

**NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NRHA OFFICE
APRIL 9, 2010**

Approved 06/09/10

PRESENT

President Rick Weaver, Terry Griffin, Mike Hancock, Beth Himes, Dale Lopp, Rosanne Sternberg (Web), Susy Baeck (Web), Frank Costantini, Julia Cowan (Web), Roberto Cuoghi, Andre DeBellefeuille, Mike Deer, Nancy Eppers, Tom Foran(Web), Lee Foster (Web) Helmut Gertsenberg, Jennifer Hoyt (Web) ,George King (Web), Tim Lynch, Michael Martin, Dan McGregor (Web), Rick Ramsey, Arie Heijberts (Web), Guy Vernon (Web) and Brett Walters.

NOT PRESENT

Mark Schols, Allen Mitchels (sick), Susan Camfferman, Rick Clark, Luis Cruz, Katarina Dorminy, Matt Livengood, Raul Leal Cavazos, Matt Mills, Helmut Schulz, Woody Taylor, Josh Visser, Robert Welle and Flemming Winberg.

STAFF

Executive Director Dan Wall, CFO John Foy, COO Dennis York, Sr. Director of Publications Carol Trimmer, Debby Hutchinson, James Gant, Lance Ahlson, Todd Barden, Christa Morris, Haley Carmen, Melanie Rinehart, Michelle Wrigley, Jessica Johnson, Brad Ettleman, Leigha Stevenson, Brian Bendele, Shianne Megel, and Nick Cornelissens (Web), Katie Hendrickson.

Guests: Simona Diale, Legal Counsel Terry Wiens,

CALL TO ORDER

President Weaver called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. and a quorum was announced.

President Weaver thanked the board for their contributions. He welcomed and introduced new NRHA Board Members to the organization. Roberto Cuoghi replacing Renzo Canciani of Italy, Susy Baeck replacing Nick Cornelissens of Belgium, Lee Foster replacing Terry Griffin of Canada, Katharina Quinte replacing Judith Vetter of France and NW Regional Director Matt Livengood.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 30, 2010 Board of Directors Meeting minutes. Mike Deer moved to approve the minutes, second by Beth Himes. Motion approved.

January 30, 2010 Executive Session Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting. Mike Hancock moved to approve the minutes, second by Dale Lopp. Motion approved.

January 13, 2010, February 3, 2010, February 24, 2010 E-Vote. Dale Lopp moved to approve the E-Vote minutes, Beth Himes seconded. Motion approved

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

CFO Foy gave the Profit & Loss Overview. Variances explained. Reiner task force met. Karen Shedlauskas hired as Sire & Dam Representative. Reiner came in very close to budget in February. Going to be entering the budget process. Similar budget methodology as last year's.

OLD BUSINESS

Went for over a year trying to figure out how to establish a European office, decided to hire contract labor as a representative for Europe. Best person for job – Nick Cornelissens - was select as he is a strong advocate for NRHA. An NRHA owned bank account in Europe has been established. The account is subject to all restrictions just as with NRHA's US accounts. It will be treated as any other US account. NRHA believes that this is a true historic milestone. Roberto Cuoghi – Simona Diale translating. Re: European office, getting in touch with Nick at the right time right now we are doing best we can but know that it is not a perfect situation. Executive Director Wall was asked if in the

future could NRHA affiliate contacts be kept up to date on changes, results, etc. Executive Wall advised that NRHA is working toward that and that kind of information should be available through new IT system. Helmut Gerstenberg asked if the bank account is able to transact other business, or just nomination programs. The account was established for the nomination program, do to Belgium law we must be careful to not establish a center of activities within Belgium that would subject the NRHA to taxation.

DEFINITION OF FULL SLATE

Melanie Rinehart provided the information for the recommendation to have a full slate of classes be defined as: Open, Limited Open, Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, Youth 13 & Under, Youth 14-18, and Rookie. This selection of classes still ensures that all riders would have adequate and fair competition, but does not force shows to hold unnecessary classes. Mike Hancock moved to accept the recommendation, second by Terry Griffin. Question was asked, Why isn't novice horse included? Melanie advised that not a lot of European shows hold the novice classes. Rick Ramsey believes that novice horse should be included. Novice horses are not included in the European Affiliate Championships. Jessica Johnson said the novice horses classes tend to lose money in Europe. What is being recommended is the minimum classes to define full-slate. Voting took place with Rick Ramsey and George King opposed. Remainder of Board of Directors for approving the recommendation. Motion passed.

POLICY MANUAL

CFO Foy asked for approval of all three policies that were presented. Dale Lopp moved to accept all three policies. Brett Walters seconded. John pointed out that the retention policy includes show records, etc., The records are to be kept for seven years. Motion passed. Carol Trimmer is to review the material before it is disposed of to ensure that no historically significant material is thrown away.

Break 1:19 p.m.

Reconvene 1.34 p.m.

INVESTMENT POLICY

CFO Foy spoke concerning the Investment Advisor's presentation and extensive review on April 7. Rick Ramsey moved to accept, Tim Lynch seconded. Motion approved. Rick Ramsey moved to forego signatures on electronic documents, second by Frank Costantini. Motion approved.

JUDGES POLICY

Michelle Wrigley, judge's committee liaison, asked to change the membership and educational applicant seminar fee (new). Hosts can add up to \$25. Brent Walters moved to accept the recommendation. Seconded by Rick Ramsey. It was asked if college students could attend for free. Michelle Wrigley will go back to the Judges Committee for their approval. Motion approved.

RULE CHANGES – PROPOSED FOR VOTE IN 2010

Final discussion and vote to take place June 9, 2010. Rules to take effect January 1, 2011.

Procedures: NRHA accepts all rule change proposals submitted by members, committees, staff, legal counsel, or the NRHA Board of Directors. These proposals are discussed and evaluated during at least two meetings prior to the final vote.

34-01-11 *Submitted by Animal Welfare Committee*

Change **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS, E. Disciplinary procedures, section 4** (reference page 34 of the 2010 NRHA HANDBOOK) Procedures,

Section 4. Disciplinary Procedure.

Whenever anyone believes that conduct at an NRHA approved event of a member or non-member warrants disciplinary actions, or whenever any member believes that he or she has been harmed by a violation of these Rules and Regulations, he or she must file within fifteen (15) days of the actual incident, and/or within fifteen (15) days of having gained knowledge of the incident, a protest in writing with the NRHA office.

Add new and renumber subsequent.

j) Animal Abuse Report. Any member may file a report of alleged animal abuse rule violations at an approved show. The member must file the report in writing to the NRHA office within fifteen (15) days of the actual incident. Abuse reports are not subject to the \$100 protest fee.

INTENT OF PROPOSAL: The committee discussed the current procedure for filing protests and feels the \$100 fee discourages people from filing protests, especially in the instance of animal welfare-related incidents. The committee proposes a rule change to create a separate procedure and form to report alleged animal abuse witnessed at NRHA approved shows—without the \$100 fee. The committee feels it is less confusing for the membership if a new procedure/form is created for abuse report versus using the current protest procedure and making an exception to waive the fee. The verbiage in the *Handbook* is clean and clearly separated from general protest procedures. This will make it easier for members and show secretaries to know that in all instances of alleged animal abuse, they should make a report in writing (and they are not subject to the fee associated with filing a protest). In other words it is not a \$100 “protest,” it is an animal abuse report.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Although a Show Representative can include reference to abuse in their report, the abuse report holds more significance and requires timely investigation of the alleged abuse. The \$100 protest fee is a significant deterrent for members, and the committee feels it is extremely important to eliminate barriers that would cause someone from not assisting NRHA in ensuring the humane treatment of horses at our events. The committee understands that the Show Representative also can file a protest (with the \$100 fee waived). However, there may be instances where the Show Representative did not witness the alleged abuse and a member did. In this example, it would be ideal for the ‘eye witness’ to have the ability to file the abuse report.

Beth Himes explained that this proposed change is still a work in progress. Mike Deer Non Pro Committee chairman will have a tele-conference call with his committee and communicate back to the Amateur/Non Pro Task Force. Himes explained that she broke the rule change in two because one is strictly about sponsorship/endorsements.

43-01-11 Submitted by Non Pro/Amateur Task Force

Change **SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS, B. Non Pro Conditions (1)** (reference page 43 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

Proposed Change:

~~(1) A Non Pro shall be defined as a person who at the time of Non Pro application has not won in excess of \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars) in Category 1, 2, and 6 open reining competition. A Non Pro shall also be defined as a person who has not directly (money) or indirectly (goods or services) received remuneration for showing, training, or assisting in the training of any horse ridden astride, regardless of discipline or breed—this does not include prize money. An exception exists where an NRHyA Youth member is selected for any approved exchange program through the NRHyA. The selected NRHyA members shall not be in jeopardy of losing his/her Non Pro status through participation in approved exchanged programs. A Non Pro shall be further defined as a person who has not given lessons for remuneration. An exception exists with respect to a Non Pro applicant that is certified as an instructor in~~

~~national equine equitherapy as exemplified by the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association (NARHA). The excepted instructor shall only teach students enrolled with an approved organization or students prescribed such rehabilitation by a licensed medical doctor. A Non Pro applicant excepted under this provision must have disclosed this information on the Non Pro Declaration that is submitted to the NRHA office. Payment of entry fees and/or expenses by anyone other than the Non Pro, his/her immediate family, or a corporation, partnership or other business entity in which the Non Pro and/or a member of his/her immediate family are the sole and only owner, shall be considered remuneration except for demonstrations, exhibitions, or international competitions where the Non Pro is representing their National Federation, or competition where the Non Pro is representing their college or university as an individual or part of a team. A horse shown in Non Pro competition must be solely and completely owned by one of the following: (a) the Non Pro, (b) a member or members of his/her immediate family, or (c) a corporation, partnership, or other business entity provided that the Non Pro and/or a member or members of his/her immediate family are the sole and only owners of that business entity and the ownership of that business entity does not change to include non immediate family members or entities. Ownership will be evidenced by the competition license.~~

(1) Definition and conditions of a Non Pro Membership:

(a) A person who at the time of Non Pro application has not won in excess of \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars) in Category 1, 2, and 6 open reining competition.

(b) A person who has not directly (money) or indirectly (goods or services) received remuneration for showing, training, or assisting in the training of any horse ridden astride, regardless of discipline or breed—~~this does not include prize money.~~—to work in any manner in the following activities on the premises of a reining horse training operation: showing, training or assisting in training a reining horse or reining horse rider.

(1) For purposes of this rule, a reining horse training operation is any facility where reining horses are trained.

(c) Employees of a reining horse training operation may be considered Non Pro provided they do not teach reining horse riders or train reining horses. Saddling and warming up/cooling down horses are not considered training, however, loping reining horses is considered 'training' a reining horse as circles are an integral part of the reining patterns.

(d) ~~A Non Pro shall be further defined as a person who has not given lessons for remuneration.~~ A person who has not given instruction on showing or training of a reining horse for direct or indirect remuneration.

(e) A person who has not trained horses astride in any equine discipline for direct or indirect remuneration.

(f) An NRHyA Youth member can be selected for any approved exchange program through the NRHyA. The selected NRHyA members shall not be in jeopardy of losing his/her Non Pro status through participation in approved exchanged programs.

(g) A Non Pro applicant that can be a certified instructor in a national equine equitherapy as exemplified by the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association (NARHA). The excepted instructor shall only teach students enrolled with an approved organization or students prescribed such rehabilitation by a licensed medical doctor. A Non Pro applicant excepted under this provision must have disclosed this information on the Non Pro Declaration that is submitted to the NRHA office.

(h) Payment of entry fees and/or expenses by anyone other than the Non Pro, his/her immediate family, or a corporation, partnership or other business entity in which the Non Pro and/or a member of his/her immediate family are the sole and only owner, shall be considered remuneration.

(i) A non pro can accept payment of entry fees and/or expenses for demonstrations, exhibitions, or international competitions where the Non Pro is representing their National Federation, or competition where the Non Pro is representing their college or university as an individual or part of a team.

(j) A horse shown in Non Pro competition must be solely and completely owned by one of the following: (a) the Non Pro, (b) a member or members of his/her immediate family, or (c) a corporation, partnership, or other business entity provided that the Non Pro and/or a member or members of his/her immediate family are the sole and only owners of that business entity and the ownership of that business entity does not change to include non immediate family members or entities. Ownership will be evidenced by the competition license.

(2) ~~NRHA has adopted the following~~ **Definition of immediate family:** husband, wife, parent, step-parent, legal guardian, child, step-child, brother, sister, half brother, half sister, ~~aunt, uncle, niece, nephew,~~ grandmother, grandfather ~~and in laws of the same relation as stated above.~~

(a) It is the responsibility of the Non Pro to file an Immediate Family Form with the NRHA prior to showing an immediate family member's horse. The Non Pro is also responsible for updating that form with any changes. If there is not an Immediate Family Form on file with the NRHA office, a Non Pro may be forfeited out of any NRHA Non Pro classes in which they have shown.

(3) Any transaction relating to the sale or transfer of a horse to a Non Pro other than by immediate family members must be at fair market value. The Non Pro is responsible for documenting said transaction in a satisfactory fashion in the event of any protest. If a Non Pro and/or his/her immediate family member sells a horse and then buys it back, the Non Pro and/or his/her immediate family member cannot show that horse in Non Pro classes for 180 days from the time he/she originally sold the horse.

(a) The Executive Committee shall have the right to review in detail any transaction regarding the purchase or sale of a horse by the holder of an NRHA Non Pro card if in their judgment there was intent to misuse the rules of the Association. At the Executive Committee's discretion, there shall be a review if a horse is repurchased or resold. Included in the review shall be methods of procurement, all transfer records, cancelled checks, and deposit slips if so directed by the Executive Committee. The procurement of mortality insurance and a receipt of payment to a third party is an acceptable proof of sale. The original owner's knowledge of the sale is not necessary for proof of sale involving an agent. All parties to a transaction in violation of these NRHA rules are subject to disciplinary action.

(4) Procedure for those applying for Non Pro status:

(a) An applicant must complete the official NRHA Non Pro Declaration, and submit it to the NRHA office with the appropriate fee.

(b) Persons applying for Non Pro status must answer all questions on the Non Pro Declaration, agree to abide by the Non Pro Code of Conduct and Ethics, and sign the Non Pro Declaration affirming the truth of all statements given as well as acceptance of the rules and regulations relating to NRHA Non Pro membership.

(c) A Non Pro card is a privilege and not a right. The Non Pro Committee ~~will~~ can screen all applicants. The Non Pro Committee can require at any time a Non Pro to submit his/her card for review of applicability. The Non Pro Committee can refuse a Non Pro card to anyone deemed not in compliance with the eligibility criteria set forth in the *NRHA Handbook*.

(d) An applicant must complete a Non Pro Declaration prior to entering a Non Pro class. Non Pro status will be granted on a temporary basis and is subject to revocation pending publication in the *NRHA Reiner* and approval by the Non Pro Committee. Non Pro status will be null and void and any Non Pro earnings and prizes will be forfeited if it is determined that the applicant is not eligible under NRHA Non Pro conditions, as defined in the *NRHA Handbook*. Failure to comply with the application requirements as specified in this Handbook may result in disciplinary action.

(e) Denial of Non Pro status may be appealed to the Executive Committee.

(f) A professional (excluding members in the Apprentice Program) desiring to obtain Non Pro status may do so after meeting all Non Pro conditions for a period of time equal to the number of years they have not met the Non Pro requirements with a minimum of three (3) years and a maximum of five (5) years. The NRHA office may then be notified and the official Non Pro Declaration and fees may be submitted for approval or disapproval by the Board of Directors or their designate. The applicant will be notified of the approval or disapproval by the NRHA office and shall not show in NRHA Non Pro competition until notified.

A professional that attains Non Pro status after fulfilling stated criteria, shall be eligible for any classes or divisions based on their current eligibility **unless they have over \$100,000 in NRHA lifetime earnings. If NRHA lifetime earnings exceed \$100,000 and a person applies for Non Pro status they are only eligible for Non Pro and Intermediate Non Pro categories (both category 1 and 2 competitions). They can never 'average' back to Limited Non Pro status.**

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

To make the definition of a Non Pro more inclusive while also maintaining the integrity of the program

43-02-11 Submitted by Non Pro/Amateur Task Force

Change **SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS, B. Non Pro Conditions (1)** (reference page 43 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

- (a) A non pro cannot accept sponsorships or endorsements of any kind, monetary or product. This can include, but is not limited to:
- (1) Appearances on or in advertisements with the exception of advertisements for business/entities solely owned by the Non Pro or immediate family
 - (2) Name branding of products
 - (3) Showing in logoed apparel from a sponsorship/endorsement
 - (4) Monetary support for riding, training or the showing of Reining horses.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

To address and clarify the issue of Non Pro sponsorship and endorsements.

No discussion or comments.

44-01-11 Submitted by Melissa Peabody

Change **SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS, B. Non Pro Conditions (1)** (reference page 44 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

A Non Pro shall no longer be considered a Non Pro when their earnings are in excess of \$400,000.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

Since a Non Pro cannot have won in excess of \$100,000 at a time of application, I feel that there should be an upper limit on earnings. Right now there are approximated 13 non pros that have won over \$200,000. Only 3 people have won over \$400,000.

Melanie Rinehart explained that for an affiliate like ANCR Brazil the following proposed change better reflects their breeding season. Rinehart was directed to find out how this compares to AQHA.

47-01-11 Submitted by Events Dept/Member Services

Change **SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS, C. Competition Licensing (3)** (reference page 47 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

(3) For NRHA aged shows, the age of a horse shall be determined as follows:

- (a) For horses foaled in the Northern Hemisphere, age will be determined by a calendar year starting January 1 of the year foaled. The horse is a weanling during the year foaled and a yearling during the following year.
- (b) For horses foaled in the Southern Hemisphere, age will be determined one of two ways:
 - (1) Horses foaled ~~August 1~~ **July 1** through December 31 will be considered a weanling during the next calendar year after which it was foaled and a yearling during the subsequent year. (For example: a horse foaled in the Southern Hemisphere ~~August 1~~ **July 1**, 2007 – December 31, 2007 will be considered a weanling in 2008 and a yearling in 2009).

- (2) Horses foaled in the Southern Hemisphere January 1 through ~~July 31~~ June 30 will be considered a weanling during the calendar year in which it was foaled and yearling during the following year.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

The change is recommended under the direction of ANCR Brazil (IAP). These dates better reflect their breeding season.

No comments.

49-01-11 Submitted by Joe Wolfe

Change **SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS, D. Categories of Competition and Class Eligibility, Category 1** (reference page 49 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

Prime Time Non Pro – For persons 50 ~~50~~ 55 and older as of January 1st of the NRHA year who hold a valid NRHA Non Pro card. This class may run concurrent with Category 1 Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro or Limited Non Pro class.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

Most other sporting events have a much higher than age 50 for their Prime Time or senior divisions. I believe the NRHA is trying to get more members sharing the prize money as evidenced with the addition of additional levels in the Novice Horse Open and Non Pro as well as the Rookie class. By changing the age from 50 to 55, it would eliminate a few from winning in multiple divisions. More members would win money or awards. True Prime Timers or seniors would have a greater opportunity to share in the winnings.

Beth Himes responded that this proposal would allow senior class/division. It would not be eligible for world champion status. Rick Ramsey suggested it should go to age 7 as well.

49-02-11 Submitted by NRHA Executive Committee

Change **SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS, D. Categories of Competition and Class Eligibility** (reference page 49 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

Add New Class:

Senior Horse – Subject to the general conditions but restricted to horses that are 6 years or older. Refer to the competition license section of the rulebook to determine the age of the horse. Also available in the Non Pro division, however, the Non Pro division would be restricted to riders with a valid NRHA Non Pro card and would be restricted to the rules of ownership as stated in the Non Pro conditions.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

To create a market for older horses within the Reining industry as well as an avenue to test horses for FEI/world stage competitions.

No comments or recommendations except that the proposal needs more clarification.

51-01-11 Submitted by NRHA Judges Committee

Change **SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS, D. Categories of Competition and Class Eligibility, Category 2** (reference page 51 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

Snaffle Bit or Hackamore

...Horses in this class may be ridden with one or two hands at any time during the class.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

Clarification

Christa Morris explained that the proposal would ensure that officials are accountable. It would only be for A and B levels at this time.

58-01-11 Submitted by NRHA Animal Welfare Committee

Change **SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS, E. Show Approval (15)** (reference page 58 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

(15) The Show Representative must have been an NRHA member in good standing for at least one full calendar year. ~~It is recommended by the Board of Directors that the~~ The representative must be a current NRHA judge or NRHA Steward. The representative will be responsible to represent for representing the interests of the contestants to the judge(s) and show management, and will be required to submit to NRHA a representative report not more than fifteen (15) days after the show. Should the representative leave the show grounds for any reason, he/she will be responsible to appoint an alternate representative. The representative must represent all contestants with the show management and judge/judges and will be the sole liaison with said management or judge/judges. The representative must report if he observes any horse being abused or if there are actions by any contestant detrimental to the best interest of the Association such as: loud and profane language, drunkenness or being under the influence of intoxicants; use of devices not permitted by NRHA rules; any unsportsmanlike conduct toward judges, show management, or other exhibitors; or any other infraction of NRHA rules.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary): The Animal Welfare Committee strongly believes in the role of NRHA Show Representatives in monitoring for abuse at NRHA approved shows. We feel Show Representatives can assist NRHA in providing for the humane treatment of horses at our events if they are properly trained by NRHA regarding rules as well as how to determine abuse (in the arena and in stabling areas). **The average NRHA member does not have the level of knowledge and expertise we need to monitor for animal abuse.** Well-trained Show Representatives will not only help monitor for abuse, but also deter abuse by playing a larger role. **Additionally, the requirement is a strong step to hold them accountable for enforcing NRHA rules.** The committee feels the best way to ensure this is to require that all Show Representatives are NRHA Judges or NRHA Show Stewards, as well. This proposal does not intend to require that Entry Level shows and/or C Events must have an NRHA Representative.

Jessica Johnson explained this proposal would bring fines into compliance with industry standards.

58-02-11 Submitted by NRHA Member Services – Show Department

Change **SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS, E. Show Approval (13)** (reference page 58 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

To lower all show secretary fines from \$25 to \$10. Change in fee will be applied to all Handbook references to show secretary fines.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

Jessica Johnson advised that this rule change is proposed to bring NRHA more in line with the industry standard.

66-01-11 Submitted by NRHA Show Department

Change **SHOW RULES & REGULATIONS, L. General Show Conditions** (reference page 66 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

Add new L (6) and renumber subsequent

Exhibitors that enter and scratch a class for any reason after the draw has been made public by posting or by word of mouth, will be liable for any and all fees incurred in connection to entering that class.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

If an entry is scratched after the draw is public the entry fee has to be figured in the purse calculations. It is currently left up to show management as to whether or not refund the exhibitor's money because they would have to compensate for that amount if they do a refund. This will help support show management if they do not want to give a refund.

This is a clarification per Michelle Wrigley.

86-01-11 Submitted by NRHA Member Services Department

Change **NRHA SHOW STEWARDS, C. Duties of the Show Steward include but are not limited to:** (reference page 86 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

(7) To furnish the NRHA with a complete written report as to the conduct of the competition including any offenses or violations of the rules by the competition or any exhibitors within ~~fourteen (14)~~ fifteen (15) days after the... If NRHA does not receive the completed report and/or attachments postmarked or electronically submitted within ~~fourteen (14)~~ fifteen (15) days...

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

To make consistent with the rest of the Handbook.

This is a needed clarification per Michelle Wrigley.

96-01-11 Submitted by NRHA Judges Committee

Change **RULES FOR JUDGING, (3) Equipment** (reference page 96 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

(d) Except for Snaffle Bit and Freestyle, Green and Ride Classes, only one hand may be used on the reins and the hand must not be changed. The hand is to be around the reins, with the bite or tail of the reins exiting at the heel of the hand. Index finger only between split reins is permitted.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

Clarification

There were no comments

97-01-11 Submitted by Phil Vallone

Change **RULES FOR JUDGING** (reference page 97 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

Verbal Ring Side coaching and instructions during the course of a pattern should only be permitted in Entry Level, short stirrup, Green and Rookie classes. This is not to be confused with "cheering". There is a distinct difference.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

The intent is to 1: raise the level of “professionalism” in our sport. Onlookers are generally “Taken back” when they see blatant coaching in Non-pro and Open classes. 2: Level the playing field for those that do NOT have coaches. With the tremendous amount of entry level classes added over the years the time has come to draw the line somewhere.

No comments or recommendation.

98-01-11 Submitted by Wayne Kiel

Change **RULES FOR JUDGING** (reference page 98 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

I propose if a person loses his or her hat on any part of the run and the hat becomes an obstacle that can't be avoided and the horse jumps over the hat to avoid it, this should not constitute a 5 point penalty. Especially if all 4 feet come off the ground to jump over or otherwise to avoid stepping on the hat.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

I saw a 5 point penalty invoked at the NE affiliate final when the above incident occurred in 2008.

At this time this would be optional and the trot would not be judged.

122-01-11 Submitted by NRHA Animal Welfare Committee

Change **RULES FOR JUDGING, Patterns** (reference page 122 of the 2010 NRHA Handbook)

Add a new pattern as shown below (Change current Pattern 11 – Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup – to Pattern 12). The following pattern would be included as Pattern 11 in the *NRHA Handbook*.

Horses must trot to the center of the arena. Horses must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Beginning at the center of the arena facing the left wall or fence.

1. Complete four spins to the left. Hesitate.

2. Complete four spins to the right. Hesitate.

3. Beginning on the right lead, complete three circles to the right; the first circle small and slow; the next two circles large and fast. Change leads at the center of the arena.

4. Complete three circles to the left; the first circle small and slow; the next two circle large and fast. Change leads at the center of the arena.

5. Begin a large circle to the right, but do not close this circle. Run down the center of the arena past the end marker and do a right rollback – no hesitation.

6. Run up the middle to the opposite end of the arena past the end marker and do a left rollback – no hesitation.

7. Run past the center marker and do a sliding stop. Back up to the center of the arena or at least ten feet (three meters). Hesitate to demonstrate completion of the pattern.

Intent of Proposal (include additional pages as necessary):

Many members have been considering changing all walk-in patterns to require that horses jog to center. As a first step or compromise, the Animal Welfare Committee recommends that NRHA add a new pattern that has this requirement. This pattern would be considered like any other pattern – optional for show management to offer.

Additional Benefits –

This would provide Show Managers an alternative to Pattern 7 when time is an issue.

Requiring horses to trot to center would not only help classes run faster when time is an issue for larger classes, but it also provides judges with an opportunity to observe the soundness of the competing horse. From the perspective of the Animal Welfare Committee, soundness is paramount for the future of our industry. Adding this pattern demonstrates the Association's commitment to protect the humane treatment of the horse – not only to our industry, but also to individuals outside of our industry.

Industry Example -

The National Reined Cow Horse Association did this several years ago on the same basis. It was initially met with member protest, but is now perceived as a benefit to everyone involved.

Judging -

A horse would not be required to perform a "perfect" trot from the gate to the center to be on pattern, but we believe that the trot to the center should be scored as part of the first maneuver.

One rule change was missed.

FUTURITY/DERBY NOMINATION PROGRAM

Executive Director Wall gave an overview last year there was a concerted effort to bring two nomination program closer together. Due to an increase in the number of US bred entries it was decided to adopt a structure that would tweak the reciprocal agreement – changes to make it not an automatic reciprocal situation. It's an encouragement for European small breeders to participate and put program in peril. The proposed changes for 2010 and forward. Mel noted changes.

Andre DeBellefeuille suggested that to consign to the NRHA sales consignments should be required to be nominated to both nomination programs.

Strike #16 on US conditions per Mel. Table both sets of conditions until tomorrow. Mike Hancock moved to move the entry deadline until April 30, 2010, Brett seconded. Motion passed.

IT REPORT

Terry Griffin gave an updated IT Report. Item I. #1 Reiner was not originally included in the assessment of the project Reiner department infrastructure is under IT project now. It is anticipated that by the end of June the internal live date with membership services. Building interface for membership department to speak to the accounting department. Horses will be next. The Horse Show software should be ready for testing in late summer and ready for the NRHA Futurity. NRHA doesn't have enough time and resources to meet original deadlines to complete infrastructure. The project is about 20 percent over budget due to new programs, ongoing business, etc. Griffin suggested that if this project is ever to finish the board needs to really strongly consider adding new programs, etc. Reserves will be used to deal with overruns. Regarding budget for next fiscal year ... need to look at adding more money for infrastructure, computers, software, etc. Regarding new phone system – struggle with migrations of equipment. During next two months more resources will be needed to make changes to eliminate hurdles that staff are put through. There's a need to put more money in the budget for these resources. Frank Costantini asked how could the *Reiner* have been overlooked? Why are we always behind the eight ball? Discussion ensued.

Break 3:09 p.m.

Reconvene 3:27 p.m.

BUSINESS ITEM

President Weaver discussed a business item; an Affiliate President called after redistricting last fall and wanted to go back to the way things were. Leadership had changed in some of the affiliates that had been polled. The affiliate president asked that NRHA review the situation. Rick Ramsey addressed the North Central redistricting explaining that it was done to help with some hardships of travel, which can be very lengthy for some members. Affiliate committee relooked at the redistricting but decided what they had done was best. Brett Walters, the North Central representative at the time stated that he went to all the affiliates at the time and they were for it. Mike Deer noted that passage doesn't mean the committee can't look at it in the future.

NRHA 2010 EUROPEON FUTURITY

Executive Director Wall spoke about the fantastic event this year's Futurity was. The snow hurt weekly attendance with an increase in weekend crowds who filled up the stands. Executive Director Dan Wall noted that Nick Cornelissens and the NRHA staff did a great and outstanding job. Mr. Arcese made the event and there was over 200,000 hits to the NRHA website. Roberto Cuoghi said Europeans felt like they do in Oklahoma City and is was a great feeling. Fourteen different countries attended, which made the event better and bigger.

NRHA 2011 DERBY

Executive Director Wall advised the board that we are looking at all of our options.

WEG UPDATE

Todd Barden distributed a handout explaining that NRHA will share a 15x30 booth with AQHA, and a major goal will be to garner contact information. Marketing is considering doing a newspaper, coloring books, Corporate Partner Cimarron – trailer façade with a tv screen and talking horse head with educational material. Can sign up for test rides in booth. Melanie talked about horse situation. Have to follow FEI rules for vaccinations. Vet can write a letter stating that the horse has been up to date on shots, needs booster shot 7 days before arrival. Most critical goal is to get info on people that are interested. In indoor during reining NRHA there will be a 10x20 space that will be used to promo Reining. Via Adequan who has bought Inside Reining shows to highlight the 8 disciplines. There is parking on the grounds = see Todd.

RHSF REPORT

Frank Costantini, RHSF president solicited for 100 Grand Club donations. Bill Bradley is head of the Hundred Grand Club fund-raiser and Allen Mitchels is in charge of the Donn Leson saddle raffle.

Respectively submitted by Executive Assistant Debby Hutchinson.