good workout initially do not have to be worked both ways of the ring. Any Judge ignoring this rule shall have subjected himself to disciplinary action by the Director of Judges and Horse Shows. Workouts shall be judged as a separate class. Exception: Equitation Classes.

## **12. Falls**

**(a)** An exhibitor is considered to have fallen when he is separated from a horse that has not fallen in such a way as to necessitate remounting or vaulting into the saddle.

- (b) A horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and haunch on the same side have touched the ground.
  - (c) The fall of a horse and/or exhibitor shall not disqualify the entry, unless due to bad manners of the horse or unless the safety of the rider is threatened. *Exception:* In Equitation Classes, the fall of the exhibitor disqualifies the entry.
- 13. Unruly Horse:** Horses being unruly, rearing up, balking, running off, or leaving the ring must be excused.

**G. JUDGING SYSTEMS**

**1. Majority Opinion Three-Judge System:** Under the Majority Opinion System (M-O-S), all three Judges carry equal weight in the final class decision, and winners are placed by the best two out of three votes. Each horse is judged as if it were working individually and then compared with the performance of all other horses in the class who are judged on the same basis. All Judges place the same number of entries in each class, depending on class size. Ties are resolved by averaging the opinions of the three Judges.

**(a) Judging:** Judges must work independently, with no discussion of any kind until the winners are announced. They should vary their judging positions and rotate around the ring. They should discuss and plan how to cover the ring and work classes before the show to avoid "cluster" judging. A suggestion would be to section the ring into three areas which will give each Judge a separate but equal view of the rail with rotation of positions for each class.

**(b) Rotation:** Mark the Judges' cards ahead of time with the rotation and indicate who will be Call Judge for each class. No referee is required since all ties are broken by a two-thirds majority vote.

**(c) Placings:** Mark the Judges' cards ahead of time indicating how many entries should be placed. Three additional ties are recommended for each class (Tie 11 horses in a class in which 8 horses receive awards). The Ringmaster should return an incompletely tied card to the Judge for correction before giving it to the Scorer(s).

**(d) Workouts:**

**(1)** Any Judge may request a workout in any class by communicating through the Ringmaster. The Judge making the request must state the numbers of those horses he wants called to the workout and for how many places they are to be worked. The Ringmaster relates this to the other Judges one at a time. A workout requires agreement by two of the three, or the positions must be filled without a workout. If a workout is agreed upon, the Ringmaster must ask the other Judges if they wish to add other horses to those being sent to the rail. The Ringmaster must be sure that all Judges know what horses are working to fill the places. To be included in a preliminary class workout, an entry must appear on two Judges' cards. An entry that does not receive two votes returns to the rail and may then be parked in by one judge. In a championship class, a horse that appears on only one judge's card must be included in the workout. The Ringmaster must inform the Announcer of the workout request. Whenever horses are being called for a workout the Announcer must call for them in numerical order.

**(2) Identical Tie for First Place:** When three numbers are circled on the same line and their vote counts are identical, it is an extremely rare three-way identical tie. When a three-way identical tie occurs for first place, a workout is optional. If the judge calls for a workout, the three horses involved shall be sent back to the rail. If a workout is not called for the class, the class will be tied by the Fall of the Cards. If there has already been a workout, the Judges should be notified and given the option of going with Fall of the Cards or sending the horses back to the rail for additional work.

If the tie is still identical after the workout, the class is tied by the Fall of the Cards. When the identical three-way tie is for second place or lower, the class is determined by Fall of the Cards.

	A	B	C	
Use this line to score.	101	102	103	(1-2-3)
	102	103	101	(1-2-3)
	103	101	102	(1-2-3)

The number that is positioned first (not the circled line) on the Call Judge's card will be first (101). The second (102) and third (103) places are then determined by the Judges' choices as their cards are placed in sequence. In the example shown above, if B was the Call Judge, then 102 would be first, C's choice of 103 would be second and A's choice of 101 would be third. If C were the Call Judge, then 103 would be first, 101 would be second and 102 third.

**2. Mary Three Judge System:** Under the Mary Three-Judge System, the Call Judge is primary in placing the horses, and the Second Judge is secondary. The opinion of the Referee is considered only in so far as it agrees with that of either the Call Judge or Second Judge. If the Call Judge and Second Judge agree on a number, then the number that they have selected is the winner. If they do not agree, the Referee's card is referred to, and, of the two numbers, the number highest on the Referee's card receives the award. The card is scored this way until all the required ties are made.

**(a)** In each class where three Judges are used, a Call Judge and a Referee shall be selected by lot by Show Management. The remaining Judge shall be the Second Judge.

**(b)** The Call Judge shall direct the presentation of horses throughout the class.

**(c)** The Referee shall tie all horses under consideration for final judgment but does not have to walk the line up.

**(d)** In all workouts, two or more of the three judging officials may agree to limit the number of horses each such official may select for the workout and no official may select more than the number agreed upon.

**(e)** In all workouts in which the maximum number of horses allowed to be selected by any one official is less than the number of places to be tied, the only horses eligible for such workout are those selected by two or more of said officials.

(f) All horses in a workout shall be placed consecutively insofar as the number of places will allow.

(g) When pulling horses in from the rail for additional workouts, the Call Judge, the Second Judge and the Referee shall have equal authority.

**3. High-Low Olympic Judging System:** Five judges working independently of each other will place each class. Judge number one will be the Call Judge. Points will be assigned to the placings, on a one to ten basis, with first place receiving ten points, second place receiving nine points, third placing receiving eight points, and so forth on down to one point for tenth place. The highest placing and the lowest placing are eliminated for each entry

The remaining three placings are totaled and the entry receiving the most points wins the class. In case of a tie, then all five placings are added. If still tied, then the first or Call Judge's card will break the tie. If a horse receives four or less placings, the top score is eliminated.

**4. Five-Judge System:** Five judges working independently of each other rank the horses on a one through ten basis, assuming ten places are awarded. The scores of all five judges are used. Judges are assigned rank as Call Judge, Second Judge, Third Judge, Fourth Judge, and Fifth Judge. Each entry that receives a vote from the judges is awarded a point assignment on the basis of ten points for first place, nine points for second place, eight points for third place, etc. The results of all five judges are totaled and the entry receiving the highest score wins the class.

Procedures for Breaking a Tie:

(a) Involving first place: In the event of a tie for first place, there is an automatic workout unless a workout has already been held. If there is still a tie after the workout, then the number placed highest on any of the judges' cards is the winner.

(b) Involving second through tenth places, either of the following procedures may be used to determine placement:

(1) The Judges cards are placed in order of Call Judge, Second Judge, Third Judge, Fourth Judge, and Fifth Judge. The cards are read from left to right, top to bottom. The entry number involved in the tie that is placed highest on any of the judges' cards is the winner. This method is used regardless of the number of entries involved in the tie.

(2) In the event of a two-way tie, the horse that is placed highest on the majority of the five judges' cards is the winning entry. If there is a two-way tie and neither number is on the majority of the judges' cards; the horse that is placed the highest on any of the judges' cards is the winner. To determine this, the cards are placed in order of Call Judge, Second Judge, Third Judge, Fourth Judge and Fifth Judge. Starting with the Call Judge's card, they are read left to right, top to bottom. The entry number involved in the tie that is placed highest on any of the judges' cards is the winner.

## **VII. DESIGNATED QUALIFIED PERSONS (DQP'S)**

The WIWHA DQP Program has been formally certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), pursuant to the federal Horse Protection Act. The initials DQP in these Rules applies throughout to Recognized DQPs. A Recognized DQP is a licensed representative of show or sale management.

### **A. LICENSING PROCESS**

**1. Enrollment of DQPs:** Application must be made on the official form furnished by the WIWHA and accompanied by the required fee, which is not refundable. The WIWHA shall act upon every application for enrollment and annual renewal of DQPs.

(a) **Fees** for a DQP card are as follows: (1) \$35 for initial application, which is not refundable  
(2) \$35 for annual renewal.

**2. Annual DQP Refresher Course:** All recognized DQPs must attend a four-hour refresher course each year conducted by the WIWHA. After due notice of date, time and place from WIWHA, it is the DQP's responsibility to attend these classes at their own expense. Failure to attend a four-hour refresher course in a year's time will mean the DQP's license will be automatically revoked.

**3. Cancellation of DQP License as required by the Code of Federal Regulations.** The WIWHA shall issue a written warning to any DQP whom it has licensed who:

- violates the Rules, regulations, bylaws or standards of conduct promulgated the WIWHA,
- who fails to follow the WIWHA uniform inspection procedures set forth in Rule VIII.E, or
- who fails to carry out his or her duties and responsibilities in a less than satisfactory manner, and shall cancel the license of any DQP after a second violation. Upon cancellation of his DQP license, the DQP may, within 30 days thereafter, request a Hearing before a review committee of not less than three persons appointed by the WIWHA. If the review committee sustains the cancellation of the license, the DQP may appeal the decision of such committee to the U. S. Department of Agriculture within 30 days from the date of such decision and, pursuant to HPA Regulations, the USDA shall make a final determination in the matter.

**4. Selection of DQPs.** All person's 21 years of age or older desiring to be licensed by the WIWHA as a DQP shall secure and complete an application furnished by the WIWHA. Application must be made on an official WIWHA form and accompanied by the required fee, which is not refundable. No application will be considered if incomplete.

The Director of DQPs shall act upon every application for enrollment and annual renewal of DQPs. If approved, the applicant must attend fourteen (14) hours of training for DQPs, pass a written examination with a score of 85% or better, and apprentice two or more shows. The decision as to whether or not a DQP's license should be granted to an applicant

or whether or not a DQP's license shall be renewed, shall be the decision of the Director of DQPs and the Rules & Enforcement Committee.

## **B. DUTIES OF A DQP**

1. To protect the interest of exhibitors and Show Management.
2. To report to the Show Committee any misrepresentation or substitution of entry without waiting for a Protest.
3. To report to the Show Committee, any offense or violation of the Rules and file a complaint against the violator if the violation is not properly handled by the Show Committee.
4. To file a complaint against any exhibitor or trainer, who has failed to comply fully with the provisions of the Rules of the WIWHA regarding the showing of only sound horses.
5. To appear upon the request of the WIWHA at any and all Hearings involving the DQP program.
6. To transmit to the WIWHA the following information:
  - A total number of the different breeds inspected at each show.
  - A written report of any offense or violation of the HPA or the WIWHA Rules on every show or sale inspected.
  - A written report if there were no violations found on every show or sale inspected.

**Note:** All reports must be turned in to the WIWHA within three days after completion of every show or sale on forms furnished by the WIWHA. Failure of a DQP to get his or her report in the WIWHA office on time could result in loss of DQP license.

## **C. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING DQPS**

1. A DQP working a particular show, sale or exhibition is ineligible to serve at that show as President, Chairman, Secretary, other show, sale or exhibition officer, manager, other show, sale or exhibition employee or exhibitor.
2. A DQP shall not exhibit any horse at any horse show, horse exhibition, or horse sale, or sell, auction, or purchase any horse sold at a horse sale or horse auction at which he has been appointed to inspect horses.
3. A DQP shall not inspect horses at any horse show, horse exhibition, or horse sale in which a horse or horses owned by a member of the DQP's immediate family or the DQP's employer are competing or in which either has a horse or horses being offered for sale.
4. A DQP shall follow the WIWHA uniform inspection guidelines and procedure when inspecting horses.
5. A DQP shall immediately inform show, sale or exhibition management of each case regarding any horse which, in his or her opinion, is in violation of WIWHA Rules or the Horse Protection Act and Regulations.
6. A DQP must report any attempt to improperly influence his or her actions during the inspection process or in the fulfillment of his or her duties.
7. A DQP (if there are two DQP's shall not inspect horses trained, owned, or shod by any persons with whom he or she has conducted any type of business transaction (financial or otherwise) during the past sixty (60) days.
8. A DQP shall conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. He or she shall use discretion in handling matters in public, and exhibit a positive and friendly attitude.
9. A DQP shall avoid situations that will reflect poorly on themselves or the DQP program, or cause misconceptions as to conflicts of interest.
10. A DQP will refuse any exhibitors' requests to inspect horses at a show, sale or exhibition where he or she is not assigned as a DQP.
11. A DQP shall not accept gifts, favors or any form of monetary reward from anyone, who owns, trains or exhibits horses that he or she inspects.
12. A DQP shall not place himself or herself in a position, which may compromise the integrity of the DQP program.
13. Failure of a DQP without due cause to attend the show, sale or exhibition or perform his or her duties in accordance with the WIWHA Rules and regulations shall constitute cause for disciplinary action.
14. Remuneration and expenses paid to a DQP shall not affect the amateur status of the recipient as an owner or exhibitor.
15. A DQP will be assigned by the WIWHA to serve as DQP at an affiliated or non-affiliated show or sale.
16. A DQP shall not provide advisory opinions as an expert.

## **D. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A DQP**

1. A DQP shall keep himself or herself well aware of all WIWHA and USDA Rules and Regulations and shall have an updated copy of both at the shows or sales in which he or she works.
2. A DQP should clearly understand that he or she has no authority in connection with the management or the judging of a show. He or she is the representative of the WIWHA and should point out in a diplomatic manner any instance where WIWHA Rules are not enforced. He or she should not dictate to the Judges or management but should immediately report to the appropriate officials any violations of the rules, which provide that only sound horses are shown. He or she should keep himself or herself available to Judges, exhibitors and management at all times to investigate any situation where these Rules are not upheld.
3. A DQP has the authority and will disqualify from a show, sale or exhibition any horse found to be in violation of the WIWHA Rules and the HPA and its regulations. The decision of a DQP regarding an action device's weight (including strap) at a show or sale shall be final.
4. All horses become subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the DQP when they are brought upon the show, sale or exhibition grounds, except when same are under judgment inside the show ring.

5. In conducting both pre- and post-show inspections, the DQP shall rely on the WIWHA uniform examination guidelines.
6. In shows sales or exhibitions using both a veterinarian and a DQP, any horse declared ineligible to show by either one shall not be allowed to show sale or exhibit.
7. A DQP shall have a set of scales and some type of measuring device at the shows, sales or exhibitions in which he or she works, Before working a show, a DQP should calibrate the scales (adjust scales by weighing nine pennies to weigh one ounce).
8. A DQP shall not work a show, sale or exhibition without prior approval and/or assignment from the WIWHA.
9. A DQP shall not work a sale or show without prior approval and/or assignment from WIWHA.

## E. DQP INSPECTION GUIDELINES

### 1. General.

These guidelines are designed to help DQPs who are responsible for examining all horses at WIWHA events for compliance with the Horse Protection Act, USDA Regulations, and WIWHA Rules.

Each DQP examination shall include:

- A visual examination of the horse's gait and general appearance.
- A visual and physical examination of the horse's limbs in particular the front pasterns.
- An examination of the horse's equipment for compliance with the Regulations and HIO rules, e.g. type, weight and location of action devices, pad height, location of pad bands, and lubricants.
- It shall be a requirement that the overall horse be evaluated and that there shall not be reliance on any one factor to the exclusion of all others. The examination should concentrate on detection of heat, pain, swelling, redness and loss of motion. The examination must provide the opportunity to evaluate the horse's freedom of movement in locomotion.
- The majority of findings in the examination should agree. Borderline judgment calls on palpation must be confirmed by evidence of abnormal gait on movement or by an unacceptable departure from normal appearance.

The Horse Protection Act provides that a horse shall be considered "sore" if, as the result of a substance, device or practice, such horse suffers or can reasonably be expected to suffer, physical pain or distress, inflammation, or lameness when walking, trotting, or otherwise moving; except such term does not include such an application, infliction, injection, use, or practice in connection with the therapeutic person licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State in which such treatment was given.

During the inspection, The DQP or VMO shall instruct the custodian of the horse to control it by holding the reins approximately 18 inches from the bit shank. The DQP or VMO shall not be required to examine a horse if it is presented in a manner that might cause the horse not to react to an inspector's examination or if whips, cigarette smoke, or other actions or paraphernalia are used to distract a horse during examination. All such incidents shall be reported to the show management and the HIO.

The DQP or VMO shall inspect horses no more than three (3) classes ahead of the time the inspected horses are to be shown, except that, in shows with fewer than 150 horses, the DQP or VMO shall inspect horses no more than two (2) classes ahead of the time the inspected horses are to be shown. **(new) There shall be no tack on horse in the inspection area, only halter or bridle.**

Inspected horses shall be held in designated areas that are under observation by the DQP. **(new) No tightening of horse shoe bands after inspection.** Horses may be tacked after inspection and moved to designated area. Horses shall not be permitted to leave the designated area before showing. Only the horse, the rider, the groom, the trainer, the owner, or their lawful representative, the DQP(s) and USDA representatives shall be allowed in the designated area.

The DQP or VMO may carry out additional repetitive inspection procedures as deemed necessary to determine whether or not a horse is in compliance with the Horse Protection Act and Regulations. Any such repetitive inspection shall be done as expeditiously as possible, in consideration of the patience of the individual horse as well as the flow of traffic through the inspection station.

**2. Technical Requirements.** All action devices, pads, and other equipment shall be observed and examined to assure that they are in compliance with USDA Regulations and WIWHA Rules. All such equipment on horses examined post-show, and on horses examined pre-show, that is not clearly in compliance, shall be weighed and/or measured.

The Regulations and WIWHA Rules also prohibit exhibitors from shoeing, trimming or using any method or device on a horse's limb in a manner that causes such horse to suffer, or can reasonably be expected to cause such horse to suffer pain, distress, inflammation or lameness when walking, trotting or otherwise moving. This includes but is not limited to, inserting a tack, screw, nail or other device or substance, other than acceptable hoof packing, between the horse's hoof and its shoe or pad. If an inspector suspects that a horse's hoof has been subjected to any such practice, the DQP may require the horse's custodian remove the shoes, pads or both, to allow further examination.

**3. Examination of Locomotion.** During the inspection, the DQP shall direct the custodian of the horse to lead, walk, and turn the horse in a manner that allows the DQP to determine whether the horse exhibits signs of soreness or pain while walking, trotting, or otherwise moving. The DQP shall determine whether the horse moves in a free and easy manner, whether he is reluctant to start or begins moving freely, whether he turns freely, whether he parks in a normal

four cornered stance or with a disproportionate amount of weight bearing on the hind legs, and is free of any signs of soreness.

**4. Examination of General Appearance.** At all times during the inspection, the DQP shall observe the horse's general appearance for indications of soreness. Such indications may include: changes in the depth and rate of respiration, excessive perspiration on the skin and hair coat, abnormal reactions of the eyes and ears, abnormal stance, tucking of flanks and flexing of abdominal muscles, stepping forward with the rear limbs while the front limbs remain lightly planted, tossing of the head to maintain balance, and/or the overall demeanor and temperament of the horse. The DQP shall continue to observe the horse's general appearance during the palpation examination.

**5. Visual and Physical Examination of the Legs.** The DQP shall palpate the front limbs of the horse from knee to hoof, with particular emphasis on the pasterns and fetlocks. Prior to picking up the horse's foot, the horse must be standing in a normal balanced stance and the DQP must approach the horse in a calm and professionally acceptable manner. The DQP shall examine the posterior surface of the pastern by picking up the foot and inspecting the posterior (flexor) surface. The DQP shall apply digital pressure to the pocket (sulcus), including the bulbs of the heel, and continue the palpation to the medial and lateral surfaces of the pastern, being careful to observe for responses to pain in the horse. The palpation shall be accomplished by applying the pressure necessary to flatten the ball of the thumb (the distal thumb joint should not be cocked during palpation) keeping in mind that the palpation must be done within the comfort level of the animal, not extending or flexing the animal's limb beyond normal limits and holding the foot in a manner that will not compromise the horse's balance.

The DQP should recognize that horses have different tolerances for pain, that normal reactions will vary in individual horses, and that a reaction may be in response to a reflex or learned behavior, as well as pain. In the event that there is a reaction to digital palpation of any area, the DQP should allow the horse to calm itself and become accustomed to general palpation before returning to the specific area, which may allow the discrimination between pain and non-pain responses. While continuing to hold onto the pastern, the DQP shall extend the foot and leg of the horse to examine the front (extensor) surfaces, including the coronary band in the same manner as the posterior (flexor) surface.

If more than one inspector examines the same horse, then each examination shall include a full examination of the horse's movement, appearance and physical examination, as set forth in this Rule Book.

## **F. Scar Rule Compliance.**

The Scar rule applies to all horses born after October 1, 1975. Horses subject to this rule that do not meet the following scar rule criteria shall be considered to be sore and are subject to all prohibitions of Section 5 of the Act. The criteria for the Scar rule are as follows:

- (1) The anterior and anterior-lateral and surfaces of the fore pasterns (extensor surface) must be free of bilateral granulomas, other bilateral pathological evidence of inflammation and other bilateral evidence of abuse indicative of soring including, but not limited to, excessive loss of hair.
- (2) The posterior surfaces of the pasterns (flexor surface), including the sulcus or "pocket" may show bilateral areas of uniformly thickened epithelial tissue if such areas are free of: proliferating granuloma tissue, Irritation, moisture, edema, or other evidence of inflammation.

The scar rule allows for uniformly thickened epithelium on the posterior portion of the pastern. The scar rule is not intended to, and will not, penalize a horse that bears a scar or scars resulting from accidental injury.

(3) Definitions. For purposes of the scar rule, the following definitions are used:

- a. Anterior. The anterior surface is bounded by two parallel lines that extend downward from the bony prominence on either side of the end of the cannon bone at the fetlock joint to the foot, as divided equally into quarters. The anterior area covers the front 25 percent of the pastern.
- b. Bilateral granuloma. Any one of a rather large group of fairly distinctive focal lesions existing on both limbs that are formed as a result of inflammatory reactions caused by biological, chemical, or physical agents.
- c. Bilateral evidence of abuse indicative of soring. Evidence of intentional or malicious injury inflicted to both front pasterns.
- d. Edema. Collection of fluid within tissue. Localized edema is considered a violation. Localized edema is the collection of fluids within tissue causing swelling, pain, and/or loss of function in or near the areas where chemical or physical trauma has occurred. In contrast, generalized edema is not considered a violation. Generalized edema involves a greater portion of the extremity caused by such items as tight bandages or injuries above the pastern resulting in fluids gravitating to the pastern area.
- e. Excessive loss of hair. Unsightly areas of thinned hair and/or bare skin resulting from the permanent injury inflicted upon hair follicles by repetitive friction and/or pressure.
- f. Irritation. The precursor to inflammation resulting from a reaction of the skin to abnormal chemical or physical applications.
- g. Lateral. The outer surface located between the boundaries of the anterior and posterior surfaces as defined in this section. The lateral area covers 25 percent of the pastern.
- h. Medial. The inner surface located between the boundaries of the anterior and posterior surfaces as defined in this section. The medial area covers 25 percent of the pastern.

i. Moisture. Includes serum, pus or blood. This can be a direct flow of moisture and/or oozing of moisture out through the skin.

j. Neurovascular Groove. The anatomical lines of demarcation between the medial or lateral and posterior surfaces of the pastern are those parallel lines extending downward in front of the flexor tendon bundle along the depression or groove occupied by the neurovascular bundle which intersects with the angles of the hoof wall and includes the bulbs of the hoof. This neurovascular groove is anatomically located totally within the medial and lateral surfaces.

k. Other bilateral pathological evidence of inflammation. Pain, heat, redness, swelling, serum or pus, or loss of function in both front pasterns are indications of inflammation. Inflammation results when, in response to an injury or destruction of tissue the body attempts to dilute or “wall off” the injurious agent and the injured tissue. Inflammation can be acute or chronic and may result in permanent tissue damage (e.g., scarring)

l. Other evidence of inflammation. These may include without limitation pain, heat, redness, swelling, ulceration and/or excessive loss of hair.

m. Pastern. The part of the leg of a horse that lies between the fetlock joint and the hoof.

n. Posterior. The posterior surface is bounded by two parallel lines that extend downward along the palpable borders in front of the flexor tendon bundle to intersect with the angles of the hoof wall and includes the bulbs of the hoof. The posterior area covers the rear 25 percent of the pastern. In order to differentiate the posterior area from the lateral and medial, for purposes of enforcing the HPA pursuant to the plan, the posterior area is deemed to include the rear 35 percent of the pastern.

The posterior surface is bounded by two (2) parallel lines that extend downward along the palpable borders in front of the flexor tendon bundle (just behind the depression or groove occupied by the neurovascular bundle on either side) to intersect with the angles of the hoof wall and including the bulbs of the hoof.

o. Proliferating granuloma tissue. Growth of proud flesh that is usually the result of the body’s unsuccessful attempts to repair tissues that are injured and/or infected. The proliferating granuloma can create wart-like growths and/or abnormal thickening where the skin is corrugated, ridged or thrown into clusters of exuberant (proud flesh) growth.

p. Uniformly thickened epithelial tissue. A uniform or even thickening of skin that retains its smoothness, such as a callous or corn, and is free of proliferating granuloma tissue, irritation, moisture, edema, or other evidence of inflammation.

2. Anterior, Lateral and Medial Surfaces: The anterior, medial and lateral surfaces of the fore pasterns (extensor surface) must be free of bilateral granulomas, other bilateral pathological evidence of inflammation, and other bilateral abuse indicative of soring including, but not limited to, excessive loss of hair.

3. Posterior surfaces: The posterior surfaces of the pasterns (flexor surface), including the sulcus or “pocket” may show bilateral areas of uniformly thickened epithelial tissue if such areas are free of proliferating granuloma tissue irritation, moisture, edema, or other evidence of inflammation.

a. Determining the Boundaries of Posterior Area. The pastern is a three-dimensional anatomical structure. It is divided into four (4) equal quarters: the front (anterior), the inside (medial) the outside (lateral), and the back (posterior). Each of these four surfaces comprises one-quarter, or twenty-five (25) percent, of the circumference.

The DQP may use either the “Flattened Hand” or the “Neurovascular Groove” method to measure the posterior surface of the pastern. If, by using one or the other of these methods, the VMO or DQP are able to easily determine, and agree, whether the horse is or is not in compliance with the scar rule criteria, then they may proceed to document their findings. If, by using these methods, they cannot easily determine the boundaries of the posterior surface, or a dispute arises as to the horse’s compliance with the scar rule then they shall measure the circumference of the horse’s pastern, and determine the location of the boundary between the posterior and the medial and the posterior and the lateral areas using the chart set forth below. For purposes of this plan, APHIS will consider the posterior area of the pastern to include 35% of the circumference of the pastern.

1. Flattened Hand Method. Place the flattened hand on the posterior aspect of the pastern. The area covered by the hand is the posterior surface, and the area visible on the sides of the pastern will be considered the medial and lateral surfaces.

2. Neurovascular Groove Method. The neurovascular groove is anatomically located totally within the medial and lateral surfaces. The areas proper anatomical limits shall be defined for purposes of determining the anterior edge of the posterior surface by using the palpable posterior of the two pastern bones (long and short) and the adjacent palpable border of the flexor tendon bundle. Placing the tip of the finger against the pastern bone with the finger nail against the bone. The opposite side of the finger (non-fingernail side) in most horses will be in close proximity to the anterior edge of the flexor tendon bundle, i.e., line of demarcation for the posterior surface. Any scar tissue covered by the finger is in violation.

3. Measuring the Posterior Method. The posterior surface is determined by measuring the circumference of the pastern where the affected area is located. Using the midline of the posterior surface, which is half the distance between the bulbs of the heel, the actual posterior surface extends 12.5 percent of the circumference on either side of this the midline. To allow for a margin of error, use 17.5 percent from the

midline. The circumference measurement is multiplied by .175 to obtain the distance from the posterior midline to the edge of the medial or lateral surfaces.

### **(C) INSPECTION PROCEDURES FOR SCAR RULE COMPLIANCE**

DQPs may examine for scar rule compliance during the physical examination phase of the inspection process or separately. The DQP should observe the horse's foot while on the ground, noting the general appearance of the pastern area, if it is properly conditioned, well groomed, etc. While holding up the horse's foot, the DQP shall first examine the anterior, lateral and medial surfaces of the pastern. The area's proper anatomical limits shall be defined, laterally and medially by the palpable posterior of the two pastern bones (long and short). These surfaces must comply with the definitions in section above.

The DQP shall then examine the posterior (flexor) surface of the pastern, that surface not previously defined as anterior, anterior-lateral or anterior-medial. The flexor surface must also comply with the definitions in section above.

In evaluating all of the pastern surfaces for the purposes of scar rule compliance, the DQP and VMO shall take into consideration the horse's age, in awareness of the fact that the amount and degree of allowable suspect or questionable tissue which is not obviously and flagrantly in violation may be expected to increase linearly with the horse's age.

## **VIII. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES**

### **A. Affected Individuals, Firms, Corporations or Partnerships**

The provisions of these Rules shall apply to all owners, exhibitors, agents, trainers, managers, show or sale officials, show or sale employees of the above, participating either individually, or as a member of an entity, or any person who acts in a manner in violation of the Rules of the WIWHA or is deemed prejudicial to its best interest, and therefore subject to penalty.

1. Any act at an WIWHA affiliated or sanctioned show, sale or exhibition in violation of the Rules by a member of the family or employee of a person participating in the show, sale or exhibition who is described in the previous sentence, may be deemed to have been committed by such person and subject him to penalty.
2. Any person, firm, corporation or partnership or any other entity granted any right, privilege, authorization, or license, or accepting any benefit from WIWHA shall be deemed to have contractually agreed to fully cooperate with all duly appointed committees, agents, and employees in enforcement of all Rules, regulations, and orders of WIWHA.
3. Any person, firm, corporation, partnership, or other entity granted any right, privilege, authorization, or license, or accepting, receiving, or exercising same, may be required to give evidence or testimony in any investigation, hearing, trial, or other proceeding held by duly appointed representatives of the WIWHA in connection with investigation of possible violation and enforcement of these Rules.
4. Any violations and penalties shall apply applicable equally to all horse shows, sales and exhibitions affiliated with WIWHA.

### **B. VIOLATIONS**

A violation is any act committed at an affiliated or sanctioned event, prejudicial to the best interest of the WIWHA, including but not limited to:

1. Violation of the Rules of the WIWHA.
2. Disqualification by a Show.
3. The following specific acts:
  - a) Providing false information of any nature or kind to any show official or DQP.
  - b) Acting or inciting or permitting any other to act in a manner contrary to the Rules of the WIWHA, or in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, unsportsmanlike or intemperate, or prejudicial to the best interest of WIWHA.
  - c) Committing any act or making any remark considered offensive and/or having been made with intent to influence or cast aspersions on the judging.
  - d) Failing, as a Judge or DQP, to perform duties at a show in accordance with the Rules.
  - e) Failing, as an exhibitor or his representative, to sign the entry blank of a show in which he competes.
  - f) Physically assaulting any horse show or sale or WIWHA official and/or treating a horse cruelly.
  - g) Failing to obey any penalty imposed by the WIWHA
  - h) Influencing or attempting to influence by any means or manner any DQP in determining the eligibility of any horse entering any class at any affiliated show or event.
  - i) Influencing or attempting to influence by any means or manner any Judge in determining which horse shall win in any class at any affiliated show.
  - j) Inserting any object or material between the pad and the hoof other than acceptable hoof packing, which includes pine tar, oakum, live rubber, sponge rubber, silicone, commercial hoof packing or other substances used to maintain adequate frog pressure or sole consistency.
  - k) Verbal or physical abuse directed to anyone representing the WIWHA, Show or Sale Management, Judges, DQP, Director of Animal Welfare/DQP Coordinators, USDA, Employees or Directors, while functioning in any official capacity at, or pertaining to, any horse show, sale, or exhibition.

- l) Showing or attempting to exhibit a horse while on suspension. Class will be re-tied.
- m) Showing or attempting to exhibit a horse that is on suspension. Class will be re-tied.
- n) Misrepresentation of a horse's identity, name, height, age, eligibility for the class, registered or recorded name, registration number, owner of record, or other information on any entry blank, or substitution in the show ring of any entry other than the one named for the class in question. This shall result in the exhibitor's forfeiture of any ribbon, trophy, cash prize and other award won by such misrepresented or substituted animal, and shall render the exhibitor liable for further penalty. The class will be re-tied.
- o) Voluntarily removing a horse from the ring without the permission of a judge, for which the exhibitor and all animals under his care and training may be disqualified from all future classes at that show by Show Management and caused to forfeit all prizes and entry fees for the entire show.

**C. PENALTIES**

Violations and penalties will be assessed at all shows, sales, and exhibitions affiliated or sanctioned by the WIWHA.

**2010 Horse Protection Penalty Protocol**

USDA has established the following recommended penalty structure for implementation by the HIO for enforcement of the HPA and HPR. The HIO may apply more stringent penalties but not less than minimum requirements set forth in the penalty structure.

- If an HIO imposes and enforces a penalty that USDA believes effectuates the purpose of the Act and the regulations, USDA will not initiate a Federal case against the violator.
- USDA may initiate a federal case against any persons who participated in the entry, showing and, if appropriate, transportation of a sore horse (including, for example, the owner, custodian, trainer, rider, and/or transporter), if it is determined that the HIO has not enforced a penalty that effectuates the purpose of the Act and the regulations.
- PLEASE NOTE:** USDA retains primary jurisdiction to pursue cases when it deems appropriate.

SUSPENSIONS	1 <sup>ST</sup> OFFENSE	2 <sup>ND</sup> OFFENSE	3 <sup>RD</sup> OFFENSE
Bilateral sore	1 year	2 years	4 years
Unilateral sore	60 days	120 days	1 year
Scar Rule	2 weeks	60 days	1 year

- Foreign substance (Pre Show)** – Horse dismissed from horse show, exhibition, sale or auction
- Foreign substance (Post Show)** – Two weeks suspension and horse dismissed from rest of horse show, exhibition, sale or auction
- Equipment violation (Pre Show)** – Horse dismiss from horse show, exhibition, sale or auction
- Equipment violation (Post Show)** – Two weeks suspension and horse dismissed from rest of horse show, exhibition, sale or auction
- Shoeing violation** – Horse dismissed from horse show, exhibition, sale or auction
- Heel-Toe Ratio** – Horse dismissed from horse show, exhibition, sale or auction
- Unruly/fractious horse** – Horse dismissed from individual class
- Suspension violation** – Six (6) months for each occurrence

**Repeated Violations**

Multiple or subsequent violations that incur suspension penalties must be served consecutively. For example, if the violator received a bilateral sore violation and a scar rule violation at the same show or a separate show, the violator will have a one year suspension followed by a 2 week suspension.

**Appeals**

Violators will have the right to appeal a HIO ticket.

- USDA will closely monitor the HIO appeal process.
  - o By March 1 of the 2010 show season, HIOs must submit a description of their appeal

- process.
- o HIOs must submit to USDA their decisions for ticket appeals within 30 days of the appeal decision completion.
- Violators will need to have the appeal process completed or begin serving the imposed penalty within 60 days of the date of the violation.

- 1 -

G. Disqualifications and Suspensions A person who has been suspended or disqualified as a result of an HPA violation shall not: (1) enter a horse for the purposes of showing, exhibiting or selling at auction ("Enter a horse," as used in this section, shall mean to perform and of the activities that are required to be completed before a horse can actually be shown or exhibited); (2) show or exhibit a horse at a horse show, public auction, or exhibition such as a college football game or parade; (3) judge a horse show; (4) enter the show ring during the course of a horse show; (5) enter the inspection area or warm-up area where previously inspected horses are allowed to await ring or sale entry, during the course of a horse show or sale; (6) coach any trainer, owner, or exhibitor anytime during the show or exhibit; (7) transport horses to shows, exhibitions or public auctions; (8) prepare a horse on the sale, show, auction or exhibition grounds; or (9) serve as a horse show official. An HIO may employ its own procedure to ensure that such suspensions are enforced. In order to deter violations, multiple suspensions are to be served consecutively, not concurrently.

Each HIO shall update and distribute its suspension list on at least a monthly basis to all its DQPs, all certified HIOs, and to the HP Coordinator. All suspension lists shall clearly indicate the violation, the nature of the violation (i.e. bilateral sore, scar rule, etc) and the time period of the suspension.

#### XI. CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The conflict resolution process is intended to address cases in which there are differences in the inspection findings of a DQP and a VMO. If the DQP and VMO cannot reconcile the differences in their findings during the event, the matter shall be considered suitable for resolution under The Points of Emphasis 2009/2010. Notwithstanding this process, APHIS has the inherent authority to pursue a federal case whenever it determines the purposes of the HPA have not been fulfilled.

A. Resolution Procedures. VMOs and DQPs are instructed to work diligently at the event to resolve any disagreements as to inspection findings. DQPs and VMOs shall communicate the basis for their inspection findings to each other at the time the conflict occurs. If, however, a disagreement cannot be resolved, the horse will be excused from the class. At the end of the event, the VMOs shall provide the DQPs with a written list of all inspections where a disagreement could not be resolved. The list shall include the horse's entry and class number or sale number, and a description of the nature of the disagreement.

Within seven (7) days after the end of the event, the VMO and the DQP shall submit written documentation on each instance of disagreement to their respective coordinators. The HP Coordinator and the DQP Coordinator shall then work together to resolve the conflict. If at any time during the conflict resolution process APHIS and the HIO are able to resolve the conflict, the appropriate violation, if any, shall be cited and the procedures and penalties set forth in Section X of this Plan shall be followed.

APHIS and the HIO shall exercise the best of efforts in resolving any conflict resolution issue within sixty (60) days of the date of the initial dispute unless written and justifiable circumstances merit a longer time and those circumstances are exchanged between APHIS and the respective HIO.

APHIS will hold in abeyance any case that is timely and properly introduced into the conflict resolution process until the process terminates, and the proper penalty, if any, has been imposed. If the Department at any time determines that the HIO has not taken the steps necessary to detect HPA violations and has not imposed the appropriate penalty, as required by and in accordance with the Act, the Regulations, or this Operating Plan, the Department may institute enforcement proceedings against the violator. If and when the Department determines that the HIO has properly applied and enforced the penalties under this Points of Emphasis 2010, it will close its files on the case.

1 has Horses A, B, and C with Trainer 1. At Horse Show 1, Horses A and B are in violation of the scar rule. Horses A and B each get a two week suspension. Trainer 1, Owner 1 and Exhibitor 1 (if post show) each receive two-two week suspensions;

At Horse Show 2, Horse A receives its second violation. Horse A, Trainer 1, Owner 1, and Exhibitor 1 (if post show) each receives a two month suspension;

At Horse Show 3, Horse C receives its first violation. Horse C receives a two week suspension. Trainer 1, Owner 1 and Exhibitor 1 (if post show) each receives a two week suspension;

Owner 1 moves Horse A to Trainer 2. At Horse Show 4, Horse A is in violation of the scar rule. Horse A gets a 1 – year suspension. Trainer 2 gets a two week violation. Owner 1 and Exhibitor 1 (if post show) each gets a 1-year suspension;

At Horse Show 5, Horse A is in violation of the scar rule. Horse A gets a 2-year suspension. Owner 1 and Exhibitor 1 (if post show) each gets a two-year suspension. Trainer 2 gets a two-month suspension.

	Horse A	Horse B	Horse C	Trainer 1	Owner 1	Exhibitor 1*	Trainer 2
Horse Show 1	2 weeks	2 weeks		(2) 2 weeks	(2) 2 weeks	(2) 2 weeks	
Horse Show 2	2 months			2 months	2 months	2 months	
Horse Show 3			2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	
Horse Show 4	1 year				1 year	1 year	2 weeks
Horse Show 5	2 years				2 years	2 years	2 months

\*Exhibitor is only suspended if scar rule violation is post-show.

The suspension for a trainer, owner and/or exhibitor is two weeks each for each first scar rule violation for up to four different horses. Starting with the fifth horse and continuing through the eighth different horse, the penalty for each first scar rule violation is eight weeks. An eight-week suspension is imposed for each different horse in violation of the scar rule after the eighth different horse. The scar rule penalty provisions include references to disqualification of horses. These references are included as a courtesy to HIOs that also disqualify horses involved in violations under their own separate industry rules.

***In all cases, when any violation is identified after a horse has shown in its class (post show), the winnings shall be forfeited and the class shall be retied.***

**Unacceptable:** A horse that presents with tissue that does not constitute a scar rule violation, but nevertheless convinces the DQP that if whatever training regimen being used continues, the horse will be in violation in the immediate future, that horse will be considered unacceptable and will not be allowed to show, exhibit, or sell, but will not suffer additional penalties.” (Effective 2/28/00)

The suspension shall apply to both the horse and trainer.

- (a) Failure to have the horse inspected before entering the show or sale ring.
- (b) Failure to have horse inspected before being placed on exhibition.
- (c) Failure to report back to DQP immediately after a class if required or requested.
- (d) Working a flat-shod horse on the show or sale grounds with any action devices.
- (e) Removing the action devices on a horse being re-inspected before the DQP instructs you to do so.
- (f) Working a horse on the show or sale grounds with more than one pair of action devices on the horse, or action devices in excess of the permitted weight or configuration.
- (g) Illegal Shoeing -Post Show Shoeing not meeting the requirements set forth in Rule V, Section D, is a violation of WIWHA rules. Pre Show not allowed to show no suspension or fine.

***In all cases, when any violation is identified after a horse has shown in its class (post show), the winnings shall be forfeited and the class shall be retied.***

**6. Pressure Shoeing.** Horse shod or trimmed in such a manner that will cause such horse to suffer or can reasonably be expected to suffer pain, distress, inflammation or lameness when walking, trotting, or otherwise moving. Upon such violation the horse cannot show, and the Trainer, Owner and Exhibitor shall receive a suspension.

**First violation                      Lifetime Suspension**

**7. Fractious-Unruly Horse.** Any horse that cannot be thoroughly inspected by the DQP in a manner to sufficiently determine compliance with the Horse Protection Act and industry rules and regulations shall be prohibited from showing or exhibiting, but shall not otherwise be penalized.

**8. Whips.** Any violation of the whip rule will result in a thirty- (30) day suspension.

**9. Drugs and Medication Violations.** If a horse is found in violation of this rule, then the trainer, owner, and/or exhibitors responsible for the condition shall be subject to a \$500 fine and a 1-year suspension. Additionally, the horse shall be suspended for a period of three months.

**10.** Any person found in violation, by the WIWHA Enforcement Committee, of rules regarding remuneration of an amateur for exhibiting a horse shall be subject to a \$200.00 fine.

**11.** Any person found in violation, by the WIWHA Enforcement Committee, of rule governing Amateur Owned and Trained classes shall forfeit his or her eligibility for these classes forever.

**12.** Any person found violating rules governing artificial marking or appliances shall be subject to penalties found in the Other Penalties Section of this rule book as determined by the WIWHA Enforcement Committee.

#### **D. SUBSEQUENT VIOLATIONS**

Subsequent HPA violations shall be those occurring during the probation period. The probation period is the period of time after a suspension is served in which a subsequent violation becomes cumulative according to the penalties as set forth herein. The WIWHA will allow violators a probation period of one year for all HPA violations. Such probation period shall commence once a suspension has been fully served, and any subsequent HPA offense received after the end of the probation period shall be considered a first offense for the offender. Subsequent WIWHA violations shall only be those occurring in the same calendar year. Unless specifically stated to the contrary, the first WIWHA violation to occur after January 1 of each year, should be considered a first offense. (Effective 2/28/00)

#### **E. OTHER PENALTIES**

ANY VIOLATION NOT HAVING AN ASSIGNED PENALTY SHALL BE PENALIZED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE WIWHA ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES SET FORTH HEREIN, BY A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN \$25.00, OR MORE THAN \$5,000.00, AND/OR BY A SUSPENSION OF NOT LESS THAN 1 DAY OR MORE THAN LIFE.

#### **F. ADDITIONAL PENALTIES**

Additional penalties may be levied against any person, firm, or corporation deemed in violation of any rule or regulation of the WIWHA as follows:

1. Suspension from all Affiliated/Sanctioned Shows, sales or exhibitions for a period of not less than one (1) day and up to life.
2. Forfeiture of any prizes or premium won by an exhibitor who commits a violation.
3. Fine of not less than \$25.00 or more than \$5,000.
4. Probation: Probation for any period of time up to one year from the date of decision or, if suspension is levied, from the date the suspension is terminated. Probation shall be a time during which the conduct of the person is scrutinized carefully by the WIWHA and should violation be found against said person he is automatically suspended from all rights and privileges until the Hearing, without action of the Hearing Committee.

#### **G. GENERAL**

1. No individual, including a President or immediate past President may be selected to act as a Director or an Alternate if that individual is suffering, or at any time during the last six (6) months prior to the selection has suffered, an WIWHA or USDA HPA continuous suspension of more than sixty (60) days. No previously selected individual, including a President or immediate past President may act as a Director or an Alternate, if that individual suffers an WIWHA or USDA HPA continuous suspension of more than sixty (60) days. Upon receipt of a WIWHA notice of such a previously selected individual's WIWHA or USDA HPA suspension, the selecting Member Organization shall replace that individual within ten (10) days thereafter. A replaced individual may be repainted six (6) months after the end of his or her term of suspension, if the selecting Member Organization is so inclined.

2. A person suspended by the USDA is automatically suspended by the WIWHA for the period of the USDA suspension. The WIWHA may levy any other such penalty against the person as deemed appropriate.

3. A person suspended who has been suspended or disqualified as a result of an HPA violation may only be a spectator at horse shows, exhibitions, sales or auctions. Persons who are on suspension shall not

- (a) judge a horse show,
- (b) show a horse at a horse show,
- (c) exhibit a horse at a public exhibition such as a college football game;
- (d) ride a horse through a public auction sale;
- (e) enter the show ring during the course of a horse show,
- (f) enter the inspection area or warm-up area where previously inspected horses are allowed to await ring or sale entry, during the course of a horse show or sale; or
- (g) coach, by any manner of communication, any trainer, owner, or exhibitor anytime during the show or exhibit.

4. An Owner who has been suspended or disqualified as a result of an HPA violation may only be a spectator at horse shows, exhibitions, sales or auctions. Owners who are on suspension shall not

- (a) judge a horse show,
- (b) show a horse at a horse show,
- (c) exhibit a horse at a public exhibition such as a college football game;
- (d) ride a horse through a public auction sale;

(e) enter the show ring during the course of a horse show.

5. Any person who desires his suspension to commence before the date they receive notice of their suspension, shall file a written statement with the WIWHA stating that such person admits the violations and requests that the suspension begin immediately. In that event, the applicable suspension will commence running on the postmarked date of the letter or facsimile (FAX) transmission to WIWHA.

6. When applicable, horses will be suspended from showing or exhibiting on the same basis provided herein for the suspension of persons, with the exception that no monetary fine will be levied against the horse. Any suspension assessed against a horse shall continue for the prescribed period regardless of the location of said horse during the period of suspension. If said horse is sold, traded or otherwise disposed of, the weeks accumulated and/or any suspension shall remain against said horse. Notice of weeks assessed against any horse shall be mailed to the responsible person. That person shall have the same rights regarding protesting the assessment of weeks as prescribed herein above for persons.

7. In classes where professionals can show, the exhibitor of the horse, if he holds a Trainers license, shall be responsible for the condition of the horse, and shall be considered to be the responsible person. The responsible person is the person who will be penalized by suspension/fine etc., if a violation requires.

8. The Records Secretary of the WIWHA shall notify the management of every Affiliated/Sanctioned Show or Sale of all persons on suspension.

#### **H. SUSPENSIONS/NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES**

1. Any notice, document, instrument, or other paper required to be served on any person, unless otherwise specifically provided, shall be served upon such person by certified United States mail addressed to the last known post office address of such person.

2. Suspension notices will be issued within ten (10) days of the show where the violation occurred, by sending the notice to the violator at his/her last known post office address, via certified and regular mail. All suspensions shall begin twenty (20) days from the date of the suspension notice unless appealed, and once deposited in the United States Mail it shall be considered delivered and served. A violator may file a protest of a DQP ticket within five (5) days of the end of the horse show, sale or exhibition. The Enforcement Committee shall review the evidence and issue a decision within five (5) days thereafter. That decision shall be final unless appealed, which appeal must be filed within twenty (20) days of the date of service of the original suspension notice. Any appeal request must be in writing accompanied by a check in the amount of \$200 and a written statement as to why the matter is being appealed. In addition, an owner filing an appeal must set forth the reasons, and may provide such additional evidence as deemed appropriate, that such Owner believes would absolve them from any liability. If the Enforcement Committee finds the owner's reasons and or evidence to be persuasive, then the Director may rule on the owner's appeal without the necessity of a full hearing. Once properly appealed the WIWHA Hearing Committee shall make a decision on the appeal in accordance with the procedures set forth herein, normally within two (2) months unless written and justifiable circumstance merit a longer time and those circumstances are documented. If the WIWHA Hearing Committee determines that an appeal is without merit or made substantially for the purpose of postponing the suspension, the Hearing Committee may assess further penalties of up to three (3) months suspension and a one thousand dollar (\$1,000.00) fine.

3. Any suspension, which has not been satisfied at the conclusion of the current show year, must be completed in the succeeding year before that person is eligible to resume showing or exhibiting at affiliated/sanctioned events.

4. Any person who desires his suspension to commence before the date they receive notice of their suspension, shall file a written statement with the WIWHA stating that such person admits the violations and requests that the suspension begin immediately. In that event, the applicable suspension will commence running on the postmarked date of the letter or facsimile (FAX) transmission to WIWHA.

5. When applicable, horses will be suspended from showing or exhibiting on the same basis provided herein for the suspension of persons, with the exception that no monetary fine would be levied against the horse. Any suspension assessed against a horse shall continue for the prescribed period regardless of the location of said horse during the period of suspension. If said horse is sold, traded or otherwise disposed of, the weeks accumulated and/or any suspension shall remain against said horse. Notice of weeks assessed against any horse shall be mailed to the responsible person. That person shall have the same rights regarding protesting the assessment of weeks as prescribed herein above for persons.

6. In classes where professionals can show, the exhibitor of the horse, if he holds a Trainers license, shall be responsible for the condition of the horse, and shall be considered to be the responsible person. The responsible person is the person who will be penalized by suspension/fine etc., if a violation requires.

7. The Records Secretary of the WIWHA shall notify the management of every Affiliated/Sanctioned Show or Sale of all persons on suspension.

## I. OWNER EXEMPTION FROM LIABILITY

The following is information from the 1999 USDA Operating Plan concerning the exemption from liability for a horse owner who has been assessed an HPA violation.

**1. Limited Exemption from Liability** Section 1824(2XD) of the Act contains a limited exemption from liability for a horse owner who demonstrates that he or she did not "allow" the horse to be entered or exhibited in a show while sore. This exemption applies only to those owners who themselves did not participate in the entry, exhibition, sale or auction of a sore horse. An owner, to avoid liability for "allowing" his or her horse to be shown or exhibited, entered, sold, auctioned, or offered for sale while sore, must first present credible evidence that he or she did not participate in the entry, transportation, preparation for showing, exhibiting, sale or auction. Second, the owner must show that he or show took affirmative steps:

- (a) to select a trainer whom the owner would not reasonably expect would sore the horse;
- (b) to ensure that the trainer understands what soring is as defined in the HPA, understands that the owner does not want the trainer to sore the horse and understands the consequences of soring the horse; and
- (c) to periodically check the condition of the horse. Examples of such affirmative action by an owner include without limitation the following:

**2. Written Instructions and Acknowledgment** The owner has previously given the trainer written instructions not to sore the horse or engage in practices or use devices that could be expected to result in soring, i.e., chains over the permitted weight, prohibited boots, collars, and rollers, caustic chemicals, overuse of permissible devices; and has informed the trainer in writing that failure to comply with the owner's instructions will result in the trainer's immediate termination. The owner has obtained the trainer's written acknowledgment that he or she understands and agrees to comply with such terms, and has read, understands and agrees to comply with the HP A and Regulations.

**3. Consideration of Trainer's History** The owner determines whether or not the trainer has previously violated the HPA. For example, if an owner hires a trainer whom the USDA, in a litigated HPA enforcement proceeding, has found to have violated the Act on or after March 1, 1999, then the hiring of such trainer by an owner means that the owner is aware that the trainer has previously exhibited, shown, entered, sold or transported a sore horse in violation of the HPA, 811d has accepted the risk that such trainer may do so again. Such an owner would have to present evidence to show that he or she acted reasonable in knowingly hiring that trainer.

**4. Unannounced Visit.** The owner or the owner's agent makes unannounced visits to the trainer's facility The owner arranges for periodic unannounced inspections of the horse by a knowledgeable, independent licensed veterinarian (a veteriJ1arian who is not otherwise employed by the trainer and who is competent to determine whether a horse is sore under the HPA).

## I. PAYMENT OF FINES

All fines are due and payable as follows:

1. When no suspension is involved, immediately
2. When there is a suspension involved, on the last day of the suspension. Any fines not paid will bear interest at the highest rate permitted by law and, if collection efforts are required, the cost of such collection, including attorney fees, will be assessed.

## X. PROTESTS, COMPLAINTS, VIOLATIONS AND HEARINGS

Whenever any person, firm or corporation, hereinafter called and referred to as the complainant, believes that his, her or its rights have been infringed upon, or that another person, firm or corporation, hereinafter referred to as the accused, has violated the rules and regulations of this Association, the following procedures shall be followed:

### A. DEFINITIONS

Except as may be clearly indicated to the contrary, the following terms shall be defined as followed:

1. **"Complainant"** shall mean the individual or entity that initiates or causes to be initiated a proceeding.
2. **"Complaint"** shall mean the document, ticket or writing the filing of which results in the initiation of a proceeding.
3. **"Ex-Parte"** shall mean anything written, said or done by or for one side or party in the absence of the other side or party.
4. **"File or Filing"**, unless the context clearly indicates to the contrary, shall mean the depositing of any document, writing, ticket, paper, letter or request, required or authorized by these rules of proceeding, in the main office of the WIWHA as the same may be established from time to time.
5. **"Hearing"** shall mean that portion of the proceeding wherein evidence is taken before the Hearing Committee. Any violation of WIWHA Rules that does not result in a complaint being filed within four (4) years of the date of the commission of the violation shall forever be barred from proceedings by the WIWHA.
6. **"Hearing Committee"** shall mean those individuals qualified and selected to decide the issues in a hearing.
7. **"Hearing Officer"** shall mean an individual, qualified to practice law in the jurisdiction in which the hearing is to take place, a sitting Judge or Justice of any Court in that jurisdiction, or a retired Judge or Justice previously sitting in that jurisdiction, employed by the WIWHA solely to preside over a hearing before the Hearing Committee and to rule on evidentiary and procedural questions.
8. **"WIWHA Rule Book"** shall mean this Rule Book, as adopted the Western International Walking Horse Association and as amended from time to time.

9. **“Probable Cause”** shall mean a common sense determination of only a fair probability of an occurrence and is much lesser standard than that necessary to find that a Complaint is founded.

10. **“Respondent”** shall mean the individual against whom a proceeding is initiated

11. **“Rules”** shall mean these Rules of Selection, Procedure, and Evidence.

12. **“Staff”** shall mean any agent of, or counsel for the WIWHA, and any law enforcement officer or individual consulted by the WIWHA or the Hearing Committee.

13. **“Ticket”** shall mean that document delineating a violation as determined by a DQP (Designated Qualified Person).

## **B. SHOW MANAGEMENT JURISDICTION AND PROCEEDINGS**

### **1. General**

Violations of rules pertaining to the following matters shall be subject to jurisdiction of Show management as hereinafter provided.

-Action devices used by an exhibitor, which are prohibited by these rules.

The exhibiting of any horse in a class, which said horse or exhibitor, is ineligible to participate or compete in.

The exhibiting of any horse, which is shod in a manner, found to be in violation of these rules.

It is mandatory that any complaint or protest regarding the measurement of a horse be heard by Show Management.

### **2. Show Management Complaint Procedures.**

(a) If a complainant has reason to believe that an accused has violated any of the foregoing rules and wishes that matter investigated, he must file a written statement with Show Management stating the following:

- The name and number of the exhibitor and horse.
- The class in which the horse was exhibited.
- The rule that the complainant believes was violated.
- The manner in which the rule was violated.
- The name and address of the complainant.

(b) The complainant shall submit his written statement to Show Management, along with appropriate fee before the completion of the final class of the show. If the complaint concerns an infraction in the last class, the complainant shall immediately notify Show Management that he intends to file a complaint and he shall have thirty (30) minutes thereafter to submit said written statement the day of the show.

(c) Show Management shall then take such steps as it deems necessary to make a determination of the matter and shall render a decision as quickly as possible.

(d) If the decision of Show Management is in the favor of the complainant, the \$100 shall be returned to the complainant, Show Management shall also order the accused disqualified and to forfeit any prizes or money which the accused may have received. Any exhibitor who was placed or tied below the accused shall be advanced one place in the final order. If only one judge was used in the class, then he shall immediately tie one more exhibitor for last place.

(e) If either the complainant or the accused objects to the decision of Show Management, an appeal may be taken to the Hearing Committee.

(f) After making its decision, Show Management shall cause a written report to be filed with the office of the WIWHA. The report shall contain a short statement of the procedure followed by Show Management in the handling of the matter and a finding of facts, and the decision arrived at. Said report shall be filed whether or not an appeal is taken.

(g) If the decision of Show Management is appealed, the Hearing Committee shall hear the matter at its next regularly scheduled meeting, or at some later meeting if it determines that more time is needed. The Hearing Committee shall hear the matter on the written statement and findings of facts filed by Show Management and determine if the decision arrived at was proper, based on the facts found by Show Management. If the written findings of facts submitted by Show Management are incomplete or unclear, the Committee may continue the matter and ask Show Management to submit additional findings of facts.

(h) Any exhibitor who fails to return any prize or money ordered forfeited by Show Management, shall be disqualified from showing until said order is obeyed, unless an appeal is taken to the Hearing Committee.

### **3. Decisions Not Subject to Protest.**

The soundness of a horse, when determined by an official veterinarian or DQP of the show or by a Judge is not subject to Protest during the present show or event.

A Judge's decision, representing his or her individual preference, is not subject to Protest unless it is alleged to be in violation of the Rules.

***A Protest with respect to the height of a horse or the length of a horse's foot may be made only to the Show Committee. Re-measurement shall take place immediately, to the end that there shall be no change in height by re-shoeing. The decision of Show Officials shall not be reviewable by the WIWHA Enforcement Committee.***

## C. WIWHA HEARING COMMITTEE AND PROCEEDINGS

The Hearing Committee shall be responsible for conducting hearings that may come before it in connection with violations of the rules and regulations of the WIWHA. The Hearing Committee shall have such other duties and responsibilities as may be set forth in these rules and as prescribed by the WIWHA.

Violations of rules or regulations of the WIWHA not expressly delegated to Show Management, shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Hearing Committee as hereinafter provided.

### 1. Initiation of Disciplinary Proceedings.

**(a)** Whenever any interested individual, or entity, (the "Complainant") shall believe that a rule and/or regulation contained in the WIWHA Rule Book has been violated and desires to initiate a disciplinary proceeding, such individual, or entity, shall file in the office of the WIWHA a written statement (the "Complaint") specifically setting forth the allegation(s) of violation(s), and for each alleged violation, the Rule or portion thereof alleged to have been violated and the manner in which it was violated, including, if available, dates, times, and places.

**(b)** The Complaint shall set forth the name of the alleged violator (the "Respondent") and the address, if known, and the name and address of the Complainant. It shall be sworn to and executed before an individual authorized in the Complainant's jurisdiction to administer oaths. The Complaint shall be accompanied by a non-refundable administrative fee established by the WIWHA.

**(c)** The WIWHA Enforcement Committee shall review DQP tickets and shall investigate ticket protests, complaints, and/or violations, brought to or by the WIWHA relating to a ticket issued by a DQP, the findings of a DQP, the inspection methods of a DQP, the abilities of or conduct by a DQP, or the integrity of a DQP.

**(1)** If after concluding the review or investigation, the Enforcement Committee finds sufficient reason to believe the ticket protest to be valid, the Chairman shall certify the matter to the Hearing Committee without the necessity of the complaining individual paying any administrative fee, and the effect of the DQP ticket shall be stayed pending the hearing by the Enforcement Committee.

**(2)** If after concluding the review or investigation, the Enforcement Committee finds insufficient reason to believe the complaint or violation to be substantiated, the Chairman shall issue a written finding and so notify the complaining individual or entity.

**(3)** If after concluding the review or investigation, the Enforcement Committee finds sufficient reason to believe the DQP ticket, complaint, or violation to be substantiated, the Chairman shall issue a written finding and penalty, if any, in accordance with the WIWHA Rule Book.

**(4)** The written finding and/or penalty of the Enforcement Committee shall become final, unless the individual aggrieved by the decision appeals to the WIWHA Board of Directors. In order to perfect an appeal, the individual must file with the Secretary- Treasurer a written request for an appeal hearing and post the appropriate non-refundable administrative fee, within twenty (20) days of the written decision of the Enforcement Committee. If the aggrieved party is the WIWHA or an agent thereof, the fee shall be waived. Upon compliance with the foregoing, the Enforcement Committee's decision shall be stayed until the WIWHA Board of Directors rule on the matter. Complaints or violations without specified penalties in the Rule Book shall be subject to determination by the Hearing Committee without any administrative fee.

**(d)** The Enforcement Committee shall investigate complaints and/or violations, brought to or by the WIWHA relating to judges, including, but not limited to, their conflicts, conduct, methods, ability, and/or integrity.

**(1)** If after concluding the investigation, the Enforcement Committee finds insufficient evidence to support the complaint or violation, the Enforcement Committee shall issue a written finding and so notify the complaining individual or entity.

**(2)** If after concluding the investigation, the Enforcement Committee finds sufficient evidence to believe the complaint or violation to be substantiated, the Enforcement Committee shall issue a written finding and penalty, if any, in accordance with the WIWHA Rule Book.

**(3)** The written finding and/or penalty of the Enforcement Committee shall become final unless the individual or entity aggrieved by the decision appeals to the WIWHA Board of Directors. In order to perfect an appeal, the individual or entity must file with the Secretary- Treasurer a written request for an appeal hearing and post the appropriate non-refundable administrative fee, within twenty (20) days of the written decision of the Enforcement Committee. If the aggrieved party is the WIWHA or an agent thereof, the fee shall be waived. Upon compliance with the foregoing, the Enforcement Committee's decision shall be stayed until the Board of Directors rule on the matter. Complaints or violations without specified penalties in the WIWHA Rule Book shall be subject to determination by the Hearing Committee without any administrative fee.

**(e)** The Enforcement Committee shall review all complaints and/or violations brought to or by the WIWHA not encompassed by those to be investigated by the Director of Animal Welfare Services.

**(1)** If after concluding the investigation, the Enforcement Committee finds insufficient evidence to support the complaint or violation, the Enforcement Committee shall issue a written finding and so notify the complaining individual or entity.

**(2)** If after concluding the investigation, the Enforcement Committee finds sufficient evidence to believe the complaint or violation to be substantiated, the Enforcement Committee shall issue a written finding and penalty, if any, in accordance with the WIWHA Rule Book.

**(3)** The written finding and/or penalty of the Enforcement Committee shall become final unless the individual or entity aggrieved by the decision appeals to the Board of Directors. In order to perfect an appeal, the individual or entity must file with the Secretary- Treasurer a written request for an appeal hearing and post the appropriate non- refundable administrative fee, within twenty (20) days of the written decision of the Director. If the aggrieved party is the Commission or an agent thereof, the fee shall be waived. Upon compliance with the foregoing, the Director's decision shall be stayed until the Hearing Committee rules on the matter. Complaints or violations without specified penalties in the WIWHA Rule Book shall be subject to determination by the Hearing Committee without any administrative fee.

**(f)** Upon receipt of a Complaint meeting the requirements set forth in (a) and (b) above or upon the certification of a ticket protest, an appeal of a ticket, a complaint or a violation as set forth in (c), (d), and (e), the WIWHA Enforcement Committee shall schedule the time, date, and place for a hearing. The date shall not be less than thirty (30) days, nor more than sixty (60) days from the receipt of the Complaint or appeal. However, notwithstanding the foregoing, if the WIWHA Enforcement Committee determines the Complaint or appeal to be of such severity and/or significance to the WIWHA or the horse industry that it should be heard expeditiously, a sooner date may be set, which date shall not be less than fifteen (15) days thereafter without the consent of the Complainant and Respondent.

**(g)** Notice of the hearing shall be provided to the Complainant and the Respondent, in writing, by certified mail addressed to the last known address of each. When the same has been deposited in the United States mail, notice shall be considered delivered and served. In addition to the time, date, and place of the hearing, the notice shall contain a concise statement of the nature of the alleged violation and the Rule violated with information sufficient for the Respondent's preparation for the hearing. If the Respondent is reasonably unable to determine the full nature of the allegation from the notice, the Respondent may, within ten (10) days of the actual receipt of notice, request particulars. To the extent that staff may possess such information, it shall provide it to the Respondent forthwith.

**(h)** A continuance may be granted to the Complainant or the Respondent for a period not to exceed forty-five (45) days, upon good cause shown, in writing, submitted within fifteen (15) days of the receipt of the notice, and in the sole discretion of the WIWHA Enforcement Committee.

**(i)** The WIWHA Board will not hear interlocutory appeals.

## **2. Hearing Committee Selection.**

The Hearing Committee shall be comprised of the Enforcement Committee, comprised of one director from each member club or group. This Committee shall be made up in accordance with adopted rules and procedures.

The Enforcement Committee shall meet for the purpose of hearing protests, complaints and/or violations brought to or by the Enforcement Committee in accordance with its written policies and procedures. The members of the Enforcement Committee shall function in accordance with a written policy that outlines its duties and responsibilities.

## **3. Hearing Procedures.**

**(a)** At all times of the hearing, the Complainant and the Respondent shall have the right to represent themselves or be represented by counsel of their own choosing. Both shall have the right to be present during the hearing, the right to confront those witnesses against those who are present, the right to cross-examine witnesses against those who are present, the right to present witnesses, the right to present relevant evidence, and the right to testify in their own behalf. Members of the Hearing Committee shall not consider the opening and closing statements of counsel as evidence. Opening and closing statements of counsel are merely counsel's view of the evidence and argument as to how they want the Hearing Committee to view and rule on the evidence. The Hearing Committee should only consider as evidence the sworn testimony of witnesses and any documentary, visual, or auditory evidence admitted by the Hearing Officer.

**(b)** The hearing may be recorded.

**(c)** The Hearing Officer, if any retained by the WIWHA shall preside over the hearing, and, unless expressly stated otherwise herein, shall rule on evidentiary questions and on procedural questions. Unless amended or altered in any manner deemed appropriate at the discretion of the Hearing Officer and with the consent of the Complainant and Respondent, the hearing shall be conducted in the following manner and order.

**(1)** Opening statement by the Complainant or Complainant's counsel outlining the nature of the Complaint, ticket or violation and each WIWHA Rule Book Rule alleged to be violated.

**(2)** Opening statement by the Respondent or Respondent's counsel.

**(3)** Presentation of evidence and individual witnesses by the Complainant or Complainant's counsel, cross-examination by the Respondent or Respondent's counsel, and questions by the Hearing Committee, if any.

**(4)** Presentation of evidence and individual witnesses by the Respondent or Respondent's counsel, cross-examination by the Complainant or Complainant's counsel, and questions by the Hearing Committee, if any.

**(5)** Rebuttal evidence and individual witnesses by the Complainant or Complainant's counsel, cross-examination by the Respondent or Respondent's counsel, and questions by the Hearing Committee, if any.

**(6)** Closing statement by the Complainant or Complainant's counsel, summarizing the evidence presented in support of the Complaint, ticket or violation.

**(7)** Closing statement by the Respondent or Respondent's counsel, summarizing the evidence presented by or on behalf of the Respondent.

**(8)** Rebuttal statement by the Complainant or Complainant's counsel.

**(d)** Following the presentation of evidence, the Enforcement Committee shall deliberate in private until reaching a majority decision. The Committee shall either find the Complaint, ticket or violation unfounded and dismiss it, or it shall find the Complaint, ticket or violation founded and determine an appropriate penalty within the guidelines of the WIWHA Rule Book. Upon reaching a decision, the Complainant and Respondent shall be summoned and the finding announced in person, to be followed by a written finding within ten (10) days thereafter. The finding of the Hearing Committee shall be effective the date and time it is announced.

#### **4. Evidence.**

**(a)** The presentation of evidence at the hearing shall not be required to conform to the formalities of the Federal Rules of Evidence, or the rules of evidence as established by case law in any state. Instead, to be admissible at the hearing, evidence shall be required to be relevant, probative, reliable, substantial, and of such nature as is usually relied upon by reasonable persons of reasonable caution in making judgments in regard to important decisions.

**(b)** The evidence of each witness shall be in person, under oath or affirmation, allowing all parties the opportunity to fully examine that witness. Upon good cause shown, the Enforcement Committee may excuse the required presence of a witness and admit the witness's affidavit, provided that the evidence contained therein is otherwise admissible and, on its face, the affidavit provides sufficient indicia of the foundation for the testimony contained therein and the reliability thereof, and neither the case in support of the Complainant nor of the Respondent would be unduly prejudiced by such admission.

**(c)** Original documentary evidence shall be admitted. Copies of documentary evidence shall be admitted if certified and accompanied by a sworn statement of the custodian of such documentary evidence that such individual is the custodian, the copy is a true copy, and that the original remains in their custody or was in their custody and has been destroyed in the regular course of business.

**(d)** Hearsay may be admitted if the Enforcement Committee determines that the hearsay is relevant, probative, substantial, reliable and of such trustworthiness as to be usually relied upon by reasonable persons of reasonable caution in making judgments in regard to important decisions.

**(e)** Statements attributable to the Complainant or the Respondent shall be admissible by the adverse party.

**(f)** If sufficiently credible evidence is that the Complainant or the Respondent previously made a statement inconsistent with the testimony at the hearing, that previous statement may be considered as evidence that what the Complainant or Respondent previously said was true.

**(g)** If sufficiently credible evidence is that a witness previously made a statement inconsistent with the testimony at the hearing, the only purpose for which the previous statement may be considered is its bearing on the credibility of the witness and not as evidence that what the witness previously said was true.

**(h)** The Enforcement Committee may consider proof of the Respondent's prior conviction of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude as affecting his or her credibility, but it shall not be considered as evidence of the alleged violation contained in the Complaint, the ticket or the violation which is the subject matter of the hearing.

**(i)** The Enforcement Committee may consider proof of a witness' prior conviction of a felony or crime involving moral turpitude as affecting his or her credibility.

**(j)** The only evidence of witnesses' character that the Enforcement Committee may consider is evidence of the witnesses' general reputation for truth and veracity and not evidence of any specific acts.

**(k)** The Enforcement Committee may consider evidence that the Respondent committed violations other than the violation for which he or she appears at the hearing only as evidence of the Respondent's motive; as evidence of the Respondent's intent; as evidence of the Respondent's scheme or plan; as evidence of the Respondent's identity; as evidence of the Respondent's knowledge; as evidence of the Respondent's conduct and feelings toward the Complainant and relations between them; as evidence of the Respondent's malice; as evidence of the Respondent's opportunity; as evidence of the absence of mistake or accident on the part of the Respondent; as evidence to negate the defense that the Respondent was merely an innocent bystander; as evidence of the unique nature of the method of committing the alleged violation in connection with the violation for which he appears at the hearing and for no other purpose.

**(l)** Expert testimony may be admitted and in considering the weight to be given to the testimony of an expert witness, the Enforcement Committee shall consider the basis for his opinion and the manner by which he or she arrived at it and the underlying facts and data upon which he or she relied. The Committee shall not consider the expert testimony as conclusive, but shall consider it as part of the evidence and give it such weight, as they deem appropriate.

**(m)** If the Enforcement Committee believes that a party, without explanation, failed to call an available witness who has knowledge of necessary and material facts, the Enforcement Committee may presume that witness's testimony would have been unfavorable to the party who failed to call the witness.

**(n)** The Enforcement Committee shall be the judge of the Rules, the facts, the credibility of the witnesses, and the weight of the evidence. The Enforcement Committee may consider the appearance and manner of the witnesses while testifying, their intelligence, and their opportunity for knowing the truth and for having observed the matters about which they testified, their interest in the outcome of the case, their bias, and, if any have been shown, their prior inconsistent statements, or whether they have knowingly testified untruthfully as to any material fact in the hearing. The Enforcement Committee shall not arbitrarily disregard believable testimony of a witness. However, after having considered all the

evidence in the hearing, then the Committee may accept or discard all or part of the testimony of a witness as it deems proper.

**(o)** The Enforcement Committee shall use their common sense in judging any testimony. From these things and all the other circumstances of the hearing, the Hearing Committee may determine which witnesses are more believable and weigh their testimony accordingly.

**(p)** It is not necessary that each element of the Complaint, ticket or violation be proved by direct evidence, for an element may also be proved by circumstantial evidence. The Enforcement Committee may find a Complaint, ticket or violation founded on circumstantial evidence alone, or on circumstantial evidence combined with other evidence, if the Enforcement Committee believes from all the evidence that the Complaint, ticket or violation is founded.

**(q)** The burden shall be upon the Complainant to prove the Complaint, ticket or violation by a preponderance of evidence, otherwise known as the greater weight of all the evidence. It is that evidence which the Enforcement Committee finds more persuasive. The testimony of one witness whom the Enforcement Committee believes can be the greater weight of evidence.

**5. Penalties.** Upon finding that a Complaint, ticket or violation is founded, the Enforcement Committee shall determine the appropriate penalty. The range of penalty shall be as set forth in the WIWHA Rule Book. In determining the appropriate penalty, the Hearing Committee shall consider the following:

- The degree of the Respondent's culpability;
- The number, manner, and severity of the violation (s);
- The Respondent's prior record of violations, if any, in comparison to the Respondent's tenure; and
- Any mitigating circumstances that may be presented at the hearing.

#### **6. Default Judgments.**

If the respondent fails to appear at a hearing that he or she has requested, the Enforcement Committee may enter a default judgment and assess appropriate penalties for both the underlying violation and the cost to the WIWHA of the respondent's unexcused absence.

#### **7. Re-Hearings and Appeals.**

**(a)** Within ten (10) days of the Enforcement Committee's announcement of its findings in regard to a Complaint, ticket or violation the Complainant or the Respondent may file a written request for a re-hearing based on newly discovered evidence that was not reasonable discoverable prior thereto and which, if found to be credible by the Enforcement Committee, would materially affect the outcome of the hearing.

**(b)** The Enforcement Committee shall review the request within five (5) days of its filing and shall determine whether or not to grant a re-hearing. If the Enforcement Committee grants a re-hearing, the proceeding will commence anew as if the original Complaint, ticket or violation were submitted on the date of the grant of the re-hearing. If the Enforcement Committee denies the re-hearing, such denial shall be final and the pending of the request for a re-hearing shall not toll the running of the time in which to perfect an appeal.

**(c)** Any party aggrieved by a decision of the Enforcement Committee may appeal to the WIWHA Board of Directors by filing with the Secretary- Treasurer written request for an appeal, posting the appropriate non-refundable administrative fee, and filing twelve (12) copies of the transcript from the hearing, all within twenty (20) days of the decision. The aggrieved party will be responsible for the cost of the transcript. If the aggrieved party is the WIWHA or agent thereof, or horse show management, then the fee shall be waived and WIWHA shall pay the costs of the transcript. Upon complying with the foregoing, the Hearing Committee decision shall be stayed until the WIWHA Board of Directors review the transcript. The Board shall review the transcript within sixty (60) days of the proper filing of the appeal. The Board of Directors may reverse the Enforcement Committee upon the finding by more than eighty-five percent (85%) of the entire Board that the transcript lacks substantial evidence to support the finding of the Hearing Committee.

#### **8. Confidentiality.**

**(a)** From the moment a Complaint is filed with WIWHA, or information in regard to a potential Rule violation is provided to staff, all information in regard to the Complaint or information, including, but not limited to, the names of the Complainant and the Respondent, the nature of the alleged violation, and the evidence and information developed in relation thereto, shall be held in strict confidence by staff, except when presenting evidence at the hearing, if any.

**(b)** If, upon presentation of a Complaint, ticket or violation and evidence at a hearing, the Enforcement Committee shall find the Complaint, ticket or violation to be unfounded, the confidentiality shall be held inviolate, except for the written notice of that finding as required to be directed to the Complainant and Respondent. If, upon presentation of a Complaint, ticket or violation and evidence at a hearing, the Enforcement Committee shall find the Complaint, ticket or violation to be founded, the Enforcement Committee shall hold all information in regard to the Complaint, ticket or violation in strict confidence except that the finding and punishment, if any, shall be released.

**(c)** Nothing contained herein shall preclude the staff from disseminating and discussing the Complaint, ticket or violation with any law enforcement officer, attorney consulted by staff, or any individual engaged or employed by any of the foregoing. However, such information as discussed and disseminated shall be held in confidence by the receiving individual in compliance with these Rules.

**(d)** The hearing shall be open to the public, including the announcement of the finding and penalty as the case may be. The deliberations of the Hearing Committee shall be in private and in confidence, and such confidentiality shall be held inviolate.

(e) Any staff member found by the Enforcement Committee to be knowingly and willingly in violation of the foregoing, upon the filing of a Complaint and by the procedure as set forth in these Rules, shall be dismissed. A member of the Enforcement Committee found to be knowingly and willingly in violation of the foregoing, upon the filing of a Complaint and by the procedure as set forth in these Rules, shall be excluded from participating on the Enforcement Committee at any time in the future.

**9. Ex-Parte Communication.**

(a) No individual shall have any ex-parte communication with any member of the Enforcement Committee in regard to a pending Complaint, ticket or violation except as may be necessary by staff in order to comply with these Rules.

(b) A staff member found to be knowingly and willingly in violation of the foregoing rule, upon the filing of a Complaint and by the procedure as set forth in these Rules, shall be terminated.

(c) Any non-staff or non-member individual found to be knowingly and willingly in violation of the foregoing, upon the filing of a Complaint and by the procedure as set forth in these Rules, shall be suspended from participating in any WIWHA affiliated horse show, exhibition, or sale for a period of not less than two (2) years and not more than ten (10) years.

(d) Any individual member of the Enforcement Committee found to have knowingly and willingly participated in any ex-parte communication, upon the filing of a Complaint and by procedure as set forth in these Rules, shall be precluded from participating on the Hearing Committee at any time in the future.

**XI**  
**Rule Book**

The official rules and regulations of WIWHA shall be embodied in a booklet entitled "WIWHA Official Rule Book". The Rule Book shall be added to, amended by, or deleted from, by the acts of the Rules Committee and Board of Directors as set forth herein. However, notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the Board of Directors, if it perceives an immediate need, may add, amend, or delete any rule, effective upon the adoption of the addition, amendment or deletion, by the affirmative vote of more than eighty percent (80%) of the entire Board.

Wherein, the "WIWHA Official Rule Book" may conflict with the most current USDA HPA official notifications, the  
USDA official notifications will prevail.  
(added 05/01/2010)

Reference

[http://wiwha.org/files/Emphasis\\_to\\_Horse\\_Protection\\_Program\\_2010.pdf](http://wiwha.org/files/Emphasis_to_Horse_Protection_Program_2010.pdf)

**USDA HORSE PROTECTION PROGRAM  
2010 POINTS OF EMPHASIS**

*(continuation of 2009 Points of Emphasis)*

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_welfare/hp/downloads/2009\\_show\\_plan.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/hp/downloads/2009_show_plan.pdf)

12/17/2008

**Emphasis on Inspection for Horse Protection Program**  
*with Horse Protection Act and Regulations cited*

