

For Immediate Release:

Q-Ribbon January 2012

Happy New Year! Ready or not here we come 2012!

Deadlines To Remember

Prior to February 1, AQHA should receive your June show applications and any corrections to your March shows.

AQHA Incentive Fund

If exhibitors ask for Incentive Fund forms and you need more, click here. You can download the form and make as many copies as needed.

Correction to the December newsletter regarding amateur membership fees, beginning January 1, 2012, amateur membership fees will be:

Amateur 12-month new	\$50
Amateur 12-month renewing	\$45
Amateur 36-month new	\$100
12-month membership upgrade to amateur	\$10
36-month membership upgrade to amateur	\$20

New Rules To Remember

The 2012 AQHA Rulebook is now on line – you can find it by clicking here. Printed rulebooks will be available soon. Here are a few rules we want to bring to your attention:

450(m) Provided that a horse is only exhibited once per class, in individual open working events (reining, working cow horse, west¬ern riding, barrel racing, pole bending, cowboy mounted shooting, jumping, working hunter, dressage, trail, tie-down roping, dally team roping - heading, dally team roping - heeling, team penning, ranch sorting and cutting), an exhibitor may:

- (1) Exhibit up to **two** horses in a junior class
- (2) Exhibit up to **two** horses in a senior class
- (3) Exhibit up to three horses in an all-age class as long as two are junior and one is senior; or two are senior and one is junior
- (4) Exhibit up to four horses in an all-age class as long as two are junior and two are senior

407(r) Regarding Halter -- Show management will have the option of

combining age groups into 2-and-under and 3-and-over with the unanimous consent of all exhibitors to be affected. Classes may be combined only if there are 2 or less entries in at least one of the halter age groups to be complined. Once halter age groups are combined and additional entries are taken, it is mandatory that halter age groups be split to the originally requested classes should ½ point or more become available in each age group. The performance halter would continue to be offered as a separate class.

The current show application does not list the halter groupings in this manner so we will provide you with labels for judge's card for both offerings should you have the need to combine. Please advise if you need labels and we will get them to you upon request.

Performance Halter Qualification

The AQHA Executive Committee recently amended the performance halter "10 performance points" requirement, lowering it to five (5) for 2012 only, and allowing open points to count for youth, amateur and Select amateur performance halter. Open performance halter will still have to have five (5) open performance points. This change is for 2012 only.

Example: If a Youth World Show horse has earned its performance halter qualifying points and has two points earned in youth western pleasure, one point in amateur western riding, and two points in senior western riding, it would be eligible for Youth World Show performance halter as long as the five (5) performance points are earned during the Youth World qualifying period. The same would hold true for amateur qualification or Select amateur qualification.

Judges Cards

If you are using the AQHA Show Results Upload system, you can also scan and email your judges cards so that results can be completed quickly. You can then follow up with the original cards with score sheets and any membership and/or Incentive Fund licensing forms and fees.

Ride the Pattern/Ride the Rail

Host your own Ride the Pattern/Ride the Rail at your next show. Contact Kelly Hess at AQHA for more information on how to book an AQHA Professional Horsemen for your show.

Incentive Fund

Please read the following PSA at your upcoming shows. If you have any questions give us a call.

INCENTIVE FUND

Attention all exhibitors of AQHA Incentive Fund nominated horses. Exhibitors, if you have not already paid your competition license fee, please go to the show office to pay it today. A competition license is required so points earned at this show, and throughout 2012, can count toward your

Incentive Fund payouts. The amateur and open competition license fees can be paid in the show office today.

The AQHA Incentive Fund, a multimillion-dollar program that started in 1984, pays people for showing their American Quarter Horses. The Incentive Fund payments are based on the most familiar and proven concept in the American Quarter Horse show industry: points won at AQHA shows. While there were some changes that took place this year to the Incentive fund, it is still the same great program you have grown to love.

Is your horse eligible for the AQHA Incentive Fund but not enrolled? Go to A-Q-H-A dot com or call 806-376-4811 for more information.

Calendar of AQHA Events

Remember to check this <u>link</u> for updated dates regarding AQHA world shows, Regional Championship Shows and Novice Championship Shows. These dates are updated periodically when they become known.

Advice From Show Managers/Secretaries:

We gathered lots of great information during Round Table Discussions at the recent Show Management Workshop held in Irving, Texas, in December. We'll share a few tidbits here and continue with more in future newsletters.

What's the best advice you can give to other show managements?

- Hire good staff and officials
 - Feed your volunteers
- Get as much work done before the show starts
 - Score sheets, patterns, labels on judge cards, judges clipboards prepared
 - Set up show and do a test run be sure day fees work
 - Meet with staff before the show define your expectations
 - (1) Encourage staff to smile, and thank them for being there
 - (2) Be courteous even through tough times
 - (3) Gather a list of cell numbers for all staff
 - (4) Check all equipment
- Do as much as possible to wrap up the show before show is done results, judges cards, etc.
- Communicate with judges pick up and return to airport, rent car, have a specific contract
- Take care of volunteers
- Suggest that staff stay in same hotel, use wake up calls to everyone at the same time

Show Management Workshop

Need to renew your show management certificate? Join us February 4-5 at

the Hyatt Place Raleigh West/RBC Center in Raleigh, North Carolina – <u>click</u> here for details.

Did you miss an issue of the *Q-Ribbon Newsletter*? Check them out here - *Q-Ribbon Newsletter Archive*.

As always – please let us know if you have not heard from AQHA regarding your show approval application within 15 days from the date you sent it to us. We are happy to check the status of processing and get you information necessary to proceed with your plans for the show.

"I am always doing things I can't do; that's how I get to do them." – Pablo Picasso

Here's to a prosperous new year!

Patti Carter-Pratt

Melynda Ackley

Executive Director of Shows Director of Competition Administration

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