

NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION

NRHA Judges Committee/Teaching Pool Minutes  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom  
APRIL 30, 2024

*Approved*

Members Present: Committee Chair – Eugenio Latorre, Vice Chair – Mike McEntire, Bub Poplin, Craig Schmersal, Jared Leclair, Maik Bartmann, Matt Lantz, Pat Wickenheiser, Reid Fady, Sebastian Petroll, Todd Sommers, Manu Maiocchi, Ollie Griffith, Bob Kail, Doug Allen, Margaret Fuchs

Members Not Present: Steve Ross

Staff Present: Sr. Director of Education & Officials – Patti Carter

**I. Call to Order**

Committee Chair, Eugenio Latorre, called the meeting to order at 1:03 P.M. (CST)

**II. Approval of 4/9/2024 meeting minutes**

Previous minutes approved via email.

**III. Unfinished Business**

- a. Action Item: Geri Armine Klein -unable to lead horse out the arena after dismounting for an equipment check.

The NRHA Judges Committee unanimously approved that in a situation where Geri Armine-Klein dismounts to present her equipment to the judge for inspection in the arena, she be allowed outside assistance to lead her horse out of the arena at the conclusion of the inspection.

**IV. Action: Clarify Hackamore Equipment Rules**

Current rule change

References to hackamore mean the use of a flexible, braided, rawhide, leather, or rope bosal, the core of which may be either rawhide or flexible cable with a maximum diameter of 3/4" at the cheek. Absolutely no rigid material will be permitted under the jaws or on the noseband in connection with the bosal, regardless of how padded or covered. Horsehair bosals are prohibited. This rule does not refer to the so-called mechanical hackamore which is illegal.

The proposed rule change passed unanimously.

References to hackamore mean the use of a **traditional** flexible, braided, rawhide or leather, ~~or rope~~ bosal, the core of which may be either rawhide or flexible cable with a maximum diameter of 3/4" at the cheek. Absolutely no rigid material will be permitted under the jaws or on the noseband in connection with the bosal, regardless of how padded or covered. Horsehair bosals are prohibited. This rule does not refer to the so-called mechanical hackamore which is illegal.

**V. Action: Discuss lowering age requirement to apply to be an NRHA Judge**

The Judges Committee unanimously approved a rule change to drop the required age requirement to become an NRHA Judge from 25 to 21.

Current Rule:

The applicant must be at least twenty-five (25) years of age and must have been an NRHA General, Non Pro, or Professionals members in good standing for 24 months prior to the date of application before he or she can be considered for approval as an NRHA judge.

Proposed Rule Change

The applicant must be at least twenty-five (~~25~~) (21) years of age and must have been an NRHA General, Non Pro, or Professionals members in good standing for 24 months prior to the date of application before he or she can be considered for approval as an NRHA judge.

**VI. Action: Increase Seminar and School Fees**

By a majority vote with one opposed, the Judges Committee approved to increase the NRHA Seminar fees by \$50 and to increase the NRHA Judge School fees by \$100 beginning in 2025.

**VII. Next Meeting: Tuesday May 28 @ 1:00 PM (CST)**

**Meeting Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 2:30 P.M. (Central Standard Time)