

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**  
**OF THE**  
**APPALACHIAN HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**ARTICLE I. ORGANIZATION NAME**

The name of the Association shall be The Appalachian Horse Show Association, Inc.  
A multi-breed horse show organization.

**ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- A. To serve and promote the best interest of Recognized Competitions and of the exhibitors who participate in them.
- B. To make adequate and fair rules governing competitions and to enforce them for the common benefit.
- C. To adjust disputes between management, exhibitors, and Judges.
- D. To adjudicate questions of violation or the rules and to inflict penalties therefore in accordance with the rules.
- E. To maintain proper records in connection with the sport for the use of its members.
- F. To assign show dates.
- G. To publish a rule book.
- H. To promote the interest of horse and pony showing.
- I. To further the art of riding and to encourage horsemanship and the welfare of horses and ponies.
- J. Otherwise to assist in connection with the exhibition of horses insofar as the Association's facilities and finances permit.

## **ARTICLE III. MEMEBERSHIP**

Membership shall be of the following classes:

### **SECTION I.**

#### **A. REGULAR RECOGNIZED COMPETITIONS**

Recognized Competitions consisting of those corporations, organizations, associations and others holding horse shows will have full privileges and responsibilities afforded by the Appalachian Horse Show Association.

#### **B. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**

Individual memberships, senior and junior, shall be issued to each reputable person as may apply therefore and be accepted by the Board of Directors. Individual senior and junior members may attend membership meetings, and senior members shall be eligible for election to any of the offices (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Points Registrar) of the Corporation and shall have one vote. Junior members shall not be eligible to any office of the Corporation until after reaching the age of eighteen, and shall not be qualified to vote at any meeting until after reaching the age of eighteen. However, a junior member shall retain his or her junior status during the entire year of his or her attaining the age of eighteen.

### **SECTION 2. MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Show management can link to our website free, but to post a program will cost \$25.00

This fee includes dues for their Show Delegate/Representative to the Board of Directors of the Association. The annual dues for an individual senior member shall be \$20.00, and a junior member shall be \$10.00, provided that the annual dues for both show and individual members for any year succeeding an annual meeting may be fixed by the members having voting power at such annual meeting. Dues for the current year must accompany each application.

### **SECTION 3. MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

#### **A. AWARDS BANQUET AND ANNUAL MEETING**

The Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting of the members of this Corporation shall be held at the end of each show year, at a time and place to be designated by the Board of Directors. Members receiving awards will have 45 days to pickup their awards – if they fail to do so, they will then become property of the Appalachian Horse Show Association.

Definition of the "Show Year" from January 1 to October 31. The Awards Banquet etc. shall be held AFTER the end each Show Year.

#### **B. SPECIAL MEETINGS**

The President shall have the power to call a meeting of the Association at any time and must call a meeting when requested in writing to do so by three of the members of the Board of Directors, or by 20% of the members.

#### **C. NOTICE OF MEETING**

Written notice of Annual or Special Meetings shall be given by the Secretary to each member at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Notice of the meeting shall include the time and place of the meeting and the objectives thereof.

#### **D. QUORUM**

A simple majority of the members in good standing, present in person, shall constitute a quorum at any membership meeting. A simple majority of such quorum shall decide any question that may come before the meeting.

**E. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The order of business at Annual Meetings, and so far as appropriate, at Special Meetings, shall be conducted by Robert's Rules of Order.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

1. Roll Call.
2. Reading and disposal of any unapproved minutes.
3. Report of officers and committees.
4. Unfinished business.
5. New Business
6. Adjournment

**F. REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

The Board of Directors may suspend, fine or terminate the membership of any member or Recognized Competition if the Hearing Committee of the Association determines that:

1. The conduct of the member of the Recognized Competition is adverse to the best interests of equitation or the Association
2. The member or Recognized Competition has not complied with the requirements of membership in the Association.

The Board of Directors may only act after a hearing, reasonable notice to the member or Recognized Competition, with a reasonable opportunity to present evidence in support of the member's or Recognized Competition's position. It shall take a simple majority vote of those members present at any duly called meeting of the Board of Directors to initiate a disciplinary action.

**ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1. GENERAL**

The Officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a High Point Registrar who shall be elected for two-year terms at the annual meeting. Elections will be by mailed in vote only. Ballots are received by the second Tuesday of November of the current election year. All Officers shall serve until the election of their duly qualified successors, or otherwise his or her office shall forthwith become vacant and shall be filled by election by the Board of Directors. Winners are announced during the Awards Banquet at the end of the two-year term.

Under extra-ordinary circumstances, as determined in their absolute by unanimous agreement of three (3) officers of the Board of Directors, a member of the Board of Directors may participate at a Board Meeting by means of a conference telephone or similar communication equipment which allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.

**SECTION 2. THE PRESIDENT**

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the members and Board of Directors. He or she shall, with the Secretary, sign all contracts and obligations of the Association. He or she shall make modifications in the application of the Rules under special circumstances and report any such modification granted to the Board of Directors at its next meeting. He or she shall appoint all Standing and Ad Hoc committees chairpersons and a Recording Secretary to take minutes at the meetings.

**SECTION 3. VICE PRESIDENT**

In the absence of the President, he or she shall perform the duties of the President.

#### **SECTION 4. SECRETARY**

The Secretary shall give notice of all meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors. He or she shall have charge of the Corporate books, shall sign all Certificates of membership, shall sign with the President such instruments as require such signature, and shall make such reports and perform such other duties as are incident to his or her office, or are properly required of him or her by the Board of Directors. Notify all Recognized Competitions of the suspension of any person and period thereof.

#### **SECTION 5. TREASURER**

The Treasurer shall collect all monies due to the Association, shall have the care and custody of and be responsible for the funds of the Association, which he or she shall deposit in the name of the Association in such bank as designated by the Board of Directors. He or she shall keep proper books of account, showing the disposition of all funds that may pass through his or her hands. He or she shall make a full report in writing covering the financial condition of the Association of each Annual Meeting of the Association and at such other times as requested by the Board of Directors. Two signatures will be required on all checks issued by the association, one being the treasures and one by a member appointed by the President and remain for duration of the current boards' term.

#### **SECTION 6. HIGH POINT REGISTRAR**

The High Point Registrar shall keep a running total of all points earned by nominated horses/riders as received from Recognized Competitions. These points are in relation to the High Point Awards.

### **ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **SECTION 1. GENERAL**

The Board of Directors shall consist of the Chairman of the Board, Officers, Breed Directors, and Delegates from Recognized Competitions. All Board Members will be responsible for attending all regular and special meetings.

If any member of the Board of Directors misses three (3) consecutive meetings, for any reason, he/she shall be advised in writing by the Secretary of the Association and the member's seat shall be deemed vacant. A senior member in good standing shall be appointed by consensus of the majority of the Board of Directors.

Any conflict of interest on the part of any member of the Board of Directors shall be disclosed to the Board of Directors and made a matter of record. Such member shall not vote or use his/her personal influence on the matter, but shall be counted in determining a quorum for the meeting for which the conflict of interest exists. The member should abstain from voting.

#### **A. CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

The Chairman of the Board of the Association shall be a senior member in good standing and a past member of the Board of Directors of the Association. The Chairman of the Board shall attend all meetings of the Board of Directors of the Association, take part in discussion and vote. He/she shall be a non-voting, Ex-Officio member of all Committees.

#### **B. BREED DIRECTORS**

Breed Directors shall be senior members in good standing, who are elected by the individual members from each breed/show division for a two year term. Breed Directors must be knowledgeable of their respective current breed Association standards and report any changes to the Appalachian Horse Show Association Rules Committee. They will be responsible for providing ten questions regarding their division that will be used to make up the yearly Stewards test.

## **SECTION 2. DUTIES OF THE BOARD**

- A. The Board of Directors of the Association shall have the power to make full decisions on any question pertaining to the rules or any other matter of business of the Association, and to employ such personnel as it deems necessary to properly conduct the business of said corporation.
- B. The Directors shall make and enforce the rules governing Recognized Competitions and Individual Members and all other persons bound by the Association Rules. They shall adopt in their discretion the rules recommended by the respective Division Committees.
- C. They may after a hearing, censure, suspend or expel any officer or member of any committee of the Association or any other person whose conduct shall be found to be prejudicial to the best interests of the Association or in violation of its Constitution or Rules.
- D. They may censure, or suspend any Recognized Competition for cause.
- E. The Board of Directors shall keep a record of its proceedings and shall report at the annual meeting of the Association, or any special meeting of the Association, any matters which in its judgment require the actions of the members.
- F. The Board of Directors may alter the dues structure at any time they feel a change is warranted.

## **SECTION 3. DUTIES OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

He/she shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors of plans, policies and programs which will further the objectives of the Association.

He/she shall maintain effective communication and relationships with other organizations, both public and private and in that the Association and its members are enhanced in accordance with the policies and objectives of the Association.

He/she shall direct the public relations program to enhance public acceptance of the Association and its policies.

He/she shall plan, organize and direct membership promotion and retention programs, evaluate results and recommend policies, procedures and actions to achieve membership goals.

He/she shall direct all communications to the General Membership including newsletters, general mailings, and news releases.

He/she carry out such other responsibilities as may be delegated to him/her by the Board of Directors.

The Chairman of the Board shall report to the Board of Directors with regard to all his/her activities as requested by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VI. COMMITTEES**

The committees of the Appalachian Horse Show Association shall consist of Standing and Ad Hoc committees deemed necessary by the Board of Directors to properly conduct the business of the Association.

The President shall appoint, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, a member to chair each committee. Committee Chairs shall appoint, subject to the approval of the President, additional committee members. In addition to the duties specified below, each committee shall perform such other duties as may be assigned on a regular or temporary basis by the President and/or the Board of Directors.

Each committee shall present a report of its activities and recommendations to the Board of Directors for final vote of approval and action thereon.

## **A. STANDING COMMITTEE**

Each Standing Committee of the Appalachian Horse Show Association shall consist of not less than three (3) members in good standing. To enable a Standing Committee to properly function, each member is required to attend all meetings. Upon two (2) consecutive absences, the member is automatically removed without further action and the vacancy is filled. The President and Chairman of the Board shall be an ex officio member of each committee.\*

The Standing Committees of the Appalachian Horse Show Association shall be:

### **1. EDUCATION AND CLINIC COMMITTEE**

The duties of the Committee shall be as follows:

- a. Arrange and present educational features and clinics for the membership, Stewards, and exhibitors.
- b. Sponsor an annual Stewards Clinic in cooperation with the Stewards Committee. With the exception of guest speakers, active participation will be limited to Association Stewards and Applicant Stewards. Official notification shall be given 30 days prior to the date of the Clinic.
- c. Develop, in cooperation with the Stewards Committee materials to standardize judging of the various breeds represented in the Association.

### **2. FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Committee shall consist of three (3) or more Board Members one of which shall be the Treasurer.

The duties of the Committee shall be as follows:

- a. To prepare a complete income statement and balance sheet for each Board of Directors meeting.
- b. To prepare an annual operating budget for approval by the Board of Directors.
- c. To make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding the financial status of the Association as are deemed advisable.
- d. To review annually the dues structure of the Association and make recommendations to the Board.
- e. To make available a yearly record of the Association's accounts for the executive Committee (President, Vice President, & Chairman of the Board) at the close of each fiscal year. The results of such audit shall be reported to the membership at the following Annual Meeting.

### **3. EVENTS COMMITTEE**

The duties of the Committee shall be as follows:

- a. To aid Recognized Competitions in the organization of their shows.
- b. To work with Recognized Competitions to coordinate show dates so as to minimize conflicts and assure the highest possible exhibitor participation in all shows.
- c. To promote new classes recommended by the Association for High Point Awards to the Recognized Competitions and promote these classes to the membership.
- d. To submit to the Board of Directors at the end of the Show Year, the results of questionnaires sent to the membership at large with regards to the quality, efficiency and compliance of the Recognized Competitions to the Association Rules and Regulations, and recommendations to improve Association sanctioned shows.

#### **4. HEARING COMMITTEE**

The Hearing Committee shall consist of the Chairman of the Rules Committee, the Chairman of the Stewards Committee, the Chairman of the Events Committee, an Officer of the Board of Directors selected by said Board, and three (3) voting members of the Association at large. If any member is unable to attend a meeting, the President shall appoint a temporary member to fill the vacancy.

The duties of the Hearing Committee shall be as follows:

- a. To hear protests and charges in connection with alleged violations of the Rules by a Recognized Competition submitted by the Steward, Show Committee, Show Manager or Show Secretary.
- b. To hear protests and charges in connection with alleged violations of the Rules by an Association Steward.
- c. To hear protests and charges in connection with alleged violations of the Rules by a member of the Association.

#### **5. STEWARDS COMMITTEE**

The duties of the Committee shall be as follows:

- a. Maintain and upgrade the Standards for all Association Stewards, with the approval of the Board of Directors.
- b. Execute a Stewards Clinic, in cooperation with the Education and Clinic Committee, to be held annually, to which all Stewards **must** attend every third year.
- c. Develop materials necessary for upgrading stewarding.
- d. Act on applications for enrollment, renewal, promotion and certification of Stewards.
- e. Maintain current files of all Stewards and Applicant Stewards, including activities and decisions of the Committee. These files shall be Confidential and shall contain all information regarding references and questionnaires set out as part of the application process.
- f. Develop, implement, and maintain an effective feedback system concerning the expertise and ability of the Stewards to officiate according to the Rules of the Association.
- g. Receive all Stewards reports.

#### **6. POINTS COMMITTEE**

This Committee shall consist of no less than three (3) members of the Association. The Chairman shall be the High Point Registrar.

The duties of the Committee shall be as follows:

- a. To assure that accurate records or points are maintained for all horses of the membership that have been entered in competition sanctioned by the Association.
- b. To document and maintain a record of all ongoing approved Association High Point Awards.
- c. To decide on any matter or controversy concerning points brought before the Committee by any member to the High Point Registrar. An appeal may be made to the Board concerning a decision of the Committee provided the appeal is filed within thirty (30) days of the decision.

## **7. RULES COMMITTEE**

The duties of the Committee shall be as follows:

- a. Receive proposed Rule changes from the Breed Directors.
- b. Review proposed Rule changes for clarity, wording and conflicts with existing Rules.
- c. Refer proposed changes for consideration to any Committee influenced or affected by the changes.
- d. Propose Rule changes to the Board of Directors.
- e. Publish current Rule changes.

## **8. NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

\*The President of the Association shall not be a member or ex officio member of the Nominating Committee.

The duties of the Nominating Committee shall be as follows:

- a. To submit nominations for election of the Directors and Officers of the Association by September 30 of the electoral year. In making nominations for the position of Directors of the Association, the Nominating Committee shall take into consideration the variety of interests contained within the Association. These nominations shall, insofar as is practical, assure an equitable representation of these interests on the Board.
- b. To accept nominations for election of Directors and Officers of the Association from the Board of Directors.
- c. Ballots will be mailed out by October 15 to the general membership
- d. Ballots will be sent to an entity not associated with the Appalachian Horse Show Association to be counted, to avoid any appearance of ballot tampering or impropriety.

## **B. AD HOC COMMITTEES**

Each Ad Hoc (Temporary) Committee of the Appalachian Horse Show Association shall consist of not less than three (3) members in good standing, appointed by the President of the Association. The term of the appointment shall be specified at the time of the appointment by the President. The President shall appoint one of the members to Chair the Committee. The Committees shall report to the Board of Directors upon request.

## **ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS**

### **SECTION 1.**

This Constitution may be added to, altered, or amended at any meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Board, provided that a quorum (simple majority) of the members are present, and that two (2) weeks notice in writing of the proposed amendment shall have been sent to each member of the Board.

### **SECTION 2.**

Any rules or amendments changed during the year shall become effective by April 1st, or before the first show of the season, as set forth by the Board of Directors of the Appalachian Horse Show Association.

## **ARTICLE VIII. SHOW ADMISSION**

### **SECTION 1.**

Each individual Recognized Competition will establish its own price of admission.

### **CHAPTER II.**

Rules I to XXVIII pertain to the classification, conduct and operation of shows and to the general matters affecting Exhibitors, Judges, Stewards and Show Officials.

A knowledge of the rules of any sport is required of each participant, and the Exhibitor at a Recognized Competition is in no way exempt from this responsibility. A complete knowledge of and compliance with the rules are essential and the Exhibitor must be fully cognizant of all rules as well as class specifications in the Division in which he shows.

It is obvious that, however complete the rules may be, they can never cover all possible situations which may arise. If a matter cannot be solved by interpreting the rules to the letter, the solution to be adopted by those responsible should in principle follow as nearly as possible the spirit of the rules.

## **RULE I. - RECOGNIZED COMPETITION**

### **SECTION 1. - RECOGNIZED COMPETITIONS:**

All Recognized Competitions must agree to comply with and be bound by the By-laws and Rules of the Appalachian Horse Show Association and decisions of the Association including those of the Hearing Committee.

### **SECTION 2. - PRIVILEGES**

Only a Recognized Competition in good standing may claim to operate under the Rules of the Association. Recognized Competitions may enjoy privileges not available to other shows including:

- a. A position on the Appalachian Horse Show Association schedule of show dates.
- b. Assistance of the Association Committees, i.e. Events Committee, Hearing Committee, Stewards Committee, Points Committee and Rules Committee.

### **SECTION 3. - DATE ASSIGNMENTS FOR RECOGNIZED COMPETITIONS:**

A. Each Recognized Competition shall be assigned an approved show date. Once assigned a show date, they may choose to add additional days in order to have a two, three or four day show.

B. The following year, each Recognized Competition will have priority on the show date it was assigned the previous year.

C. In order for a Recognized Competition to have its show date approved:

1. It should file in writing with the Secretary of the Association, prior to the annual Show Management Meeting/Clinic held by the Events Committee, the date for its next show along with the dues for the current year. Any conflict arising there from shall be decided by the Events Committee with the approval of the Board of Directors of the Association.
2. Its Show Chairman or his representative shall attend a Show Management Meeting/Clinic conducted by the Events Committee of the Association to be held prior to the horse show year.

D. If a Recognized Competition fails to be represented two (2) consecutive years at the Show Management Meeting/Clinic conducted by the Events Committee of the Association (at which time show dates are assigned), that Recognized Competition automatically loses that date, which becomes available to new Recognized Competitions coming into the Association, and if no new show desires that date, it is available to existing shows on a first bid basis by their Show Chairmen or representative.

E. No date shall be allotted to any show which has indebtedness to the Association or to any Exhibitor.

#### **SECTION 4.**

Any show within a reasonable communication distance to this Association may become affiliated (Recognized) upon:

- a. Payment of show fees. (if applicable)
- b. Agreeing in writing to operate under the Rules and Regulations of the Association.
- c. Assignment of show date(s).

#### **SECTION 5.**

A show may apply for membership in the Association, have dates approved provided date is open, and operate under Association Rules. However, unless application for Recognized Competition Membership is received by the Association at least 45 days prior to the holding of a show, the date cannot be granted.

#### **SECTION 6.**

In the event that the management of a Recognized Competition applies for and is granted dates, and fails to hold a show on the dates specified, unless due to an act of God, or circumstances beyond show managements control, such failure shall constitute a violation of the Rules of the Association, unless due notice of cancellation shall have been furnished the Appalachian Horse Show Association in writing at least 60 days prior to the show date. Such violation may, by the vote of the Board of Directors of the Association, constitute grounds for refusing further dates to the show in question, or, to other shows under the direction of the same management.

#### **SECTION 7.**

The Appalachian Horse Show Association and Recognized Competitions shall not be responsible for any personal injury, or for loss or damage to property occurring at any Association activity. Each owner, exhibitor or handler shall indemnify and hold harmless the Appalachian Horse Show Association, its officers and Board of Directors from and against all claims, demands, causes or action and expenses of any kind, including attorney's fees arising out of or relating in any manner to the acts or omissions of an owner, exhibitor or handler, or the actions of any animal under the care, custody or control of the owner, exhibitor or handler. Presentation of signed Entry Forms shall be deemed acceptance of the conditions of this rule. In the event an Entry Form is not signed or presented, appearance on the grounds of any Appalachian Horse Show Association activity as an exhibitor, handler or owner shall be deemed to be acceptance of the conditions of this rule.

## RULE II. - SHOW PERSONNEL

Show Management shall be considered the party or parties financially responsible for the competition (i.e., the entity, person or persons who will retain or disburse any profits and who will be responsible for the competition's debts and bear any losses). Show date approval is issued to the Show Management and it is Show Management which is responsible to uphold the Rules of the Association, and is entitled to their benefits.

The Duties of Show Management shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Apply annually to the Association for dates for the competition.
2. See that animals required to be measured are correctly measured by the Rules and order the measurement of any horse whose height or length of foot is protested by an exhibitor.
3. Pay premiums and other indebtedness of the competition within 60 days.
4. At the Association's request, Show Management must furnish entry blanks, judge's cards, class sheets or any other documents within the time requested by the Association.
5. Hire the necessary Judges and Officials, including a Steward (certified by the Appalachian Horse Show Association or other recognized horse show association) for the operation of the competition and assure that they are properly qualified.
6. Have a copy of the current Association Rule Book available for reference at all times during the competition.
7. Furnish the Judge in each class a score card containing exact class specifications.
8. Appoint and identify in the Prize List an Appalachian Horse Show Association Steward, or other designated official knowledgeable of the AHSA rules, shall be present at each session of the competition.
9. Provide appropriate ID Badges for Judges, Steward and DQP.
10. Have a qualified Veterinarian present throughout the competition or on call.
11. Have qualified medical personnel with no other duties and suitable medical equipment present throughout the competition. This personnel must be identified and the area where they are available must be designated and readily identifiable. An operational telephone or other emergency call priority system must be provided by the competition which could be quickly relayed to the off site responder. An ambulance must be on the grounds or on call.
12. Assure that all horses entering the show grounds present a current (within a year of the show date) **Negative Coggins Test** to persons designated by the Show Committee.
13. Have a qualified farrier available at all times during competition.
14. New shows shall furnish a copy of the Prize List to the Appalachian Horse Show Association at least forty-five (45) days prior to the competition. Copies must also be forwarded to the Association Steward, the Judges and the DQP.
15. Submit the name of any Appalachian Horse Show Association member Exhibitor whose fees are delinquent, in writing to the Association within 14 days of the close of the competition.
16. Insure that no entry will compete until or unless the Exhibitor (rider/driver/handler/trainer or agent of such person(s) has signed an entry blank. In the case of an Exhibitor under 18 years of age, the parent/guardian, or if not available, the trainer, must sign an entry blank on the minor's behalf.

17. Eliminate, without waiting for a protest to be made, a competitor who has made entry of horse, rider, driver or handler that is ineligible.
18. Provide a number card for each competitor.
19. Forward within ten (10) days of the competition full results of the competition indicating winners, scratches and corrections in all classes, the names of all horses and owners and all corrections, changes and additions to the Prize List, to the Appalachian Horse Show Association.
20. Provide sturdy, safe overnight stabling on the show grounds for entries when a competition is held on multiple days. Adequate lighting must be provided in the stall area.
21. Provide facilities which include the following:
  - A. Convenient and ample water facilities.
  - B. Adequate and sanitary toilet facilities.
  - C. Food on the grounds.
  - D. A secretary's office with adequate personnel and proper communication between secretary, announcer, in-gate and stable area.
  - E. Adequate exercise areas or practice ring.(free of vehicles, spectators, debris & equipment
  - F. Lighting at sunset that provides full and complete visibility in both competition and warm-up areas.

### **SECTION 3. THE SHOW SECRETARY**

The Show Secretary of a Recognized Competition shall:

- a. Apply to the Appalachian Horse Show Association for show date assignments.
- b. Existing shows will file a copy of the prize list with the Association by December .  
Copies must also be forwarded to the Steward and Judges and DQP twenty-one (21) days prior to the competition.
- c. Forward within ten (10) days of the show, a marked entry sheet indicating the winners, scratches and corrections in all classes including the names of horses and owners. This material is needed in order that the winnings of the exhibitor may be included in the Association's permanent records. In the event that the Show Secretary fails to file a marked entry sheet within 30 days of the closing of the show, the Association shall levy a fine of \$25.00. If the fine is not paid, it shall be added to the dues for the ensuing year, and future show dates shall not be awarded until both dues and penalties have been paid.
- d. In the case of a Show making an error in the Championship points, the Secretary of the Appalachian Horse Show Association will notify the Show Secretary of the error, and correction must be made; otherwise the show will be dropped from the Association.
- e. May furnish the Judges in each class a score card containing the exact class specifications as shown in the Prize List or Catalogue.
- f. Provide a number card for each competitor, which shall be worn on the back or as instructed by the Show Committee.
- g. Provide appropriate ID's for Judges, Steward and DQP.
- h. Report to the Events Committee Chairperson he name of any exhibitor whose fees remain unpaid.
- i. Insure that no entry shall compete until or unless said Exhibitor or his representative has signed an entry blank.

- j. At the earliest possible moment, the Secretary shall notify interested parties if a class is canceled.
- k. Accurately maintain and record both entries and show results, including verifying Exhibitor and horse eligibility.
- l. Be held responsible for the entry fees, office charges, etc., and for any fees collected for membership to the Appalachian Horse Show Association. Cash payments for membership must be converted to a check before being sent to the Association.

### **SECTION 3. - STEWARDS**

(SEE RULE VIII)

### **SECTION 4. - VETERINARIANS**

Each Member Show should have a qualified Veterinarian present (or on call) throughout the show. The official Veterinarian should insure that he or a qualified associate is available the day of the show and should be prepared to handle all duties in the ring or on the grounds. The examination and treatment, except when requested by the Judge, of all other horses in the show shall be on a private practice basis.

The Veterinarian's decision, if asked for by the Judges, as to the serviceable soundness (evidence of lameness, broken wind or complete loss of sight in either eye) of an animal, shall be final for the purpose of awarding ribbons in the class for which he has been called. **If the Veterinarian is not immediately available, or not called on, the Judges' decision shall be final in respect to a horse in competition.** Only the Judge may call upon a Veterinarian as a consultant in regards to structural faults, defects and blemishes in areas which might impair a horse's activity and durability during a class.

No Exhibitor may procure and use a Veterinarian's statement to contradict the decision of the Judges with respect to his own horse.

The Veterinarian shall immediately, after leaving the ring, file a statement with his finding with the Show Secretary setting forth therein the number and title of the class, the number of the horse, the date and time of day. The Veterinarian shall have his Certificate of Finding read and signed by the Steward of the horse show on duty during the particular class.

If the Veterinarian is not immediately available, the Exhibitor's statement as to unsoundness of his horse shall be accepted for the purpose of excusing the horse from showing.

### **SECTION 5. - D.Q.P.**

D.Q.P. is a Designated Qualified Person qualified to detect and diagnose a horse which is sore and otherwise inspect horses for the purposes of enforcing certain rules set forth by the U.S.D.A.

A D.Q.P. must be assigned by a U.S.D.A. approved H.I.O. (Horse Industry Organization) before he can serve as a D.Q.P. at an affiliated or non-affiliated show.

A D.Q.P. working a particular show is ineligible to serve at that show as President, Chairman, Secretary, other show officer, Manager, other show employee or exhibitor.

A D.Q.P. shall not inspect horses at any horse show in which a member of his immediate family or employer are competing.

Failure without due cause of a D.Q.P. to attend the show or perform his duties in accordance with the rules shall constitute cause for disciplinary action.

### **SECTION 6. - TIMEKEEPERS**

Timekeepers in speed events preferably employ electronic timers. However, if electronic timers are not available, two stop watches are used, with the average time being the **official time**.

Timekeepers nor any member of their immediate family may exhibit in a **class** in which they officiate.

### **SECTION 7. - ANNOUNCERS**

The Announcer is the main source of communication between the Show Officials, Exhibitors, and Spectators. He shall communicate the judge's instructions to the exhibitors. recite the name of the winners of the various classes, call attention to upcoming classes and remind riders/handlers to get their horses ready, announce class cancellations, and provide general information for the benefit of the participants and spectators.

### **SECTION 8. - RINGMASTERS**

\*The Ringmaster is the Master of Ceremonies in the ring. He calls the classes to order, calls out the Judge's requests regarding instructions to the Exhibitors, notifies Exhibitors of elimination, accepts requests such as "time out", etc., and escorts in a safe manner any person such as Ribbon Presenters whose presence is required in the ring, conveys the Judge's Cards to the appropriate person in the show booth and remains alert to potentially dangerous situations occurring in the ring.

The Ringmaster may not officiate in a class in which he or a member of his immediate family or any of his clients is an Exhibitor. He will assist the designated Judge when needed. The Ringmaster shall at no time carry on any conversation or communication with the Judge that would or could influence the Judge's opinion of any entry in any fashion.

The duties of the Ringmaster shall be, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Relieve the Judge of unnecessary details; assemble the class promptly, keep the judging program on schedule, eliminate long delays between classes and control the conduct of the horses and exhibitors.
- b. Notify the Judge when all horses are present for each class and call his attention to those horses which are absent. This information will be placed on the Judge's card after each class has been judged.
- c. To ensure no person rides more than one horse in any approved performance class, except in the Gymkhana Division and Hunter/Jumper Division.
- d. To not allow Exhibitors to crowd up in the ring or arena and, at all times, endeavor to keep the possibilities of an accident at a minimum.
- e. Have charge of the activity in the ring or the arena. He should act as a mediator between the Judge and the Exhibitor. The Judge should request the Ringmaster to move and place horses as he advises. When the ring or arena size is small and the class entries are large, he should survey the situation and take every precaution to keep the horses moving until the Judge is ready for them to be judged. He has the authority to ask an Exhibitor to remove his horse for the safety of other horses or spectators.
- f. Have the authority to remove unsportsmanlike Exhibitors from the arena.
- g. Be familiar with the procedure of sifting, when the classes are large and the Judge requests that he line them up for the first sift, the second sift, and so on, until the Judge has his class ready.

### **PART III. - SHOW EMPLOYEES**

The term "Show Employees" shall include and refer to the following persons:

Gate Attendants  
Ring Clerks  
Farrier

and other persons engaged directly by the show.

### **SECTION 1. - GATE ATTENDANTS**

Gate Attendants are responsible for opening and closing the Entrance and Exit gates in individual performance classes i.e. Gymkhana. The Gate Attendants make sure the next horse is ready to enter the ring as soon as the preceding horse has left, and keep contestants entering in a mannerly fashion. Delays or confusion at the Entrance and Exit gates can throw the whole show off schedule.

### **SECTION 2. - RING CLERKS**

Ring Clerks are responsible for generating records of class participation and winners, checking contestants numbers as they enter the ring and notifying entries that fail to appear that their class is in the ring.

### **SECTION 3. - FARRIER**

Every show must have a Blacksmith available during all performances. He shall report promptly when called to the ring to make repairs during a class. **A Blacksmith may not officiate in any class in which he is an Exhibitor.**

## **RULE III. - CONDUCT OF RECOGNIZED COMPETITIONS**

### **PART I.**

#### **SECTION 1.**

All divisions and sections for which rules are provided herein must be conducted accordingly and shall not be held under other rules. Failure to do so constitutes a violation of the Rules of this Association and may constitute grounds for suspension or expulsion from the Association.

#### **SECTION 2.**

The Association will, upon the request of any Recognized Competition, send representatives from the Events Committee to assist it in planning its show. The request must be made thirty (30) days before the Show Managers meeting.

#### **SECTION 3.**

Every Recognized Competition and every person participating therein including exhibitor, owner, lessee, manager, agent, rider, handler, Judge, Steward, show official or employee is subject to the Constitution and Rules of the Appalachian Horse Show Association and to the local rules of the show. Every person participating in any show recognized by this Association is subject to the provisions of Rules IX and X whether or not the particular class in which he participates is operated under the Association rules.

#### **SECTION 4.**

The term "Exhibitor" when used herein refers to the owner or lessee of a horse when entered in a class where only the merits of the horse are to be considered. In equitation classes, the term "Exhibitor" refers to the rider. An Exhibitor may not serve as a Judge, Steward, or Manager at any show in which he exhibits whether or not the classes are conducted under Appalachian Horse Show Association rules.

#### **SECTION 5.**

The term "not in good standing" defines any person mentioned in Rule X who has been expelled or suspended by the Association.

Any Recognized Competition which shall allow a person not in good standing to Judge, manage, exhibit, ride or be a handler or act as an employee of an exhibitor, or serve as a Steward, after due notice has been received from the Secretary of the Association, shall be subject to suspension or expulsion from the Association.

The term "disqualified" defines a person who has been deprived of the right of participating in a given show by the Show Committee of that show.

It is within the jurisdiction of a Recognized Competition to disqualify an Exhibitor and/or his entries and to cause him to forfeit his winnings and ribbons at that show, and for cause to have the horses removed from

the grounds without being held liable for damage. All such disqualifications must be reported to the Association.

#### **SECTION 6.**

The term "horse" as used in these rules denotes either a horse, pony, or mule.

When the term "horse" or "pony" is used or intended in Prize Lists and Catalogues of Recognized Competitions where height is one of the qualifications of the class. **The word "horse" shall designate animals over 14.2 hands, except Appaloosas, Arabians, Morgans, Palominos, Pintos, Paso Finos, Quarter Horses, and Mules.**

If an animal **14.2 hands or under** is eligible to compete as a horse in any one of the aforementioned divisions, it may also compete as a horse in other appropriate classes. It may not, however, compete as a horse in one class and a pony in another class at the same show.

#### **SECTION 7. - DRUGS AND MEDICATION**

No horse shall be eligible for competition at a Recognized Competition if it has been administered orally or by injection any forbidden substance which could affect its' temperament, courage or manner of competition. A forbidden substance is any narcotic, the sole possession or use of which is controlled by license under Federal, State or local laws or regulations; and any substance commonly used by the medical or veterinary professions which affects the circulatory, respiratory, or central nervous system of the horse.

A person who authorizes or administers to a horse in competition a forbidden substance for the purpose of affecting its temperament, courage or manner shall be subject to penalty under the provision of Rule X.

Horses in competition at a Recognized Competition are subject to examination by a licensed Veterinarian. This examination may include saliva and urine tests Refusal to submit a horse in competition for examination by an authorized Veterinarian shall constitute a violation.

A horse that receives an internal medication (orally or by injection) after arriving at a Recognized Competition shall not be eligible for competition unless such medication is administered by, or under the direction of a licensed Veterinarian who is not an Exhibitor at the show and unless a certificate by said Veterinarian is filed with the Show Secretary before the horse enters into competition. This certificate should designate the contents and the purpose of the medication and the time of its' administration. If the medication contains a forbidden substance, the **horse must be withdrawn** from competition for a period of not less than **24 hours after its' administration**. If the certificate is not filed and a protest charge is made, the Show Committee, after verifying that a forbidden substance had been administered orally or by infection, shall disqualify all horses under the same ownership or management for the balance of the show, and all entry fees and winnings forfeited.

Exhibitors are cautioned against the use of medical preparation and tonics of any kind, the ingredients and quantitative analysis of which are not specifically known as many of them contain forbidden substances.

#### **SECTION 8.**

Cruelty to, or the abuse of a horse by any person at a Recognized Competition is forbidden, constitutes a violation under Rule I., and renders the offender subject to penalty. The Steward shall report violators to the show manager and they shall bar the violators from further participation for the remainder of the show. . It shall be the duty of the Steward and any properly constituted humane organization to report to the Show Management any person who indulges in this practice for further action as may be deemed appropriate. The Show Management may appoint a Veterinarian to inspect any animal in competition. Refusal to submit an animal for examination by an authorized Veterinarian after due notification shall constitute a violation. Show Management is encouraged to contact their local humane society.

The following acts are included under the words "cruelty" and "abuse" and are included but not limited to:

- A. Rapping the legs of a horse with the butt end of a riding crop or other implement.
- B. Use of shackles.

- C. Showing a horse with raw or bleeding sores around the coronet, pasterns, or legs.
- D. Use of any explosive (e.g. firecrackers, torpedoes, etc.) anywhere on the show grounds.
- E. Inhumane treatment of a horse in a stall, runway, practice/warm-up arena, show ring or anywhere on the show grounds, by any person.
- F. Manual poling with any object other than a bamboo pole.

### **SECTION 9.**

Unless specific Division rules state otherwise, all animals, **must be serviceable sound** for horse show purposes - i.e., such animal must not show evidence of lameness, broken wind, or impairment of vision.

### **SECTION 10.**

In the event that a show is stopped while in progress due to a storm or other emergency, the decision as to its continuation shall rest with the Show Committee. It shall also be within the committee's discretion to withdraw awards for classes not held. No championship awarded on points, under this ruling shall be made in any division, however, unless more than 50% of the scheduled classes in that Division have been held. Any action thus taken by the show shall not be referable to the Association, inasmuch as the matter is one of discretion and not regulation.

A class in operation at the time of the stopping of the show shall cease. In the event that a tie for Championship exists at the time the show is stopped, points toward High Point Award in the Association shall be given equally to the tied horses.

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

- A. If the class is continued during the same session, it shall go on from the point where it ceased and scores already credited shall count.
- B. If the class is continued at a succeeding session of the show, it shall be held over in its entirety and no scores credited in the first session shall be counted, except that in the event that a class has reached a work-off for a tie when the stoppage occurs, only those horses involved in the work-off need complete in the succeeding session.

If a class in which the horses compete collectively is stopped while in progress due to a storm, accident, or emergency, the class when recommenced shall be held over in its entirety and no consideration shall be given to the performance during the original session.

### **SECTION 11.**

In the event of breakage of equipment, casting of a horse's shoe, or similar accident, an Exhibitor is entitled to request suspension of judging for a period not to exceed five (5) minutes in order to repair the damage. The Exhibitors must go to the center of the ring for any repairs or replacement of a shoe. If the Exhibitor pulls into the center of the ring, that constitutes a request for a Time Out. Time shall be taken from the moment the Exhibitor goes into the center of the ring except, in the even event of a horse casting a shoe, the ten (10) minutes allowed for replacement shall not start until the Farrier picks up the horse's foot. If at the expiration of the time, the horse is not ready to compete, the contestant is eliminated. American Saddlebred, Roadster, Arabian: one (1) Time-Out per class is allowed; Non-Saddlebred Racking, Tennessee Walking Horse, Country Pleasure, Pacing: two (2) Times-Out per class not to exceed ten (10) minutes in total; Western, Hunter, Paso Fino, Gymkhana: Exhibitor equipment failure which causes delays shall cause Judges to disqualify entries.

**The Steward or Judge shall be held responsible for monitoring the length of the Time-Out unless the Official Timekeepers are present.**

In some parts of the country and in some divisions, it is common practice to show unshod horses in certain classes. A horse shall not be barred from the ring because of being unshod, but in classes in which it is common practice for all horses to be shod, a barefoot horse may be penalized at the Judge's discretion.

Shows offering classes that designate a maximum weight for shoes must provide accurate scales for weighing. If any horse casts a shoe in any of these classes, the shoe, including pad if used (unless specified in specific Division standards), but not including nails **must be immediately weighed by the Judge or Steward**. If the shoe including pad exceeds the weight limit, the entry must be disqualified for the balance of the competition and all entry fees and winnings of the entry for the entire competition will be forfeited.

#### **SECTION 12.**

In all classes except Western, Gymkhana and Equitation (in which specific rules prevail), the **fall of a horse and/or rider shall not disqualify the entry**, unless due to bad manners of the horse.

#### **SECTION 13.**

**Stallions shall be barred** from any class where the conditions of which specify that a lady or juvenile is to ride, handle or drive, **except as provided for in Division Rules**.

#### **SECTION 14. - TIME SCHEDULE**

The announced order or time for classes shall not be changed unless at least two (2) hours notice of such change be given to each Exhibitor and Judge affected.

Provided the order of events is not changed, no show may change order of classes in a division, which would place the first class of a division sooner than the stated time in the prize list.

When the start of any class requiring horses to be shown individually is delayed by horses not ready to perform, the competition may be closed at the order of the Judges, Steward or Show Management, provided warning is issued and Exhibitors are given three (3) minutes in which to appear at the In-gate ready to participate.

In classes where horses compete collectively, a warning is issued and the In-Gate must be closed two (2) minutes after the first horse enters the ring.

Judging must not commence until the gate is closed or at the end of the two minute call. An official Timekeeper must be appointed to enforce this rule.

It is recommended that a starting order be established in all classes in which horses compete individually and to allow one (1) minute for an entry to enter the ring, with special consideration and assistance to beginners.

Tack Changes may be requested by Exhibitors in advance of the class for which they are requested. A Tack Change may not delay the beginning of a class for more than five (5) minutes. The entry will receive a two (2) minute, then a one minute warning. If the entry is not in the ring after the specified Time Out, it is automatically eliminated from the class.

#### **SECTION 15.**

For show purposes, the term "Immediate Family" shall include the following: husband, wife, partner, parent, step-parent, child, step-child, brother, sister, half-brother and sister, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, grandmother, grandfather and in-laws of the same relation as stated above.

#### **SECTION 16.**

It is the tradition of the show ring that drivers and riders be correctly attired for the class in question, and that attendants be neatly dressed, and the horses properly presented. Management may in its' discretion bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience, and must bar a rider without protective headgear from classes in which it is required.

**SECTION 17.**

Any change of color or markings other than mane or tail is prohibited. All artificial appliances other than those permitted in Division Rules are prohibited.

## RULE IV. PRIZE LIST AND CATALOGUE

### PART I

#### SECTION 1.

**THE PRIZE LIST AND CATALOGUE OF EVERY RECOGNIZED COMPETITION MUST CONTAIN THE STATEMENT THAT THE \_\_\_\_\_ HORSE SHOW IS OPERATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CURRENT RULES OF THE APPALACHIAN HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION.**

#### SECTION 2.

AHSA strongly recommends that all Prize Lists and catalogues must carry the names of officiating Judges with the divisions in which they will adjudicate, and the name of the Steward, provided they have accepted to serve, and all the competitions officials.

Complete Class Specifications are recommended. (Class descriptions and Judging Specifications for all classes offered that are not included in the Association's Rule Book.)

The exact date and location of the show. Directions to the show grounds are recommended.

Statement as to prizes offered in each class and entry fees.

Tentative schedule of classes, by sessions, i.e., morning session, afternoon session, evening session.

A statement as to the availability of stalls and types of stalls.

Prize Lists must be received by the Secretary of the Appalachian Horse Show Association, postmarked at the time of sanctioning prior to the show or recognized status will be withdrawn.

### PART II. CLASS SPECIFICATIONS

#### SECTION 1.

All classes at a Recognized Competition for which specifications appear in the Appalachian Horse Show Rule Book must be governed by current specifications, to the end that uniformity shall prevail in the competition and in the adjudication. To cover any omission it is recommended that both prize list and catalogue contain the following statement in a prominent position:

**"EVERY CLASS OFFERED HEREIN WHICH IS COVERED BY THE RULES AND SPECIFICATIONS OF THE CURRENT APPALACHIAN HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION RULE BOOK WILL BE CONDUCTED AND JUDGED IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH."**

A Recognized Competition is not limited to classes listed in the Rule Book. If a special class is offered which is not included in the Rule Book, it is recommended, the prize list and catalogue **must** furnish detailed specifications for the information of Exhibitors and Judges. **However, when judging specifications are not in accordance with AHSA rules, points will not count toward Division or Section ratings.**

#### SECTION 2.

**Mistakes in the Prize List must be corrected by issuing notice thereof to all prospective Exhibitors before the show date or when they arrive at the show.**

## **RULE V. EXHIBITORS AND ENTRIES**

The term "Exhibitor", when used herein, refers to the owner of lessee or a horse when entered in a class where only the merits of the horse are to be considered. In Equitation classes, the term "Exhibitor" refers to the rider.

### **SECTION 1.**

Misrepresentation of a horse's identity, name, height, age, eligibility for a class, registered or recorded number or other information on an entry blank, or substitution in the show ring of a horse other than the one named on the entry blank for the class in question shall result in the Exhibitor's forfeiture of any ribbon, trophy, cash prize, or other award won by such misrepresented or substituted animals, and shall render the Exhibitor liable for further penalty as described in Rule IX. It shall be the duty of the Steward to report any misrepresentation or substitution to Management without waiting for a protest.

The entry blank of each Recognized Competition must contain this or similar statement, to be signed by the Exhibitor or his representative:

**"I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT EVERY HORSE, RIDER AND/OR DRIVER IS ELIGIBLE AS ENTERED AND AGREE FOR MYSELF AND MY REPRESENTATIVE TO BE BOUND BY THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE APPALACHIAN HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION AND THIS SHOW."**

Failure of a Recognized Competition to print this statement on every entry blank and to require that such entry blank be signed shall constitute a violation of the rules and could render the show liable to penalty under Rule IX.

### **SECTION 2.**

Every entry at a Recognized Competition shall constitute an agreement that the person making it, owner, lessee, manager, agent, driver, rider and the horse shall be subject to the Constitution and Rules of the Association and the local rules of the show.

Every Exhibitor or his/her agent must sign an entry blank. In the event of failure to do so, the first entrance into the ring as an Exhibitor shall be construed as acceptance of the rules of the show involved and of the AHSA, as shall ipso facto render him/her subject to said rules.

Violation of the rules in connection with entries may be cause for disqualification of the Exhibitor by the Show Management of the Recognized Competition and must be reported to the Association.

### **SECTION 3.**

**Horses over two (2) years of age must be named.** If a horse has been recorded, it must be entered under its' original recorded name, unless the name has been officially changed under the provisions of Rule VI. It must also be entered under the name of the owner or lessee of record, or of the registered farm name. When entered by an agent, the owner's or lessee's name must also be given.

### **SECTION 4.**

No substitution of horse may be made after the announced closing of entries except in classes where more than one horse represents an entry (i.e. pairs, teams, tandems). In such classes, substitution of one horse is permissible upon submission of a veterinarian's certificate of disability.

No substitution of a rider or driver shall be made during a class except in case of injury to or illness of the original rider or driver; or in Gymkhana when one rider may show several horses in the individual workout.

No substitution of rider is permitted in Equitation Classes.

## **SECTION 5.**

Entries must be made in writing and duly signed by the owner or authorized agent and must be accompanied by funds to cover entry fees and stall hire. Exhibitors are responsible for their own errors and those of their agents in the preparation of entry blanks.

## **SECTION 6.**

A Recognized Competition may adopt its' own policy covering the refunding of fees to an Exhibitor who cancels his entries after the official closing date for the same, and prior to the show's beginning.

If an Exhibitor voluntarily removes a horse from the ring without permission of a Judge, the animal and Exhibitor shall be disqualified from all future classes at that show by the Show Management or the Judge.

Any horse leaving the ring without the Exhibitor's volition shall be deprived of an award in that class.

## **SECTION 7.**

Any Recognized Competition which accepts entrees and publishes same in the catalogue without the prepayment of the requisite entry fees, etc., does so at its' own risk and the Association will not be responsible for the collection of fees. If entries made in writing in advance are accepted and the animals actually appear in the show ring and the fees remain unpaid at the end of the show, the Secretary of the Recognized Competition shall report the name of the Exhibitor in writing to the Association within ten (10) days. On receipt of such notice, the Secretary of the Association shall notify such Exhibitor by Registered mail of his indebtedness and warn him that unless settlement is made within two (2) weeks, he will automatically be barred from taking part whatsoever in Recognized Competitions until settlement is made. At the expiration of two (2) weeks, the Secretary of the Association shall post the name of said Exhibitor, if still in arrears, to all Recognized Competitions.

## **SECTION 8. AMATEUR AND PROFESSIONAL STATUS**

It is recommended that every rider or driver competing in classes for Amateurs should possess an Amateur Card. This card should be available for inspection or the competitor must have lodged with the Show Secretary, at least one hour prior to such class, an application for such card provided by the AHSA. Forms may be had without fee by addressing the AHSA. In the event that rider or driver holds an un-revoked card but does not have it in his immediate possession, the Show Secretary may accept a signed statement to that effect, which must be submitted to the AHSA.

A. A person who has not reached his 18th birthday can be considered an Amateur, unless otherwise stated in their breed division.

B. The applicant has not shown, trained or assisted in training a horse for remuneration, either directly or indirectly, nor received compensation for instructing another person in riding, driving, training, or showing a horse, for five years immediately prior to application for membership.

C. Applicable to the Western Division - The applicant is the sole actual legal owner of the horse(s) to be shown by the applicant and agrees to document such ownership upon request of AHSA.

D. Applicable to the Western Division - If the horse to be shown by the applicant is legally owned by a family member or legal guardian, as defined by AHSA rules, such individual must sign the application with the applicant verifying the truth of its contents, and also agree to furnish documentation substantiating ownership upon request.

E. If the applicant is the spouse (formal or common law) of a trainer, such fact must be so stated on the application. "Trainer" is one who earns any portion of his or her annual gross income by training horses.

F. Applicable to the Western Division - Does not hold credentials of horse show judge, for any other equine organization.

G. Applicable to the Western Division - Must not have exhibited in open or amateur classes horses owned by any third party other than the applicant or the applicant's immediate family.

H. Money prizes to winners in equitation classes for amateurs is forbidden.

I. The question of whether a person is a professional or an amateur shall be determined by the Hearing Committee upon weighing the evidence.

The following activities do not affect the amateur status of a person who is otherwise qualified:

- J. The writing of books or articles pertaining to horses.
- K. Accepting remuneration for officiating as a Judge, Steward, D.Q.P., announcer, Veterinarian, groom, Farrier, tack shop operator, breeder, or boarding services.
- L. Accepting reimbursement for expenses without profit.
- M. Accepting a token of appreciation, other than money, for riding, driving or showing in halter (of value less than \$300.00).
- N. Having the occupation of Veterinarian, groom, Farrier or owning a tack shop, breeding or boarding stable.
- O. The burden of proving Amateur status is on the Applicant.

Any person who under these Rules is a professional, and shall knowingly and falsely represent himself to be an Amateur in order to ride or drive in Amateur Classes, and any person who violates any of the provisions of this Rule shall be subject to disciplinary action under Rule XI.

#### **SECTION 9. DEFINITION OF A PROFESSIONAL**

A person is a Professional, for Horse Show purposes, who after his 18th birthday, as defined in Rule XI, Section 2 engages in the following activities:

- a. Accepts remuneration for giving instruction for riding, driving, showing In-Hand, training, and conducting clinics or seminars.
- b. Accepts remuneration for giving instruction in equitation or horse training. (Persons who are not hired in the exclusive capacity of riding instructors i.e., camp counselors; or giving instruction and training to the Handicapped, are excluded.)
- c. Accepts remuneration for employment in other capacity, but gives instruction, rides, drives, shows in halter, trains or schools horses owned or leased by his employer, a member of his employer's family or corporation which a member of his family controls, owns, boards or trains said horses.
- d. Accepts money in Equitation or Showmanship classes.
- e. Accepts remuneration for the use of his name, photograph or other form of personal association as a horseman in connection with any advertisement or article to be sold.
- f. Rides, drives or shows in halter any horse for which he or a member of his family, or corporation which a member of his family controls, receives remuneration for boarding, training, riding, driving or showing in halter.
- g. Gives instruction to any person or rides, drives or shows in halter any horse for which activity another person in his family or corporation which a member of his family controls will receive remuneration for the activity.

#### **SECTION 10. COMMUNICABLE DISEASE**

All horses delivered to the show grounds of Appalachian Horse Show Association Recognized Competitions shall be serviceably sound, free of communicable disease, and be accompanied by a **Negative Coggins Test performed within twelve (12) months of that date.**

## **RULE VI. RECORDING OF HORSES**

### **SECTION 1. HIGH POINT AWARDS**

No points will be credited to horses toward Division High Point Awards until they are recorded and unless they are entered under their official recorded names. The responsibility for such recording shall rest entirely with the Exhibitor.

- a. Classes for Horse and Rider: In a class where the performances of both horse and rider are considered, the horse and rider together constitute an entry and neither can appear in a different combination.
- b. To be eligible for an award, a horse must be recorded with this Association and the owner, rider or driver must be an individual member in good standing. Horses must be nominated prior to the show in which they are qualifying.
- c. Personal ownership of a horse is not a mandate for showing in a Juvenile class, however, a Juvenile will not be permitted to show a stallion or colt in a Juvenile class.
- d. Points won previous to the date the owner, rider or driver becomes a member of the Association will not count.
- e. Ownership of an animal may be transferred during the competition without affecting the animal's score, the award being made to the owner being shown in the Association files at the time the horse wins its last point in competition, providing the owner is a member.
- f. No credit will be given in classes whose specifications are not in accordance with Appalachian Horse Show Association Rules.
- g. Points will be given up to the first ten (10) place ribbons and assigned as follows: 10 points for first place, 9 points for second place, 8 points for third place, etc.,
- h. The winner of the High Point Award shall be that animal which scores the highest number of points in its classification at Recognized Competitions in the show year calendar.
- i. In any performance classes calling for juvenile Exhibitors, points for the class shall be awarded to the horse. Points are accumulated in Equitation classes for the rider regardless of the horse ridden.
- j. Points will be awarded in all approved classes at a given show regardless of duplication of classes.
- k. In the event of a horse nominated but not shown, it will not be eligible for an award.
- l. Appalachian Horse Show Association members are entitled to nominate horses towards Division High Point Awards at a fee of \$5.00 per horse per class.
- m. A Championship Class shall count for points towards the High Points Award, provided it has similar wording. (Example: Juvenile 5-Gaited Championship would count for points in Juvenile 5-Gaited Class.)
- n. High Point Awards will be given only for Champion and Reserve Champion, provided the horse and/or rider nominated has points accumulated from showing during the current show season.

- o. All nominations for High Point Awards must be made on the official Nomination Form and submitted to the Secretary of the Appalachian Horse Show Association. Nominations must be made prior to the class of the horse show in which the class the nomination is made.
- p. In order for a High Point Award to be given, at least 3 horses must be nominated in that class.

## RULE VII. JUDGES

### SECTION 1. RESPONSIBILITIES OF A JUDGE

- a. A Judge must exhibit the highest standard of integrity at all times and avoid decisions arrived at by influence, bias or ignorance. Good judging depends upon a correct observance of the best horses for the purpose described by conditions of the class. A Judge serves three interests: his own conscience, exhibitors and spectators.
- b. A Judge, through his placement of horses, is in a position to influence the direction of different breeds and classes.
- c. A Judge is expected to be proficient in his division and to possess a thorough knowledge of the Rules of the Appalachian Horse Show Association. He is obligated to adjudicate each class in accordance with the Rules of the Association.
- d. The decisions of each Judge constitute solely the Judge's individual preference. A Judge is only entitled to exercise his personal opinion after he has applied all the Rules fairly and objectively.
- e. A Judge or Show Management must order from the ring any unruly horse or one whose actions threaten to endanger other Exhibitors or their entries.
- f. When over twenty-one (21) horses under saddle are entered in a class in which horses compete together, a Judge **may** divide the class. Driving classes must be divided in excess of 12 entries. Show management may exercise at their discretion the dividing of classes with few entries than stated. Unless individual tests are required in the class routine, the Judge shall bring the top contestants from each group back into the ring for final adjudication.
- g. In classes which have a maximum weight for any shoes, the Judge or Steward must immediately weigh any shoe that is cast.
- h. Judge's Score Cards will include procedures on the card as called for in the Association Rule Book for each individual class.
- i. A Judge shall have the responsibility and duty to enforce the General Class and Show rules and the rules relating to soundness of horses at any show he is judging. The soundness of a horse when determined by an Official Veterinarian of the show or by the Judge is not protestable. The Rules are to be enforced by any of the following:
  - 1. By requiring the violation or infraction be corrected.
  - 2. Excusing the horse and Exhibitor from the class.
  - 3. Prohibiting the horse or Exhibitor from participating in the class.
  - 4. Other appropriate means.

(It is the purpose and intent of this rule to permit and further competition; therefore, correction of violations and infractions should be permitted where practical and where they can be accomplished without undue delay of the show and without being unfair to other competitors. The Judge shall report any violations or infractions enforced under this rule - and so shall the Steward - to the Show Committee.)

- j. A Judge should make every effort to isolate himself from Exhibitors and handlers and aid Show Management and the Steward by complying with the Association Rules in this regard.

## **SECTION 2. RESTRICTIONS**

- a. A Judge shall not be an Exhibitor, Steward or Manager at any show at which he is officiating.
- b. A Judge shall not adjudicate in any class in which a member of his family or any of his horses is competing.
- c. It is recommended that a Judge should not adjudicate at two shows within a sixty (60) day period.
- d. No Judge may adjudicate in a class in which an exhibitor is his employer or with which he has had any **transaction with the exhibitor within three (3) months of the date of the show. (Clarification of the term "transaction" - received or has contracted to receive a remuneration for the sale, purchase or lease of any horse for an exhibitor or his agent; boards, rides or trains any horse under the exhibitor's ownership or lease; has remunerated an exhibitor for the board of training of any horse.)**
- f. During the period of the show, a Judge shall not be the house guest of an Exhibitor or exhibitor's family member in a class that he is judging, except at the specific request of the management.
- f. A Judge may not adjudicate an Exhibitor whom the Judge has instructed, coached, or tutored with or without pay **within three (3) months of the show.**
- g. A Judge shall not discuss the purchase, lease or sale of any horse during a show which he is officiating.
- h. A Judge used as a referee to break a tie shall only state his preference in regard to the two contestants/horses. Once the tie is broken, the officiating judges shall proceed with the remaining placements, as the breakage of a tie for one placement by the referee does not automatically place the losing contender in the next position.
- i. No Exhibitor has the right to inspect the Judge's Score Cards. However, an Exhibitor may request the reasons for the decision from the Steward or the Show Committee. The Show Committee, and no other entity, may require the Judge to give the reasons for his decision. No Judge is to be approached with regards to any decision while judging or about to judge. Judges should report any improper approaches by Exhibitors to the Steward or Show Committee. The Show Committee, and no other entity, may require the Judge to give the reasons for his decision.

## **RULE VIII. STEWARDS**

### **PART I.**

#### **SECTION 1. APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

Individuals wishing to become an Appalachian Horse Show Association Steward must make application as follows:

##### **A. APPLICATION FORMS AND FEES**

Application forms are available from the Secretary of the Association, and when filled out, are to be returned to the Stewards Committee, care of the Secretary of the Association. Each application must be accompanied by the appropriate fee voted on by the Board of Directors of the Association. The Stewards Committee shall act upon every application for enrollment, annual renewal and promotion of Stewards. Upon completion of all requirements, the Chairman of the Stewards Committee shall notify the person making the application or request of acceptance or denial of the request.

## **B. REFERENCES**

Five (5) references with names and addresses must be provided by the Applicant on the form. These individuals must not be relatives nor employees of the Applicant. The Stewards Committee will send out requests for letters of reference or questionnaires concerning the Applicant, to be returned to the Association office. The Association shall take the necessary measures that its proceedings and files are kept in strictest confidence. The names of all Applicant stewards will be posted on the AHSA website for review and feedback to the board from voting members. No action shall be taken by the Committee until thirty (30) days after the Applicant's name has been published.

## **C. EXAMINATION**

An open book examination will be provided to the Applicant during the annual Stewards Clinic. Passing this examination (with 85% mastery) is required before the Applicant can proceed. The exam is to be returned to the Chairman of the Stewards Committee.

## **SECTION 2. PROMOTIONS**

The Stewards Committee shall seek information from voting members of the Association and from Stewards and Show Committees where Stewards, who have officiated at Association sanctioned shows, have judged, regarding the integrity, knowledge and efficiency of said Steward.

The Stewards Committee shall publish the names of those individuals who it chooses to promote, and make them available to local Show Committees.

## **SECTION 3. ANNUAL RENEWAL**

Stewards wishing to renew their Appalachian Horse Show Association Steward's Card must notify the Association by January 31st of that show year. Each request must be accompanied by the appropriate fee voted upon by the Board of Directors of the Association.

Association Stewards are required to attend an annual clinic at least every year.

The Stewards Committee may refuse to renew a Steward's card. In such instance the fee will be returned to the Applicant. The Committee must inform the person in writing within thirty (30) days of the reason for the refusal. The applicant has the right to appeal or make a later application in the manner prescribed by the Rules.

Association Stewards are required to take an open book examination annually on the current rules of the Association (the rule book will be undergoing revision annually as classes are added and dropped). Passing this exam (with 95% mastery) is required.

## **SECTION 4. COMPLAINTS**

On receipt of a complaint that a Steward has failed to attend a show, failed to conduct a class in accordance with the specifications or in violation of the Rules, and/or failed to perform his duties according to the rules, the Stewards Committee shall investigate the complaint. Any complaint must be made and will be reconciled in accordance with the provisions of these rules. Any Steward whom the Board of Directors of the Appalachian Horse Show Association shall find guilty of conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the Association after opportunity for a hearing by the Board of Directors, may be debarred from officiating at any further Recognized Competitions for a period decided upon by the Board of Directors.

## **SECTION 5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF A STEWARD**

An Appalachian Horse Show Association Steward is the Representative of this Association at a show. He should clearly understand that he has no authority in connection with the Management or the Judging of a show. He is the representative of the Association and should point out in a diplomatic manner any instance where Association Rules are not enforced. He should not dictate to the Judges or Management, but should immediately report to the appropriate officials any violations of the Rules which might invalidate a class. He should keep himself available to the Judges, Exhibitors and Management at all times to clarify the application of Association Rules and investigate any situation where the Rules are not upheld.

The duties of an Association Steward shall be, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. To verify enforcement of Association Rules.

- b. To protect the interests of Exhibitors, Judges and Show Management.
- c. To report to the Show Committee any offense or violation of the Rules committed by an Exhibitor, Judge, or official, and prefer charges against the violator if the violation is not properly handled by the Show Committee.
- d. To report to Management any misrepresentation or substitution of entry without waiting for a protest.
- e. To furnish the Association with a written report as to the conduct of the show including any offense or violation of the Rules, within three (3) days after its completion, on the form furnished by the Association.
- f. To see that all animals required to be measured are correctly measured by the Rules, and that an animal whose height is questioned is correctly measured and report his findings to Show Management. The Steward must report all measurements on the appropriate form.
- g. To supervise and record "Time Out", in minutes, in the event of a horse casting a shoe or breakage of equipment, if an official timer or Judge is not available.
- h. In the Potato Race, to check the open-ended barrel, in which the potato is thrown, after each contestant.
- i. To have a thorough knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the General Rules of the Association as well as the specifications of each class that is to be judged.
- j. The Steward is obligated to officiate in each class in conformity with the Rules and specifications of that class as they appear in the Association Rule Book.
- k. Protect the interest and reputation of the Show.
- l. Make him/herself available to the general public for advice and assistance.
- m. Determine humane treatment of horses on the show grounds and during exhibition.
- n. To make inspections of the stables and grounds area; to ensure the safety of the exhibitors and horses.

## **SECTION 6. RESTRICTIONS**

- a. A Steward shall not be an Exhibitor, Judge or Manager during a class at a show at which he/she is officiating.
- b. A Steward shall not officiate in any class in which a member of his family or any of his clients are Exhibitors or Judges.
- c. Stewards are not to be used as Ringmaster, announcer, timer and Judge or any other position not related to his proper duties at Recognized competitions where they are officiating.

## **RULE IX. PROTESTS, CHARGES AND HEARINGS**

### **PART 1. DEFINITIONS**

**PROTESTS:** a complaint or objection made to an official or governing body of a sport.

**CHARGES:** a complaint or accusation of error, failure, or wrong.

**HEARINGS:** opportunity to be heard, to present one's side of a case; a listening to arguments: a session in which witnesses are heard and testimony is taken.

### **PART 2. FILING AND CONTENTS**

#### **SECTION 1. GENERAL**

- a. A protest and charge must state the full name and address of the accused and contain a complete and definite statement of the acts which constitute the alleged violation. Precise details regarding a violation of rules are necessary. Each Rule allegedly violated must be listed by Number, Part and Section. The maker must be prepared to substantiate the protest or charge by personal testimony at a hearing or by sworn statements, witnesses or other evidence.
- b. A protest or charge against a Recognized competition must be referred to the Hearing Committee by the Steward, D.Q.P., Show Committee, Show Manager, or Show Secretary.
- c. Protests or charges that a Steward or D.Q.P. has failed to attend the competition, perform his duties, or has otherwise violated the Rules; or that a Judge has failed to conduct a class in accordance with Rule VII. Such protests or charges will be heard by the Hearing Committee in accordance with Article VI. In the event the accused is found guilty following a hearing, he may be subject to any of the penalties under Rule X. and notification of any penalty imposed will be published by the Association.
- d. The Association may investigate any protest, charge or alleged violation, may intervene in any protest and present evidence concerning any protest, charge or alleged violation at its discretion.
- e. The Chairman of the Hearing Committee may designate one or more members of the Hearing Committee or any other individual to investigate any protest, charge or alleged violation, to conduct any necessary fact finding, to hear evidence, to review memoranda submitted by interested parties, and to make proposed factual findings to the Hearing Committee.
- f. Non-protestable Decisions:
  1. The soundness of a horse, when determined by an official Veterinarian of the competition or by a Judge, is not protestable.
  2. A Judge's decision, representing his individual preference, is not protestable unless it is alleged to be in violation of the Association Rules.
  - \*3. A Protest questioning the height of a horse or length of a horse's foot may only be made to the Show Committee. Re-measurement shall take place immediately, to the end that there be no change in height by re-shoeing. The decision of the Show Officials shall not be reviewable by this Association.

#### **SECTION 2. PROTESTS**

Protests may be made to a Show Committee by an Exhibitor, owner, agent, trainer or the parent of a Juvenile Exhibitor for any violation of the Association Rules. It must be in writing, signed by the protester, addressed to the Show Secretary at which the alleged violation occurred, accompanied by a deposit of a fee set by the individual shows (if check, payable to the Show) and received by the Steward, D.Q.P., a member of the Show Committee, the Show Manager or the Show Secretary within one (1) hour of the alleged violation.

### **SECTION 3. CHARGES**

Charges may be made to a Show Committee or to the Hearing Committee of the Association by an official of the competition or a member of the Board of Directors of the Association for any violation of the Appalachian Horse Show Association Rules. It must be in writing, signed by the person making the charge, addressed to the Show Secretary at which the alleged violation occurred, or to the Hearing Committee, and if made to a Show Committee, it must be received by the Steward, D.Q.P., or a member of the Show Committee within one (1) hour of the alleged violation, or to the Board of Directors upon receipt of official documentation. If made to the Hearing Committee it must be received by the Association within a reasonable time.

### **SECTION 4. HEARINGS**

#### **A. PRE-HEARING PROCEEDINGS**

1. Any person or show against whom a protest or charge is filed shall be entitled to a hearing. Such hearing shall be held after (10) days notice to the accused except that a Show Committee may hold a hearing during or within 48 hours of a show after reasonable notice.
2. Notice of a hearing shall contain a brief statement of the facts constituting the alleged violation and shall specify the time and place at which the hearing is to be held.
3. Accused persons may attend the hearing at their option and may bring witnesses in their own behalf.
4. The proponent of a protest or charge has the burden of proof.
5. In connection with any charge, protest, or any other matter which may properly fall within the jurisdiction of the Association's Hearing Committee, and upon a finding that considerations involving the health, safety or welfare of Association members and/or their horses, or the best interest of horse showing generally, warrant prompt action pending consideration of the matter by the Hearing Committee, the President of the Association may, by giving written notice of such action, temporarily suspend any person from participating in any manner in the affairs of the Association or participating in or attending any Recognized Competitions until the Association Hearing Committee can hear the charge, protest or other matter.

#### **B. PROCEEDINGS**

1. A Show Committee receiving a protest or charge must promptly hold a hearing and all accused and accusing persons and other persons directly concerned must be given advance notice in writing and be given the opportunity to appear at the hearing.
2. Before holding the hearing, the Show Committee must obtain all relevant evidence and information from documents (such as entry blanks) and witnesses (such as Show Officials) under its control. The Show Committee must then adjudicate the issues impartially and make effective its decision upon the parties.
3. If a protest is sustained, the deposit must then be returned to the pro tester; if not sustained, the deposit must be forfeited to the competition. In all cases, either after reaching a decision in a hearing, or failing to reach a decision on a protest or charge, the Show Committee must promptly report in writing its findings of fact and conclusions regarding alleged Rule violations and recommended penalties, if any, to the Hearing Committee.
4. The Hearing Committee will hear protests and charges in connection with alleged violations of Appalachian Horse Show Association Rules in accordance with the powers and duties referred to below.
5. A quorum of the Hearing Committee may preside on any pre-hearing or at the reception of evidence in connection with a protest or charge not initially heard by a Show Committee.

6. The functions of the Hearing Committee shall be conducted in an impartial manner, subject to the published Rules of the Association and within its powers. Persons presiding on prehearing motion and within its powers. Persons presiding on pre-hearing motions and at hearings shall give all parties a fair hearing and act as authorized by the Association Rules.
7. A participating person may at any time disqualify himself through the submission, in good faith, of a timely and sufficient affidavit of personal bias or on other grounds.
8. The persons presiding at any pre-hearing proceedings, the reception of evidence and any review or appeal of any decision shall prepare a written record of the proceedings which shall include the evidence considered in the proceeding, each finding of fact based on the evidence, the conclusions and decisions regarding alleged Rule Violations, and a statement of penalties, if any, imposed and of other relief granted or denied.

Written initial, recommended and final decisions are part of the official record.

9. In the event a Show Committee fails to hold a hearing within 48 hours after receipt of a protest or charge, or fails to render a decision within 48 hours after a hearing, the Hearing Committee may take jurisdiction of the matter and take such further action as may be necessary to have the matter finally adjudicated.
10. Upon the discovery of new facts not discoverable by due diligence prior to a hearing, a party may request a hearing before the Hearing Committee (Rehearing). Such request must be in writing and must contain a statement of the new facts upon which it is based. Re-hearings will not be granted as a matter of right but are at the discretion of the Hearing Committee.
11. The Association will publish a notice of every penalty assessed against any person, horse or Recognized competition and the period of any suspension. Any Recognized Competition which allows a suspended or expelled person or horse to participate is itself liable to penalty, including suspension or expulsion.

### **C. SUSPENSIONS**

1. The President of the Association may temporarily suspend any person from participating in any matters of the Association or participating or attending any Recognized Competitions (see Rule IX, Part 2. Section 4. A. 5.)
2. The Board of Directors may temporarily suspend any person against whom a protest or charge has been filed from participating in any manner in the affairs of the Association or at Recognized Competitions for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days or until the charge is determined, whichever is sooner. If the Board of Directors deems it necessary, it may extend the suspension for a further period not to exceed ninety (90) days.

### **D. APPEALS**

Either party to a protest or charge may appeal the decision of the Show Committee to the Hearing Committee of the Board of Directors of the Association. On such appeal, the Hearing Committee will not review the findings of fact, but will determine only whether the Rules were properly interpreted and applied.

## **RULE X. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES**

### **PART 1. INDIVIDUALS**

#### **SECTION 1.**

The provisions of this Rule shall apply at any Recognized Competition to the following persons: owner, Exhibitor, agent, trainer, manager, rider, driver, Show Official, Show Employee, or member of the family of the above, individual member of the Appalachian Horse Show Association or Member of the Board of Directors or any person who acts in a manner in violation of the Rules of the Association or deemed prejudicial to its best interest.

#### **SECTION 2.**

A violation is any act prejudicial to the best interests of the Association, including but not limited to the following:

- a. Violation of the Rule of the Association.
- b. Disqualification by a Recognized Competition.
- c. Penalization by another Horse Association, Humane Society or Court of Law.
- d. Acting or inciting or permitting any other to act in a manner contrary to the Rules of the Association or in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, unsportsmanlike or intemperate, or prejudicial to the best interest of the Association.
- e. Any act committed or remark made during the show considered offensive and/or made with intent to influence or cast suspicions on the judging.
- f. Failure of a Judge or Steward to perform his duties at a show in accordance with the Rules.
- g. Failure of an Exhibitor or his representative to sign the entry blank of a show in which he competes.
- h. Physical assault upon a person and/or cruelty to a horse as defined in Rule III.

#### **SECTION 3. PENALTIES**

If found guilty, the accused shall be subject to such penalty as the Board of Directors may affirm, including but not limited to:

- a. **CENSURE** - A vote of Censure shall be listed under the Defendant's name in the Secretary's Record of Penalties. If found guilty of a further violation, the Defendant shall be subject to a heavier penalty than for a first offense.
- b. **SUSPENSION** - Suspension of such persons for any period from showing or having others show or exhibit for him. A suspended person is forbidden, for the time specified in the sentence, to hold or exercise office in the Association or in any Recognized Show or from the privilege or taking any part whatsoever in any Recognized Competition.
- c. **SUSPENSION** - Suspension for any period of the horse or horses, completely or in part owned, leased or of the stable of such person. The Board of Directors may, at a later date, remove the suspension of said horse or horses if a sale thereof is made in such manner as to be a bona fide transaction, and not with the intention of relieving the suspended owner of penalty.

- d. **SUSPENSION** - Suspension for any period of any volunteer or any employed person who rides or exhibits for the benefit, credit, reputation or satisfaction of the person disciplined.
- e. **EXPULSION** - Expulsion from all Recognized Competitions.
- f. **EXPULSION** - Expulsion or suspension from membership in the Association.
- g. **FORFEITURE** - Forfeiture of trophies, ribbons and prize money won in connection with the offense committed.
- h. **SUSPENSION** - Suspension from the office as Steward or Show Official.
- i. **REVOCAION** - Revocation of Steward's Card.

#### **SECTION 4.**

The Secretary of the Association shall notify the management of every Recognized Competition of the penalizing of any person or Recognized Competition and of the period thereof. Any Recognized Competition which allows a suspended or expelled person to participate is itself liable to suspension or expulsion.

#### **SECTION 5.**

The Officers of the Association may report disciplinary action taken by the Association to another Association if, in their opinion, such course is advisable for the protection of mutual interests.

#### **SECTION 6.**

On receipt of official notice that disciplinary action has been taken by a Horse Association, Humane Society or Court of Law against a person for an act which may be a violation of Association Rules, an Officer of this Association may take a charge against such person, and the Association after hearing of such disciplined person under the provisions of Rule IX, Part II Section 4, shall take appropriate action.

### **PART II. RECOGNIZED COMPETITIONS**

#### **SECTION 1.**

A Recognized Competition shall be subject to penalty by the Board of Directors for violation of the Rules of the Association. Violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Failure to:
  - 1. Conduct a show in accordance with the Association Rules.
  - 2. Secure signature of Exhibitor or his representative on entry blank.
  - 3. Measure all animals required to be measured.
  - 4. Have a qualified Veterinarian present throughout the show.
  - 5. Have a Farrier present at the show.
  - 6. Pay its indebtedness to the Association.
  - 7. Pay premiums and other indebtedness within sixty (60) days.
  - 8. Hold a show, if a date has been requested and granted, unless notice shall have been given the Association in writing sixty (60) days prior to the date. – exemptions: circumstances beyond show Management's control
  - 9. Report the disqualification of a person at the show.
- b. Permit persons or horses adjudged not in good standing to participate in any manner.
- c. Permit acts which are improper, intemperate, dishonest, unsportsmanlike or contrary to the Rules of the Association.
- d. Act in a manner prejudicial to the best interest of the Association.

- e. Other violations or errors.

## **SECTION 2.**

A Recognized Competition found guilty of a violation shall be subject to penalty, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. **CENSURE** - A vote of Censure shall be listed under Defendant's name in the Secretary's Record of Penalties. If found guilty of a further violation, the Defendant shall be liable to a heavier penalty than for the first offense.
- b. **SUSPENSION** - Suspension for any period from the list of Recognized Competitions.
- c. **EXPULSION** - Expulsion from membership in the Association.

## **RULE XI. CLASS DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROCEDURES**

### **SECTION 1.**

An **Open Class** is one which is open to all horses of any age, size, sex, irrespective of the ribbons previously won and which there is no qualification for the rider or driver.

A **Local Class** is one in which entrance is restricted by management as to a territory of reasonable size and character and which is so described in the Prize List and Catalogue. To be eligible, a horse must be the property of a resident of the prescribed area. Local classes shall not be considered in reckoning show championships awarded on points, nor will they count toward High Point Awards.

Classes which are restricted to members of a club shall be included in the above definition unless membership is open to and easily obtainable to all Exhibitors.

### **SECTION 2.**

For Horse Show purposes, the age of an individual shall be determined by the guidelines of the horse breed in which that individual shows.

### **SECTION 3.**

For Horse Show purposes, any horse shall be considered to be one year old on January 1st following the actual date of foaling. Exceptions: Non-Saddlebred Racking Horses and Tennessee Walking Horses, October, November and December foals are accepted for classes with foals of the following year: Paso Finos, horse's age is determined by the age it would be if its next birthday would be January 1st of the current show year (October 1 to September 30).

### **SECTION 4.**

An Amateur Owned & Trained Class is one in which every contestant is an amateur and the rider or driver is the owner or an amateur member of the owner's immediate family unless otherwise stated in the Prize List.

### **SECTION 5.**

Juvenile Classes are limited to riders 17 years of age and under in English Divisions, and 18 years and under in Western and Western Gymkhana Divisions (refer to High Point Class List). In all Divisions, ponies under saddle shall be ridden only by Juvenile Exhibitors.

### **SECTION 6.**

To be eligible to show in a Championship Class a horse must have been properly entered, shown, and judged in one qualifying class in the same Division. If an exhibitor or trainer qualifies more than one horse for a Championship Class he/she can elect to show only one horse. A Championship Class must be conducted by the same procedures as the qualifying classes. (Specified as specific breed rules)

If a Championship Class is not offered for a Juvenile that has shown in a qualifying class, a Juvenile will be allowed to show in an Amateur Championship Class if one is offered.

**SECTION 7.**

To be “shown and judged” in any class in which horses compete together, an animal must perform at all required gaits both ways of the ring. A horse casting a shoe for the second time in the original workout does not qualify for a Championship Class unless it has performed all required gaits both ways of the ring and remains in the ring up to the point of the Judge excusing it.

**SECTION 8. Classes for Horse and Rider.**

In a class where the performances of both horse and rider are considered, the horse and rider together constitute an entry and neither can appear in a different combination.

**RULES XIII to XXIV**

Description of Classes for all Divisions acknowledged for High Point Awards in the Appalachian Horse Show Association.

The description for each Division shall include:

1. A general statement about the Division.
2. Conformation.
3. Gait Requirements.
4. Appointments for Horse and Rider/Driver/Handler.
5. Class Specifications.
6. Judging Procedures.

Division Rules shall reflect as closely as possible the individual Breed Standards represented by, but not limited to:

- A. The United States Equestrian Federation
- B. The American Quarter Horse Association
- C. Racking Horse Breeders’ Association of America
- D. National Horse Show Commission, Inc.
- E. Paso Fino Horse Association, Inc.
- F. National Barrel Horse Association
- G. URHOEA –United Racking Horse Owners Exhibitors Association