

For Immediate Release:

Q-Ribbon March 2012

Deadlines to Remember

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

Novice Championships/Regional Championships

Update: If a regional championship does not offer a Novice class that is being offered at the Novice championship shows, AQHA will allow participation in the youth or amateur class to count toward Novice championship show qualification. ONLY youth and amateur classes will meet qualification criteria if the region does not offer a particular Novice class.

Example: A regional championship does not offer Novice speed events or Novice western riding; for those classes, AQHA would use participation in the youth and amateur speed events and western riding.

Halter Classes

Last month, we featured new rules regarding halter classes that now need to be offered as individual aged classes in the open, amateur and youth divisions — with 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 two or less entries in at least one of the halter age groups to be combined. 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. Performance halter would continue to be offered as a separate class.

As many of you have already set your show bills for upcoming shows, we will be lenient with this format for a few months; however, shows beginning July 1, 2012, will need to list halter classes as being offered as individual aged classes.

Rule 452 Clarification

The use of "two rein" is allowed as recognized by our NRCHA alliance in AQHA working cow horse.

1) Two-rein class is open to horses of any age that have not shown in the bridle down the fence in any judged classes of the current show year. These horses can be shown only one year in this class.

2) A horse may be shown in the two-rein equipment for one year only regardless of the class in which it is shown in. The bit and bosal combination must be approved in accordance with NRCHA rules. Only one hand may be used on the reins and hands must not be changed. Any number of fingers between reins will be permitted.

Any horse can show in any AQHA working cow horse class with two-rein equipment for one year only.

Rookie Classes

Remember to add rookie classes to your shows this year! Simply write them in on your show approval application. Attached is a list of <u>class codes</u> for your convenience.

The purpose of the Rookie-level class in particular is to reach AQHA members of all ages and riding levels. By developing true entry-level classes, AQHA plans to introduce new AQHA members, as well as current AQHA members who have never shown, to the AQHA show scene. Rookie-level classes can be offered in all three divisions – open, amateur and youth. Eligibility for a Rookie-level class depends on both the horse and the rider's show records:

- For a horse to be eligible to compete in a Rookie-level class, that horse must have earned fewer than 10 lifetime points in that class in any division.
- For an exhibitor to be eligible to compete in a Rookie-level class, that exhibitor must have earned fewer than 10 lifetime points in that class in any division.
- Thus, to compete in a Rookie-level class, the horse and rider must each have earned fewer than 10 points in that particular class.

Open, amateur, Novice amateur, youth, Novice youth and Rookie-level points all count toward Rookie-level eligibility.

Show Approval Late Fees

As previously announced, the AQHA Executive Committee approved late fees for show approval applications. These deadlines and fees are being enforced so please be sure to check your deadline and submit your application in ample time to avoid a late fee. Here's a breakdown of dates and fees that went into effect January 1, 2012:

Show-Approval Late Fees:

90-119 days prior to show date \$200 late fee 60-89 days prior to show date \$400 late fee

Less than 59 days prior to show day subject to \$1,000 late fee or denial

Special-Event Application Late Fees:

90-119 days prior to show date \$100 late fee 60-89 days prior to show date \$200 late fee

Less than 59 days prior to show date subject to \$500 late fee or denial

All-Day Show Fee Formula

Want to do an all-inclusive fee for your show? Here's a formula that can help you figure out that magic number to charge!

4 classes @ \$.00 X # of judges	34 X \$12 X 4 judges	\$192
Stall	Stall	\$100
Office fee X # of judges	Office fee \$5 X 4 judges	\$20
Drug fee X # of judges	Drug fee \$5 X 4 judges	\$20
	Fence/trail warm up	\$10
	Total all day fee	\$342

Show Promotion Kit

Get the resources you need to promote your next AQHA-approved horse show. We're excited to offer you a complete online warehouse of resources to help promote your AQHA show! This marketing assistance program provides you with new and improved tools to help attract potential competitors and spectators to your event. Everything on this website is provided free of charge and is immediately available for you to download and print locally.

Show Management Workshops

Is it time to attend an AQHA Show Management Workshop? Show personnel need to attend once every five years. Click here for more information.

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.

Patte Nehmda

Patti Carter-Pratt Executive Director of Shows Melynda Ackley
Director of Competition Administration

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