

**NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION**  
**NRHA Judges Committee/Teaching Pool Winter Workshop Minutes**  
**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**  
**April 3, 2024 at 1:00 P.M. (CST)**

*Approved 4/9/2024*

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

Members Not Present: Steve Ross

Staff Present: NRHA Commissioner – Billy Smith, Sr. Director of Education & Officials – Patti Carter, Education & Officials Coordinator – Lillian Esterl-Byrne

**I. Call to Order**

Committee Chair, Eugenio Latorre, called the meeting to order at 1:04 P.M. (CST)

**II. March Judge Seminar Results**

Motion made and seconded to approve all the individuals with a 79.7% or higher overall score from the March 2024 Judge Applicant Seminar for attendance at a future NRHA Judges School. These individuals will have until 12/31/2025 to attend an NRHA Judges School to test to obtain judging privileges – motion passed unanimously.

**III. March Judge School Results**

Motion made and seconded to approve individuals with an 80.0% or higher overall score and acceptable conduct and decorum from the March 2024 Judges' School for submission to the Board of Directors for final approval of judging privileges. Those not meeting the 70.0% benchmark for the Penalty Test portion will be required to complete the online Penalty Retest within one month of receiving the retest information – motion passed unanimously.

Motion made and seconded to not pass one New Judge Applicant from the March Judges' School due to poor conduct and decorum during the school. This individual will be allowed to test for judging privileges after a period of two years – motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Australia Judge Seminar/School Results**

Motion made and seconded to approve all the individuals with an 80.0% or higher overall score from the Australia 2024 Judge Applicant Seminar for attendance at a future NRHA Judges School. These individuals will have until 12/31/2025 to attend an NRHA Judges School to test to obtain judging privileges – motion passed unanimously.

Motion made and seconded to approve all the individuals with an 79.5% or higher overall score from the Australia 2024 Judges' School for submission to the Board of Directors for final approval of judging privileges. Those not meeting the 70.0% benchmark for the Penalty Test portion will be required to complete the online Penalty Retest within one month of receiving the retest information – motion passed unanimously.

**V. Review the Judge's Conflict of Interest**

The committee reviewed and discussed a recommendation to the Board of Directors to update the conflict of interest policies. Motion made and seconded to approve the edited recommendation for submission to the Board of Directors – motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Charlie Smith's request to retest**

Motion made and seconded to allow Charlie Smith to retest for reinstatement of his NRHA judging privileges – motion passed unanimously.

**VII. November Judge School Date**

Motion made and seconded to host the Fall NRHA Judges' School on November 1 – 3, 2024 – motion passed unanimously.

**VIII. Approve Balance/Tail/Soundness keys**

Motion made and seconded to approve the updated teaching keys for the Balance, Tails/Ears, and Soundness videos used at the NRHA Judges' Schools and Seminars.

**IX. Incident Report from 2024 IRHA Derby**

Motion made and seconded to place the judge in question on suspension until the conclusion of the protest investigation – motion passed unanimously.

**X. Request from Geri Klein**

Geri Klein will be requested to submit a letter with specifics on what accommodation would be necessary to be most helpful for her.

**XI. Legal and Illegal equipment**

Skinny Bosal with knots on the noseband – Illegal due to knots on noseband

Rope Bosal – Legal

Bit Guard – Motion made and seconded that a non-standard bit guard attached to the shank is considered illegal. Further investigation will be conducted to determine the size of a standard, manufactured bit guard which could be considered legal – motion passed unanimously

Leather Bit – Illegal (bit cannot be wrapped with anything besides latex)

Ball Prong Bit – Illegal, deemed abusive/inhumane due to the direction of the prongs

**XII. AAA only school**

Tabled for future meeting

**XIII. Next Meeting date**

The next Judges Committee meeting will be scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**Meeting Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 2:37 P.M. (Central Standard Time)