

2010 AQHA SHOW RULES
ALL RULES ARE EFFECTIVE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2010

1. Rule 403 Amateur Eligibility (a) (6). Select amateur eligible members who have earned Gold Card status that have not activated the gold card, within their respective individual associations will be allowed to compete in any AQHA amateur class.
2. Rule 407 Show Approval (g). In multiple judged shows, in the timed events only, have one judge who can oversee/judge the class and sign the judge's cards. The judge may sign multiple show cards for those classes only.
3. Rule 408(b). Amateur Division Approval to read, "management will combine these classes back into an all-age when there are less than 3 entries in amateur or select classes.
4. Rule 417(i). Select Amateur All-Around.
 - (1) All requirements remain the same as with earning a select all-around as with an amateur all-around with the exception that ONLY select classes will count for earning a select all-around trophy.
 - (2) If a select exhibitor exhibits in halter, team penning, ranch sorting or jumping those classes will current even though they are not offered as select classes.
5. Rule 423(b) (1). Racing ROM: A Racing ROM is based on Speed Index Rating only and not racing points.
 - (2) Performance ROM: A horse in the open division or an amateur or youth with any one horse in their respective division who has won at least 10 points in one or more events (other than halter, performance halter and racing).....
 - (3) (c) Youth and/or Amateur Register of Merits do not qualify a horse for advancement.
6. Rule 425 AQHA Champion (a) (3). In the open division only, at least two Grand Champions with five or more horses in the sex division must have been earned under two different judges with at least one of them being earned on or after the horse's 2-year-old year and/or two performance Halter Champions, with five or more in the class.
7. Rule 434(h). Processing/Drug Fees. For all AQHA approved shows held in California, International and Canada, show management must collect a \$4 show processing fee per horse per show. For all AQHA approved shows held in the United States, except California, show management must collect a show processing/drug testing fee per horse per show.
8. Rule 438 Judges (a) (5) judges must wear western attire, including hat and boots, while judging an AQHA-approved show.
9. Rule 441 Prohibited Conduct (a) (2) AQHA members on the show grounds of an event held conjunction with an AQHA-approved event; and (3) AQHA members on the show grounds of an event during which an AQHA-approved class is held regardless of whether the conduct is associated with or occurs during an AQHA-approved class.
 - (c) Inhumane Treatment. Inhumane treatment of any horse (whether registered with AQHA or not) or any other animal on show grounds is strictly prohibited. Treatment of

any horse will be considered inhumane if a person, educated or experienced in accepted equine training techniques, would perceive the conduct of an individual to be inhumane. Inhumane treatment includes, but is not limited to:

(9) excessive fencing;

(10) excessive spinning (defined as no more than eight (8) consecutive turns and two (2) rotations);

(11) poling (altering an obstacle while the horse is negotiating the obstacle);

(12) schooling over ramped oxers in reverse order (i.e., from highest to lowest instead of lowest to highest);

(13) schooling using rails higher than four (4) feet;

(f) Prohibited Assistance. If a contestant, while inside the show arena or show ring, is assisted in any manner by another person or provides assistance in any manner to another person, the contestant shall automatically be disqualified. This rule does not apply to co-contestants assisting each other in team events such as dally team roping, cutting, team penning or ranch sorting. Furthermore, this rule does not apply to a contestant that assists another contestant if such assistance was necessitated for the safety of competing exhibitors or horses as determined by the judge— however, the contestant in need of such assistance shall be disqualified.

10. Rule 448(j) Performance Halter (2) First place performance horse will be named Champion Performance Halter in classes with five or more entries.

(3) For purposes of this rule, the term “AQHA Performance Points” includes points earned in any class outlined in Rule 422 other than halter and racing.

(4) The following horses are the only horses eligible to compete in the performance halter class:

(A) horses that have earned a Racing Register of Merit;

(B) horses that have earned a Performance Register of Merit prior to January 1, 2010; and

(C) horses that earn a Performance Register of merit after January 1, 2010 so long as their record reflects that they have earned at least 5 more AQHA Performance Points during their career in competitions other than Showmanship at halter.

Example 1: a horse earns a Performance Register of Merit prior to January 1, 2010. The 10 points earned to achieve the Performance Register of Merit consist of 6 Showmanship at Halter points and 4 Western Pleasure points. Per subsection 448(j) (4) (B) above, the horse is eligible to compete in performance halter class.

Example 2: A horse earns a Performance Register of Merit after January 1, 2010. The 10 points earned to achieve the Performance Register of Merit consist of 6 Showmanship at Halter points and 4 Western Pleasure points. Per subsection 448(j)(4)(B) above, the horse must earn 1 more AQHA Performance Point in a class other than Showmanship at Halter in order to be eligible to compete in a performance halter class.

(5) For the purpose of this rule, a Register of Merit or AQHA Performance Point is considered “earned” only after the Register of Merit or AQHA Performance Point has been officially recorded in AQHA’s records.

(6) Proof that a horse meets the eligibility requirements specified above must be provided to show management.

11. Rule 452 Working Cow Horse: (l)(4) Boxing – Each contestant upon receiving a cow in the arena, shall hold that cow on the prescribed end of the arena for 50 seconds, demonstrating the ability for the horse and rider to control the cow. Time shall begin when the gate closes behind the cow after being let into the arena. The announcer or judge will signal the completion of the 50 seconds with a whistle or horn. Only offered for Novice Amateur and Novice Youth.

12. 453 Green Western Riding: (d) The pattern must be selected from one of the three green patterns. At show managements options, one of the Green Western Riding patterns maybe used for Novice Amateur or Novice Youth.

13. ALL Green class points are not eligible for Incentive Fund.

14. Rule 478 Versatility Ranch Horse:

Show Approval (e) Divisions:

Open. For horses shown by the recorded owner or by immediate family members as outlined in the AQHA Official Handbook; or for horses shown by a full-time employee (six months or more), or children of the ranch which owns the horse and/or for all horses, regardless of ownership or trainer. Open exhibitors may show two horses.

(3) Novice Amateur – For horses shown by exhibitors who fulfill the Novice amateur requirements under Rule 405A(a) Novice Amateur Eligibility. The novice amateur division will not be shown concurrently with the open division. Novice Amateur entries will not be counted and are not eligible for placing in the amateur and open division.

Novice Amateurs may show in the amateur and/or open classes as an additional entry.

(f) Ranch Riding: Ranch riding and ranch trail will be shown back to back. Each exhibitor will perform the trail obstacle course and then immediately perform the ranch riding pattern along perimeter of area. The suggested ranch riding pattern may be used or another pattern may be drawn as long as all elements of the class are fulfilled.

(h) Ranch Cutting (1) For Open and Amateur, the number of designed cattle will equal the number of entries and the number of non-numbered cattle also equals the number of entries. (2) Objective will be to cut one designated cow from the herd and work the cow with the assistance of two turn-back riders and two herd holders. (4) For open and amateur competition, there will be a two minute limit. Each exhibitor must work two head, but has the option of working the full two minutes. Exhibitors must work their designated cow and one additional non-numbered cow within the two minute time limit. For Novice Amateur and Youth competition, there will be a one and half minute time limit. Exhibitor must work their designated cow but has the option of working the full minute and a half.

(5) Show management may supply two herd holders and two turn back riders, or exhibitors may supply their own helpers. If an exhibitor is a herd holder or turn back rider, he or she may use the horse that they are competing on, or use a different horse. Herd holders' and turn back rider's horses should be American Quarter Horses.

(i) Working Ranch Horse: (5)...If the rope falls off saddle during the class it would be considered equipment failure thus resulting in a score of zero.