

**NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION**  
**NRHA Judges Committee/Teaching Pool Winter Workshop Minutes**  
**NRHA Office**  
**January 13-14, 2025**

*Approved 2.13.2025*

Members Present: Committee Chair – Eugenio Latorre, Bob Kail, Doug Allen, Maik Bartmann, Manuela Maiocchi, Matt Lantz, Ollie Griffith, Reid Fady, Sebastian Petroll

Members Present Virtually: Vice Chair – Mike McEntire

Members Not Present: Craig Schmersal, Margaret Fuchs, Pat Wickenheiser, Steve Ross

Staff Present: NRHA Commissioner – Billy Smith, NRHA Assistant Commissioner – Christa Morris-Stone, Sr. Director of Education and Officials – Patti Carter, Education and Officials Coordinator – Aubrey Layton

**I. Call to Order**

Committee Chair Eugenio Latorre called the meeting to order at 8:10 A.M. January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (CST)

**II. Welcome – Review of 2025 Judges Committee and Teaching Pool Members**

- a. Introduction of committee members and overview of Judges Code of Ethics

**III. Review Strategic Plan**

- a. Review of NRHA strategic plan and Judges' Advisory Committee goals

**IV. 2024 NRHA Futurity Review**

- a. Review of data pulled from the 2024 Futurity live scoring teams and review panels, both team-wide and individual judge maneuver score distribution and penalty application data sets organized by show class

**V. Pilot Slide Contest Review**

- a. Review of new NRHA-approved 2025 pilot slide program and scoring system
- b. Review of 2024 NRHA Futurity slide contest utilizing Futurity live scores; elected example runs from Futurity slide for use at NRHA judge schools and educational events

**VI. Ranch Reining Class Pilot**

- a. Review of new NRHA-approved pilot ranch reining class including scoring system and approved class patterns
- b. Reviewed ranch reining video runs provided by APHA; selected example runs for use during NRHA judge schools and educational events

**VII. Policy Change Proposal**

- a. An NRHA judge proposed that the passing grade for an NRHA Judge Applicant Seminar be changed to 90.0% on the written rulebook exam.
  - a. Motion made and seconded to not implement the suggested required grade change

**VIII. Maneuver Evaluation Tape Updates**

- a. Submissions made by AAA NRHA Judges regarding potential updates to NRHA Maneuver Standards Evaluation Tape reviewed one by one based on majority maneuver scores
- b. Multiple pre-selected consistently scored maneuvers from the 2024 NRHA Futurity were marked for potential use in future horseIQ education

**IX. Review 2025 Judge School and Seminar Agenda**

- a. Reviewed agendas and interview questions currently used in NRHA Judge Schools and Judge Applicant Seminars; no changes were made

- b. Motion made and seconded to require all NRHA Judges Advisory Committee members not apart of JAC Teaching Pool to attend a Judge School once every two years

**X. Review April 2025 Judge Applications**

- a. Reviewed all NRHA Judge Applications for attendance at April 2025 Judge Applicant Seminar
  - a. Motion was made and seconded to approve all applicants

**XI. Review 2025 Judge Elevation Requests**

- a. Discussed all judges that applied for judge rating elevation in 2025
- b. Judges' Advisory Committee members voted anonymously on each individual rating elevation application; majority vote determined elevation request response

**XII. Update on Judge Recognition Program**

- a. Option to let judges who have 25+ years nonconsecutive years of service purchase a ring.

**XIII. Discussion on How and When Penalties Affect Maneuver Evaluation**

- a. Discussion led by Chair Eugenio Latorre regarding the effect of penalty application on maneuver evaluation scores; a document was created based on this discussion as a discussion guide for use at NRHA Judge Schools and Seminars
- b. Motion made and seconded to launch monitor pilot program at future NRHA Derbies and Futurities requiring monitors to record all inconsistent calls on 1-point lead penalties and report recordings to the JAC after each event

**XIV. Transition from EOP to HorseIQ**

- a. The HorseIQ replacement of EOP was presented, including warm up runs, an online testing portal, and guides for various types of show officials

**XV. 2025 Judge Monitor Online Meeting**

- a. Reviewed current list of all NRHA judge monitors
- b. Discussed the necessity of implementing an annual required meeting / educational experience for NRHA judge monitors
- c. Discussion resulted in all judge monitors in attendance at the January 2025 Judge School and all future Judges Schools to meet one evening following the school with Judge Advisory Committee members present.

**XVI. Review Draft of Winter Newsletter**

- a. Presentation of topics tentatively planned to be included in the 2025 Winter Judge Newsletter, which is sent to all carded NRHA judges and published on EOP / HorseIQ

**XVII. Propose Fall 2025 Judge School Dates**

- a. Discussed most ideal dates for the Fall 2025 Judges School
- b. Motion made and seconded to host the fall school on October 31 – November 2, 2025 in Oklahoma City

**XVIII. Meeting Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M. January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (CST)