



For Immediate Release:

April 2012 Q-Ribbon Newsletter

Deadlines to remember

Prior to May 1, AQHA should receive your September show application(s) and any corrections to your August show(s).

Rule Change

Effective March 12, 2012, exhibitors in individual worked events at AQHA-approved shows can exhibit a maximum of three horses per division. Additional changes were approved regarding the number of horses that a competitor may show at an AQHA show. This change was on the AQHA Show and Professional Horsemen Committee's agenda at the 2012 AQHA Convention last month in Las Vegas. It was approved by the AQHA Board of Directors and immediately approved by the AQHA Executive Committee.

Here's how the change reads: *To be effective immediately, rescind 450(m)(n)(o)(p) as it appears in the 2012 Handbook and replace it with the following verbiage. This reverts back to the 2011 rule allowing a maximum of three horses in junior, three horses in senior and a maximum (total) of four horses in an all-age class. There is no stipulation on the combination of the junior and/or senior horses in an all-age class.*

Under Rule 450(m), exhibitors in individual open worked events may exhibit three horses in a junior class, exhibit three horses in a senior class and exhibit a maximum (total) of four horses in an all-age class. There is no requirement for the number of junior horses and number of senior horses in an all-age class.

For the AQHA World Championship Show, under Rule 450(m)(3), an open exhibitor may show a maximum of three junior and three senior horses in individual worked classes. Also, an amateur or youth exhibitor may show a maximum of three horses in individual worked classes.

Individual worked events include reining, working cow horse, western riding, barrel racing, pole bending, jumping, working hunter, trail, tie-down roping, heading, heeling, team penning, ranch sorting, and cutting.

Under Rule 450(n), in Novice youth, youth, Novice amateur, Select amateur

and amateur division individual worked events, an exhibitor may show three horses regardless of sex (except youth, Novice youth and Novice amateur, where stallions may not be exhibited).

A Select amateur exhibitor, under Rule 450(o), in individual working events may show a maximum of three horses in Select amateur and amateur in any combination as long as three different horses are exhibited, and that a horse is only shown one time by any exhibitor in that class. For example, a Select amateur exhibitor in individual working events may exhibit all three horses in the amateur, all three horses in the Select amateur, two horses in Select amateur and one in amateur, or one in Select amateur and two in amateur. A horse may only be exhibited one time in a class in either Select amateur or amateur, no matter the exhibitor.

A Select amateur exhibitor, under Rule 450(p), in Select amateur or amateur classes, may show up to two different horses in group classes as long as one horse is shown in the amateur group class and a different horse is shown in the Select amateur group class. These group classes include showmanship, western pleasure, horsemanship, hunter under saddle, hunter hack, hunt seat equitation, equitation over fences and pleasure driving. Should the classes be combined, the Select amateur must choose on which horse to compete.

Check [here](#) for a quick reference chart.

Class Codes

We made a change to a couple of the class codes: when you offer boxing, please use Code 170 (example 2170 for amateur boxing). The boxing code used to be 164, which is now used for the new two-rein class – so if you are offering the two-rein class, please use 164 (example 2164 for amateur two-rein).

Boxing Class Rules

For 2012, AQHA added boxing to the list of classes available for youth, amateur and Select amateur competitors. A youth rider is eligible for 13-and-under, 14-18, all ages youth and Novice youth boxing classes if they have never been a finalist in working cow horse at any AQHA world championship show or down the fence at a National Reined Cow Horse Association major event, and if they have earned less than 10 points in working cow horse. Additionally, a rider is eligible for Select amateur, amateur and Novice amateur boxing classes if they have never been a finalist in working cow horse at any AQHA world championship show or down the fence at an NRCHA major event, and if they have earned less than 10 points in working cow horse in the last three years.

The AQHA Executive Committee recently approved riders age 50 years and older, who have previously competed in working cow horse, to have the option to compete in amateur or Select amateur boxing, or Novice amateur (if they meet Novice eligibility). If the exhibitor chooses to compete in boxing, he or she will not be eligible for working cow horse competition. If an exhibitor competes down the fence one time after competing in a boxing class, the exhibitor will forfeit his or her eligibility to compete in boxing.

For all other riders, if a rider is eligible to compete in boxing at the beginning of that calendar year, the rider will lose his or her eligibility to enter boxing if he or she shows three or more times down the fence in any judged class. Being entered in a class that includes the fence work will be counted as going down the fence, regardless if the rider boxed the cow and pulled up before the run was completed. Also, there will be no cross entering, meaning if you enter boxing, then you cannot enter the corresponding working cow horse class.

Show management may choose to run Novice boxing classes concurrently with the corresponding amateur or youth classes. For boxing classes to run concurrent, exhibitors will declare in advance to have their run count for a placing, if eligible, in both the Novice and corresponding youth, amateur or Select amateur placing. Exhibitors will only pay one cattle charge, but will pay the corresponding drug, office and class entry fees for each boxing class they enter.

Judge's Conflicts

Conflicts of interest can arise during an alliance event due to different rules being in effect, such as AQHA-National Cutting Horse Association rules. The judge needs to note these conflicts on their judge's card, therefore; it is possible for two judges to have different numbers of exhibitors judged for the same class.

Regions/States Cooperation

We encourage you to work with your region, state affiliate and surrounding states to work out possible show date conflicts before sending show applications to AQHA. You and your team know your area, your exhibitors and your show schedule better than anyone. That goes a long way with the approval process, as most likely it will have already worked through any conflicts before submitting requests to AQHA.

Professional Horsemen

Remember to announce to any AQHA Professional Horsemen on the show grounds. As always, it is their responsibility to check in with the show office

at the beginning of the show. Management is still required to choose a Professional Horseman or -woman on the grounds for each show day to act as exhibitor representatives. As show management , you should post a list of Professional Horsemen in attendance at the entry office. A form is provided in your show packet and should be submitted to AQHA with your show results. Please also immediately report to AQHA any member of the Association of Professional Horsemen who refuses to act as an exhibitor representative.

Q-Ribbon Newsletter

Did you miss an issue of the Q-Ribbon Newsletter? Check them out here - [Q-Ribbon Newsletters](#).

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.



Patti Carter-Pratt
Executive Director of Shows



Melynda Ackley
Director of Competition Administration