

**NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION
NRHA Judges Committee Minutes
2020 Winter Meeting, Denton, Texas
February 8, 2020**

Approved 2/26/2020

Members Present: Ann Salmon-Anderman (chair), Brett Walters, Tim McQuay, Richard Pokluda, Mike McEntire, Drake Johnson, Dean Latimer, Bub Poplin (via phone), Doug Allen (via phone), Kelly Sapp (via phone), Margaret Fuchs (via phone), Nick Baar (via phone), Bob Kail (via phone)

Members Not Present: Eugenio Latorre, Maik Bartmann, Filippo Masi, Craig Schmersal

Staff Present: Kristen Liesman

Guests: Shauna Larcombe, Tim Anderson, Nancy Tague, Patrick Flaherty, Savannah White, Van Luse, Mike Davis, Travis Chapman, George King, Shane Brown, Laura Thomas, Billy Williams, Jessica How, Ed Bricker

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Ann Salmon Anderman at 8:05 am.

Approval of Minutes

Kristen reviewed the minutes from the last judge's committee meeting. Motion was made, seconded, and approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Event Officials Page

Kristen Liesman spoke on the judge's website and Event Officials Page. The website is currently in use and will be completely updated by the end of February.

Educational Videos

The committee will work on producing videos to use as educational tools both on social media and on EOP. The following topics were discussed and will be the first videos produced:

- Over/Under Spins
- Break of gait penalties and how they can happen
- Pattern placement
- Out of lead penalties – especially before center
- 5 point penalties for knees & hocks
- Freeze ups
- How and when you can request a review
- Review process
- Penalty application

Corrections to Scorecards

The committee discussed changes being made to scorecards by show management and how these corrections need to be handled. It is imperative that the judge talk to show management first thing to discuss corrections and explain that they must sign off on any changes made to their scoresheets. In addition, it is important that judges remind management to have scorecards available to exhibitors immediately so that any requests for review can be done in a timely manner and prior to the 30 minutes after the completion of the day.

5 Point Penalty Clarification

The committee has made some clarifications on the 5-point penalty for a horse dropping to its knees.

A horse that stumbles and has a knee that touches the ground should not incur the 5 point penalty so long as the horse maintains forward motion. Ex: A horse that is loping circles and stumbles resulting with a knee on the ground but remains loping with forward motion should not receive a penalty 5, however, the maneuver should be reduced according to the severity.

Saddle Horn Rule Clarification

As of January 1st, non pro riders 65 and older can hold the saddle horn (excluding categories 2&6). While the rule does specifically say saddle horn, the committee feels that these exhibitors should be allowed to hold any part of the saddle without incurring a 5 point penalty. An exhibitor is allowed to grab the saddle once or multiple times throughout the pattern without incurring a penalty.

It is important that when you encounter an exhibitor who chooses to hold the saddle that the judge does not reduce the maneuver score for doing such. For example, if a rider has a good set of spins it should remain a +½ maneuver even if the rider is holding the saddle.

This will also be the first-year show management will be dealing with this rule so it is important that the judge check in with them upon arrival as to how they will distinguish these exhibitors and remind them that this is not allowed in any aged event.

Calendar Review

The committee reviewed the calendar and the 13 shows selected at the workshop that they will be completing reviews on.

Tablets

The committee discussed the benefits and data that is collected when the tablets are used at major events. Starting in 2020 the committee hopes that more major events will chose to use the tablets and share the data.

Executive Session

The committee reviewed the results of the January school and also discussed the implementation of the rating system.

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 10:18 am.