

## SECTION III.

### Racing Rules and Regulations

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The welfare of the horse and all other animals is paramount to AQHA. Before proceeding, please read AQHA's welfare statement concerning American Quarter Horse racing on page 10. Rules 301(e) and 311 are examples of ways that AQHA has worked to protect horses involved in racing.

#### 300. GENERAL RACING PROVISIONS

(a) AQHA does not assume or accept duty or responsibility for safety at any race or races in regard to participants, third parties or participating horses.

(b) As an express condition of the privilege to participate at an AQHA-recognized race event, each owner of an American Quarter Horse, trainer and participant assumes the risks of participation and releases and discharges AQHA, its officers, directors, representatives and employees from any and all liability, whenever or however arising, as to personal injury or property damage occurring as a result of participation in a race event.

(c) AQHA recognizes that racing commissions (state, provincial and national) and other recognized turf governing bodies (collectively "Racing Authorities") adopt their own racing rules. In cases where races eligible for AQHA recognition are run under the supervision of a Racing Authority, the Racing Authority's rules take precedence. While the rules of Racing Authorities take precedence, AQHA, for purposes of AQHA records and programs, reserves the right to deny or revoke recognition of a race which does not observe the rules and regulations contained herein.

#### 301. RACE RECOGNITION AND RESULTS.

(a) AQHA accepts race results in Amarillo, Texas, as official and uses such results for purposes of recording information in AQHA records, conducting AQHA racing programs and determining qualification for advancement of a horse in AQHA's breed registry.

(b) Race results are eligible for AQHA recognition if the race is run under the supervision of a Racing Authority and complies with the rules and regulations contained herein.

(c) Effective April 1, 1992, AQHA imposed a moratorium on applications for AQHA sanction/regulation of nonpari-mutuel race meets. Such moratorium remains in effect and may only be waived by the AQHA Executive Committee.

(d) AQHA will not recognize a race that involves an American Quarter Horse competing with horses other than

(1) other American Quarter Horse(s);

(2) Thoroughbred(s) registered with The Jockey Club, The Canadian Jockey Club or The Mexican Jockey Club;

(3) horse(s) registered with the American Paint Horse Association; or

(4) horse(s) registered with the Appaloosa Horse Club.

(e) AQHA will not recognize a race in which a 2-year-old:

(1) starts prior to March 1 (with the exception of the trials and finals for the West Texas Futurity and the Mardi Gras Futurity);

(2) competes against older horses; or

(3) is allowed to compete at a distance greater than 440 yards prior to September 1.

**(f)** A questionable time is a time in which past performance records indicate possible error.

**(1)** In cases of questionable times, AQHA may withhold its recognition of the times as official until the race is reviewed by AQHA.

**(2)** If presiding race officials or the Racing Authority do not provide reasonable justification for the questionable time, AQHA reserves the right to adjust the time by using the video of the race to estimate the time by counting the number of video frames in the race from the moment the starting gate stall doors are fully open parallel to the racing track.

**(3)** AQHA decisions regarding questionable times may be appealed to the AQHA Racing Council for further consideration. Decisions of the Racing Council may be appealed to the AQHA Executive Committee per Rule 106.

### **302. TRACK RESPONSIBILITIES**

**(a)** Unless otherwise specified herein, AQHA recognizes the Model Rules for Flat Racing adopted by the Association of Racing Commissioners International (“ARCI”) and requests that races eligible for AQHA recognition be run in accordance with such rules.

**(b)** AQHA recommends that all stewards at American Quarter Horse tracks be certified as accredited stewards and have adequate experience and/or education concerning American Quarter Horse racing.

**(c)** Tracks must file race results charts and official programs with AQHA following each racing day. Tracks may file such charts and programs by fax, online computer transmission (directly to AQHA or via submission to Equibase) or express delivery. The race results chart should include all of the necessary information to produce past performance lines as well as information concerning monies earned (purse and bonus) paid through the horseman’s bookkeeper. The official program should include conditions of the races and distances, names of the horses in each race, post positions, color, sex, age, breeding, owner, trainer, jockey and weight carried.

**(d)** If requested by AQHA, tracks must provide AQHA with a videotape of all graded or restricted graded stakes races at the track’s expense.

**(e)** The track is responsible for setting starting gates so races are actually run at designated distances. There shall not be a downhill slope in excess of one degree (1°) over the length of the straightaway. At AQHA’s request, a track must file with AQHA a certified statement by a licensed surveyor that all American Quarter Horse distances at the track have been surveyed for grade and distance within the last five years.

**(f)** AQHA will only recognize those official races that are run on oval tracks that meet the standards and requirements of AQHA and the model rules of racing.

**(g)** All tracks conducting American Quarter Horse racing shall utilize an electronic photo-finish camera or computerized video tape photo-finish camera. The minimum accuracy of the camera shall be no less than 1/100th (.01) of a second. The maximum accuracy of the camera shall be no greater than 1/1000 (.001) of a second. The track must calibrate the photo-finish camera every year and, at AQHA’s request, file a copy of the calibration report with AQHA.

(h) The recommended minimum scale of weights of American Quarter Horse jockeys riding 2-year-olds is 120 pounds; 3-year-olds is 122 pounds; and 4-year-olds or older is 124 pounds.

**303. EARNINGS.** AQHA will only record the following as total money earned in the Official AQHA Race Record:

(a) Purse earnings reported in the race results chart; and

(b) Bonus earnings, including annuity awards, that are:

(1) Paid to the owner(s) of a horse as a result of the horse's performance in a specific race or series of races that are not included in the actual purse of the race(s) but are paid through the horseman's bookkeeper (in the case of a series of races, paid through the horseman's bookkeeper at the track where the last leg of the series was held); and

(2) Reported in the race results chart.

(c) Bonus earnings will be recorded separately from purse earnings, and an annotation will appear on materials such as Champions Balloting specifying that the horse's total earnings include a particular amount of bonus earnings.

(d) Bonus earnings in the form of an annuity award will be recorded as the cash value of the annuity on the date the award was earned, whether or not the owner receives the award as a lump sum or in periodic payments. In the event an owner receives an annuity award in periodic payments, the determination of the cash value of the annuity on the date the award was earned shall be in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(e) AQHA records all monetary amounts reported as part of race results (purses, bonus earnings, claiming prices, wagering pool, payoffs, etc.) in U.S. funds.

**304. HORSE OWNERSHIP.**

(a) "AQHA Race Ownership Record" shall mean a horse's official AQHA ownership record as it existed within AQHA's ownership data system at the time of a race.

(b) A person shall be considered a "Record Owner" of a horse if such person is:

(1) listed as the owner per "AQHA Race Ownership Records"; or

(2) listed as the lessee per "AQHA Race Ownership Records".

(c) For purposes of AQHA recognition and AQHA awards only, points and earnings earned as a result of a horse's performance in a particular race ("AQHA Credit") shall only be credited to the "Record Owner" of such horse for that race.

(d) AQHA recognizes that reporting services and/or racetracks, for purposes of their record keeping, may rely on certain documentation as being sufficient for their official and final determination/recognition of a person as being the owner of a horse. AQHA recognizes that such documentation might include, but not necessarily be limited to:

(1) an AQHA registration certificate presented to race officials;

(2) an AQHA lease certificate presented to race officials; or

(3) a valid transfer report presented to race officials.

Notwithstanding such reliance and official and final determination/recognition by reporting services and/or racetracks, if a person is not a "Record Owner" as defined in subsection (b) above, such person shall not receive the "AQHA Credit" referenced in subsection (c) above. This remains true even if AQHA official ownership records

are subsequently updated after a race to reflect that such person was the owner of the horse at the time of the race.

(e) See Rule 224(h) for information on transferring horses claimed in claiming races.

**305. TIME TRIALS.** In the absence of specific conditions for particular elimination or time trial races, the following rules shall apply.

(a) Except in cases where the starting gate physically restricts the number of horses starting, each time trial shall consist of no more than 10 horses.

(b) The time trials shall be raced under the same conditions as the final. If the time trials are conducted on the same day, the horses with the 10 fastest times shall qualify to participate in the final. If the time trials are conducted on two days, the horses with the five fastest times on the first day and the horses with the five fastest times on the second day shall qualify to participate in the final. When time trials are conducted on two days, the racing secretary shall make his/her best effort to split owners with more than one entry into separate days and/or time trials.

(c) If the association's starting gate has less than 10 stalls, then the maximum number of qualifiers will correspond to the maximum number of starting gate post positions.

(d) Except in races around a turn, if only 11 or 12 horses are entered to run in time trials from a gate with 12 or more stalls, the association may choose to run a final only. If 11 or 12 horses participate in the final, only the first 10 finishers will receive purse money.

(e) In the time trials, horses shall qualify on the basis of time and order of finish. The times of the horses in the time trial will be determined to the limit of the timer. The only exception is when two or more horses have the same time in the same trial heat. Then the order of finish shall also determine the preference in qualifying for the final. Should two or more horses in different time trials have the same qualifying time to the limit of the timer for the final qualifying position(s), then a draw by public lot shall be conducted as directed by the stewards. Qualifying times in separate trials shall not be determined beyond the limit of the timer by comparing and/or enlarging photo-finish images.

(f) Except in the case of disqualification, under no circumstances shall a horse qualify ahead of a horse that finished ahead of that horse in the official order of finish in a time trial.

(g) Should a horse be disqualified for interference during the running of a time trial, it shall receive the time of the horse it is immediately placed behind plus one hundredth of a second, or the maximum accuracy of the electronic timing device. No adjustments will be made in the times recorded in the time trials to account for head-wind, tail-wind, off-track, etc. If a horse is disqualified for interference with another horse causing loss of rider or the horse not to finish the race, the disqualified horse shall be given no time and that horse should not be eligible to run in the final.

(h) Should a malfunction occur with the electronic timer on any time trial, finalists from that time trial will then be determined by official hand times operated by three official and disinterested persons. The average of the three hand times will be utilized for the winning time, unless one of the hand times is clearly incorrect. In such cases, the average of the two accurate hand times will be utilized for the winning time; other horses shall be given times according to

the order and margins of finish with the aid of the photo finish, if available.

**(i)** When there is a malfunction of the timer during some time trials, but the timer operates correctly in other time trials, the accurate electronic times shall not be discarded, nor shall the average of the hand times be used for all time trials.

**(j)** If the accuracy of the electronic timer and/or the average of the hand times are questioned, the video of a time trial may be used by the stewards to estimate the winning time by counting the number of video frames in the race from the moment the starting gate stall doors are fully open parallel to the racing track. When the timer malfunctions and there are no hand times, the stewards may select qualifiers based on the video.

**(k)** Should there be a malfunction of the starting gate and one or more stall doors not open or open after the exact moment when the starter dispatches the field, the stewards may declare the horses with malfunctioning stall doors non-starters or may allow any horse whose stall door opened late, but still ran a time fast enough to qualify, to be declared a starter for qualifying purposes. If a horse breaks through the stall door, or the stall door opens prior to the exact moment the starter purposely dispatches the field, the horse may be declared a non-starter, and the stewards may direct that all entry fees be refunded. If one or more, but not all, stall doors open at the exact moment the starter purposely dispatches the field, these horses should be considered starters for qualifying purposes and placed according to their electronic time. If the electronic timer malfunctions in this instance, the average of the hand times, or if not available, the video may be utilized for the horses declared starters.

**(l)** If a horse should be scratched from the time trials, the horse's owner shall not be eligible for a refund of the fees paid and shall not be allowed to enter the final. If a horse that qualified for the final should be unable to enter due to racing soundness or scratched for any reason other than a positive drug test or a rule violation, the horse shall be deemed to have earned and the owner will receive last place purse money. If more than one horse is scratched from the final, then those purse monies shall be added together and divided equally among those owners.

**(m)** If a qualifier for a final or consolation is disqualified for ineligibility or a rule violation after the time trials are declared official, but prior to entry for the final or consolation, the non-qualifier with the next fastest time shall replace the disqualified horse. If a qualifier is disqualified after entry for the final or consolation for any reason other than racing unsoundness, illness or death, if necessary, the purse shall be redistributed among the remaining qualifiers.

### **306. STAKES AND RESTRICTED STAKES RACES.**

**(a)** In order to be eligible for AQHA recognition as a stakes or restricted stakes race, the following conditions must be met:

**(1)** Nominations must close more than 48 hours before the first race of the day on which the stakes or restricted stakes are to be run;

**(2)** the track must provide AQHA with the conditions and purse structure (nomination, sustaining and entry fees, added monies and gross purse distribution);

**(3)** the race must have a minimum purse of:

**(A)** \$15,000 U.S. Funds if conducted in the United States;

(B) \$15,000 Canadian funds if conducted in Canada;

or

(C) \$7,500 U.S. funds based on the conversion rate on each race day if conducted anywhere other than United States or Canada.

(4) have stakes of \$50 or more posted by each of the owners of the participating horses. This requirement shall be waived if the race in question is an invitational stakes race or an invitational handicap race for which owners do not contribute to the purse, but which is advertised in the regular stakes program.

(b) A race that is otherwise eligible for AQHA recognition as a stakes or restricted stakes race shall not be deemed ineligible for such recognition if monies or prizes additional to those referenced above are added.

(c) A stakes race may not be restricted or exclude entries in any way other than age or sex.

(d) Match races are not eligible for stakes or restricted stakes recognition.

(e) The following types of races are the only types of races that are eligible for restricted stakes recognition:

(1) Races restricted to state of breeding, foaling and/or ownership;

(2) Races in which state bred are preferred;

(3) Races restricted to those horses sold in a certain sale or sales with at least 50 yearlings consigned representing at least eight stallions. A minimum of \$5,000 added to each race is required.

(4) Races restricted to the progeny of a restricted group of stallions, provided:

(A) the stallions involved are the property of a minimum of five distinct owners, and

(B) the foals eligible for the race represent a minimum of eight stallions on the original nomination list.

(f) Annually, AQHA will consider for grading, all eligible stakes and restricted stakes races as outlined in the Graded Stakes Committee Guidelines. In order for AQHA to grade a stakes or restricted stakes race, such race must limit entry and competition to only American Quarter Horses registered with the American Quarter Horse Association. Stakes may be graded as Grade 1, 2 or 3, with Grade 1 being the highest grade. Restricted stakes may be graded as Restricted 1, 2 or 3, with Restricted 1 being the highest grade. Primary consideration for grading will be the quality of horses attracted to the race and such factors as competition, conditions, purse and prestige of the race.

**307. THE BANK OF AMERICA® RACING CHALLENGE.** The general rules and conditions for the Bank of America® Racing Challenge are contained in the Official AQHA Bank of America® Racing Challenge Condition Book applicable to the year in which the Challenge races are conducted (“Official Challenge Condition Book”). The Official Challenge Condition Book is published on AQHA’s website (aqha.org) and is incorporated herein by reference.

**308. SPEED INDEX.** Speed index is a system of rating the performance of American Quarter Horse racehorses.

(a) Speed index ratings are based on an average of the three fastest winning electronic times at a particular distance run each year for the immediate past three years at a given track (nine total times). The

Graded stakes for \$100,000 or more		
Stakes races for \$100,000 or more		
Restricted graded stakes for \$100,000 or more . . . . .	20	19
<u>Restricted stakes races for \$100,000 or more</u>		
Graded stakes for \$50,000-\$99,999		
Stakes races for \$50,000-\$99,999		
Restricted graded stakes for \$50,000-\$99,999 . . . . .	19	18
<u>Restricted stakes races for \$50,000-\$99,999</u>		
Graded stakes for \$25,000-\$49,999		
Stakes races for \$25,000-\$49,999		
Restricted graded stakes for \$25,000-\$49,999 . . . . .	16	15
<u>Restricted stakes races for \$25,000-\$49,999</u>		
Graded stakes for \$15,000-\$24,999		
Stakes races for \$15,000-\$24,999		
Restricted graded stakes for \$15,000-\$24,999 . . . . .	14	13
<u>Restricted stakes for \$15,000-\$24,999</u>		
Allowance, Consolations, Claiming Stakes or Finals races for \$15,000 or more . . . . .	14	12
Allowance, Consolation or Finals \$3,500-\$14,999		
OR Mexico stakes races \$7,500-\$14,999 . . . . .	12	10
<u>OR Trials for races with purse of \$50,000 &amp; up</u>		
Allowance, Consolation or Finals \$2,000-\$3,499		
OR Trials for races with purse of \$25,000-\$49,999		
<u>OR Claiming price of \$7,500 &amp; up with purse of \$2,000 &amp; up . . . . .</u>	10	8
Allowance, Consolation or Finals of \$1,000-\$1,999		
OR Starter Allowance races with no specific claiming price		
OR Trials for races with purse of \$15,000-\$24,999		
<u>OR Claiming price of \$7,500 &amp; up with purse of \$1,000-\$1,999 . . . . .</u>	8	6
Allowance, Consolation or Finals of \$200-\$999		
OR Trials for races with purse of \$5,000-\$14,999		
OR Claiming Stakes Trials		
OR Claiming price of \$7,500 & up with purse of \$200-\$999 . . . . .	7	5
<u>OR Claiming price of \$4,000-\$7,499 with purse of \$1,000 &amp; up</u>		
Trials for races with purse less than \$5,000		
OR Claiming price of \$4,000-\$7,499 with purse of \$200-\$999 . . . . .	6	4
<u>OR Claiming price of \$2,500-\$3,999 with purse of \$1,000 &amp; up</u>		
Claiming price of \$2,500-\$3,999 with purse of \$200-\$999		
<u>OR Claiming price of \$1,000-\$2,499 with purse of \$1,000 &amp; up . . . . .</u>	5	3
<u>Claiming price of \$1,000-\$2,499 with purse of \$200-\$999 . . . . .</u>	4	3
Graded races (Speed Index, Speed Index Trial, Speed Index Final)		
OR Any Race with a purse of less than \$200 . . . . .	3	1
<u>OR Any maiden race</u>		
Match races or races with less than 5 starters on original card; race canceled, but money paid; or race run at distance other than official AQHA distances will not receive race points.		

3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th

18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9

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17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8

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14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5

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12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

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10 8 6 4 2 1

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8 6 4 2 1

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6 4 2 1

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4 3 2 1

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4 3 2 1

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3 2 1

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2 1

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1

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average of the nine times (to the nearest 1/1000 (.001) of a second) represents a speed index rating of 100 for the following year.

**(1)** In the event a time included within the nine times is slower than the established Minimum Standard Time for that distance, the Minimum Standard Time will be used in lieu of such slower time in calculating the average from which the speed index ratings will be computed the following year.

**(2)** No horse will be used more than one time in any one year at a particular distance at any one track in calculating the nine fastest times.

**(b)** The following times constitute Minimum Standard Times.

OFFICIAL DISTANCE	MINIMUM STANDARD TIME (for 100 Speed Index Rating)
220 yards - straightaway	11.95
250 yards - straightaway	13.35
300 yards - straightaway	15.55
330 yards - straightaway	16.95
350 yards - straightaway	17.85
400 yards - straightaway	20.15
440 yards - straightaway	22.05
550 yards - straightaway	27.70
660 yards - straightaway	33.50
660 yards - around one turn	34.60
770 yards - around one turn	40.36
870 yards - around one turn	45.60

**(c)** In the event a track does not have a three-year immediate history for a particular distance, but, at least once in the immediate past three years, has recorded three fastest winning electronic times at a particular distance, then the speed index of 100 will be based on the average of:

**(1)** the Minimum Standard Time for those year(s) that the track did not run the particular distance; and

**(2)** average of the three fastest winning electronic times in each of the years that the race was run in the immediate past three years (average of 3 times if distance only run during 1 meet in the last 3 years or average of 6 times if distance run during 2 meets in the last 3 years)

**(d)** In the event a track has not recorded three fastest winning electric times at a particular distance at least once in the immediate past three years, but is a track that has run races that AQHA has recognized in the past, then the speed index of 100 will correspond to the Minimum Standard Time for that particular distance.

**(e)** Horses starting at tracks eligible for recognition by AQHA for the first time will receive a speed index rating based on the following:

**(1)** First year: A speed index of 100 will be based on an average of the three fastest winning electronic times at a particular distance run for the previous year at each of the five tracks with the largest number of race starters the previous year (hereinafter referred to as the "Five Track Average"). No horse will be used more than one time in any one year at a particular distance at any one track.

**(2)** Second year: A speed index of 100 will be based on an average of the Five Track Average and the average of three fastest times at the track in question for the previous year. No horse will be counted more than once at a particular distance at any one track.

**(3)** Third year: A speed index of 100 will be based on an average of the Five Track Average and the average of the three fastest times at the track in question for the previous two years. No horse will be counted more than once at a particular distance at any one track.

**(f)** A speed index point varies according to the distance of the race as follows:

.087 equals one speed index point at 870 yards.

.077 equals one speed index point at 770 yards.

.066 equals one speed index point at 660 yards.

.055 equals one speed index point at 550 yards.

.044 equals one speed index point at 440 yards.

.04 equals one speed index point at 400 yards.

.035 equals one speed index point at 350 yards.

.033 equals one speed index point at 330 yards.

.03 equals one speed index point at 300 yards.

.025 equals one speed index point at 250 yards.

.022 equals one speed index point at 220 yards.

**(g)** To calculate a specific speed index for a specific horse in a specific race, the time run by the horse is compared to the speed index time associated with "100" for the distance in question at that particular track. Points are added or subtracted based on whether the time was faster or slower than "100" speed index time. The only exception to the point interval chart above relates to a horse achieving a speed index of "101". In order to achieve a speed index of 101, a horse need only be .01 faster than the speed index time associated with 100. Thereafter, speed indexes greater than 101 are calculated using the speed index point intervals above. By way of example, if a 100 speed index associated with a 350 yard race is 17.75, then a horse that runs a 17.74 shall earn a speed index of 101. Using the same example, if the horse runs a 17.705 (.035 faster than 17.74), then such horse shall earn a speed index of 102.

**(h)** An American Quarter Horse may not earn a speed index at a distance exceeding 870 yards or around more than one turn. However, such races will be listed on the participating horse's race record.

**(i)** A speed index will only be awarded to a horse for approved electronic times at AQHA recognized official distances.

### **309. RACING POINTS.**

**(a)** Racing points will be awarded according to conditions of the race and order of finish for all races recognized by AQHA, at official AQHA distances. (See chart on pages 76-77.)

**(b)** Starter allowance and optional claiming races are considered in the same category as claiming races, based on claiming and optional claiming price.

**(c)** Should a dead heat occur, all horses involved will receive the same points based on the place for which they dead heated. All other horses will receive points based on their actual finish.

**(d)** Unless otherwise specified herein, a disqualified horse will receive points according to its final placement.

**(e)** Horses participating in match races or races with less than five (5) horses on the race card will receive no race points.

**(f)** AQHA's Racing Department shall be responsible for making the final decision as to which category a race shall be placed.

### **310. RACING AWARDS AND CHAMPIONS.**

**(a)** For the purpose of racing awards, a male horse that has not been gelded shall be considered a colt at 2 and 3 years old, and a stallion at 4 years and older. For the purpose of racing awards, a female horse shall be considered a filly at 2 and 3 years old, and a mare at 4 years and older.

**(b)** World Champion and Champion Racing American Quarter Horses will be awarded annually by vote of the Champions Selection Committee and in accordance with Champion Selection Committee guidelines.

**(1)** Awards will be given as follows: champion 2-year-old colt; champion 2-year-old filly; champion 2-year-old gelding; champion 3-year-old colt; champion 3-year-old filly; champion 3-year-old gelding; champion aged stallion; champion aged mare; champion aged gelding; and champion distance horse of the year.

**(2)** In each age division, a champion will be named; those being champion 2-year-old, champion 3-year-old and champion aged horse.

**(3)** Voters are instructed to select the overall World Champion American Quarter Horse from their choices for the three age divisional champions.

**(4)** Champion honors will be considered for American Quarter Horse Racing conducted internationally upon request from the host country's AQHA affiliate, providing there is a significant race season and pari-mutuel wagering is conducted.

**(5)** An appropriate award will be given the horse's Record Owner as of December 31.

**(c)** Champion owner, breeder, trainer and jockey will be awarded annually by written ballot. The five top-ranked individuals with the best overall placings according to money earned, races won and points earned will be placed on a ballot. An appropriate award will be presented to the selected persons.

**(d)** Regional High Point Champions will be awarded annually to the highest point earner in each of 10 regions and each of 12 categories.

**(1)** Awards will be given in the following categories: 3-year-old colt; 3-year-old filly; 3-year-old gelding; aged stallion; aged mare; aged gelding; distance and claiming. In addition, an award will be given to the top jockey, trainer, owner and breeder in each region.

**(2)** The distance horse in each region will be based upon points earned in regional races at distances of 550 yards and longer.

**(3)** The claiming horse in each region will be based upon points earned in regional claiming races.

**(4)** An appropriate award will be given to the horse's record owner as of December 31.

**(e)** Superior Race Horse will be awarded to any American Quarter Horse that earns 200 racing points.

**(f)** Supreme Race Horse will be awarded to any American Quarter Horse that has achieved each of the following:

**(1)** Earnings of \$500,000 or more

**(2)** Winner of two open Grade 1 (G1) stakes races or two races of Grade 1 historical significance prior to 1983, and

**(3)** Winner of ten races.

**(g)** World and Track Records. AQHA designation as a new/tied world or track record will be awarded under the following circumstances:

(1) The winning time is equal to or faster than the existing record.

(2) The second-place time is equal to or faster than the existing record, if the winner is disqualified.

(3) The race must be electronically timed.

(4) The race is run at an official surveyed distance.

(5) At a racetrack racing for the first time, or racing for the first time in ten years or longer, the fastest winning time for the race meet at each distance will be recognized as the track record.

(6) At a distance that is being run for the first time at that racetrack, or the first time in ten years or longer, the fastest winning time for the race meet at each distance will be recognized as the track record.

(7) In order to be recognized as a record, a speed index of 80 or better must be achieved.

(h) Dam of Distinction will be awarded to any American Quarter Horse mare that meets at least one of the following criteria:

(1) Produced two or more individual Champion Racing American Quarter Horses.

(2) Produced at least three individual American Quarter Horse Grade 1 stakes winners.

(3) Produced at least two American Quarter Horse foals ranked in the top ten money earners of any particular year (as of December 31 of that year) and two G1 stakes winners.

(4) Produced at least three American Quarter Horse foals that were in the top ten money earners of any particular year (as of December 31 of that year).

(5) Produced at least three individual American Quarter Horse stakes winners prior to 1983 and those wins were equivalent of Grade 1 quality race.

(i) Horses earning a speed index of 80 or higher will receive a Racing Register of Merit. AQHA will furnish a Register of Merit certificate to the horse's owner at the owner's request. If the electronic timer malfunctions but a hand-time is recorded that would have resulted in a speed index of 80 or higher, the owner of the horse may appeal to AQHA for designation of the horse a Register of Merit qualifier if the hand-time is certified by track stewards.

### **311. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

(a) Upon official notice to AQHA by the disciplining Racing Authority, a person who is suspended or otherwise disciplined by a Racing Authority for their conduct associated with an AQHA recognized race may be suspended or disciplined by AQHA for the following:

(1) Positive lab result involving forbidden substances detected in horses entered to race;

(2) Positive lab result involving an overage of a conditionally permitted therapeutic medication;

(3) Possession of electrical devices in the course of a recognized race meeting;

(4) Racing a ringer for fraudulent purposes; and

(5) Multiple offenses for the same ownership.

(b) Acceptance of such ruling or disciplinary action by AQHA will be given after notice to the suspended or disciplined person according to AQHA rules, who may request a hearing before the Executive Committee to present lack of due process by the reporting Racing Authority to merit AQHA's refusal to give reciprocity. For

purposes of this rule and by way of example, a revocation or suspension of a racing license for ninety (90) days shall, subject to the immediately preceding sentence result in suspension of the individual's AQHA membership for a period of 90 days.

(c) In addition to affording reciprocity to a Racing Authority, AQHA reserves the right to enhance the disciplinary action imposed against the person in question by imposing additional fines, suspending AQHA membership privileges and suspending participation privileges (both individual and horse) in AQHA-approved/recognized events. Should AQHA exercise such right to enhance a penalty, the disciplined individual may request a hearing before an AQHA hearing committee for the sole purpose of contesting whether the penalty originally imposed should be enhanced. The finding of a violation by a Racing Authority is not subject to review at such hearing and will be considered final by AQHA.

(d) A horse may not receive an official speed index or racing points for having started in the race, if:

(1) its owner is:

(A) currently under AQHA suspension;

(B) ineligible for a license; or

(C) ineligible to participate under the rules of any Racing Authority or breed registry

(2) a Racing Authority disqualifies the horse from the race.

(e) Any Racing Authority or breed registry ruling involving horses registered by AQHA or affecting personnel engaged in American Quarter Horse racing shall be filed with AQHA unless the fine is less than \$500 or the suspension is less than 90 days.

(f) AQHA, in cooperation with ARCI, can provide information on licensing, rulings and racing statistics for American Quarter Horse trainers. This information may be requested by contacting AQHA's Racing Department.

### **312. TATTOOING AND PARENTAGE VERIFICATION.**

(a) Unless otherwise stipulated by the responsible Racing Authority, every horse registered with AQHA prior to participating in an AQHA recognized race shall be identified and branded with a tattoo number on the upper lip by an AQHA-authorized tattoo technician.

(b) The official tattoo identification number shall be noted on the horse's registration certificate and become part of the identifying markings of the horse.

(c) The fee for tattoo identification by an AQHA-authorized tattoo technician is specified in Rule 222 and is payable at the time of tattoo identification.

(d) The tattooing of an identification number on a horse is another means of identification only and, in no event, constitutes a waiver by AQHA of its authority to correct and/or cancel a registration certificate for cause under AQHA's rules and regulations.

(e) In order to be eligible to be tattoo identified, all horses foaled on or after January 1, 1992 shall be parentage verified through genetic testing. The horse's registration certificate shall be issued or reissued designating that the horse has been parentage verified. Payment of all fees as specified in Rule 222 for parentage verification is the expense of the owner of the horse for which tattoo identification is requested.

(f) If a horse is presented for tattoo identification with a significant discrepancy in markings, age or other features of the horse according to the registration certificate, the tattoo technician shall

refuse to tattoo the horse and report such discrepancies to AQHA. Refer to Rule 213, for rules pertaining to age determination by tooth examination and ineligibility to compete, if age shown by teeth does not correspond with age shown on registration certificate.

**(g)** A horse owner's refusal to comply with the requirements regarding tattoo identification or parentage verification shall automatically disqualify such horse from participation in AQHA-approved racing until such time as the owner complies with such requirements. Such refusal is grounds for possible disciplinary action by AQHA.

### **313. GENERAL CUTTER AND CHARIOT RACING PROVISIONS.**

**(a)** AQHA will accept cutter and chariot race results in Amarillo, Texas, as official and use such results for purposes of recording information in AQHA records, conducting AQHA cutter and chariot racing programs and determining qualification for advancement of a horse in AQHA's breed registry.

**(b)** Cutter and chariot race results are eligible for AQHA recognition if the race is run under the direct supervision of a state racing commission and/or the World Championship Cutter and Chariot Racing Association (WCCCRA).

**(c)** Unless otherwise specified in this handbook, the racing rules of the WCCCRA will be utilized for the governance of cutter and chariot racing recognized by AQHA.

**(d)** A cutter and chariot racing contest shall consist of a series of races constituting one complete go-round for all horses entered, each race shall match two or more two-horse teams pulling a cutter and driver or a chariot and driver. For a contest to be recognized, 12 teams of registered horses (24 horses) must compete.

**(e)** All American Quarter Horses participating in cutter and chariot races must be properly identified.

**(f)** Cutter and chariot racing is a timed event, with placings determined on the basis of time lapsed for each team in the contest. The winning team in each contest will be the team with the least lapsed time, between the time the starting gate opens to dispatch the horses until the nose of the leading horse on such team crosses the finish line.

**(g)** Officials of a cutter and chariot racing contest shall consist of a presiding steward and two associate stewards, a starter, a clerk of the scales and three timers. In the event an electronic timer is used, there must still be two hand-timers. The time for any given team will be the time electronically recorded for that team, or the average of the hand timers in the event the electronic timer is not used or fails to operate.

**(h)** To be eligible for placing, the aggregate weight of the cutter or chariot, harnesses, bridles and driver for such team must not be less than 275 pounds.

**(i)** A cutter and chariot race must be started from a closed starting gate and conducted on a straight course.

**(j)** During the course of a cutter and chariot race, if a team moves out of the lane in which it starts in such a manner that it interferes with or impedes another team, the offending team shall be disqualified when, in the opinion of the stewards, the outcome of the contest was affected. Any such team disqualified shall be placed behind the team or teams it fouled, and shall be given the time of the team it was placed behind, plus .01 second, or the maximum accuracy of the timer not to exceed .001 second.

**(k)** Any horse finishing first, and any horse randomly selected by

the stewards in a cutter and chariot racing contest shall be properly tested for the presence of unauthorized drugs or foreign substances

**(l)** Official speed indexes and Register of Merits shall be awarded according to Rule 308.

**(m)** High-Point Champions will be awarded at the end of the cutter and chariot racing season in the following categories: 3-year-old colt, 3-year-old filly, 3-year-old gelding, aged stallion, aged mare and aged gelding. An appropriate award will be given to the horse's recorded owner as of April 1.

**(n)** Superior Chariot Horse will be awarded to any American Quarter Horse who earns 200 chariot racing points.

**(o)** Chariot racing points will be awarded according to the order of finish in each division as listed in the chart above.

### AQHA POINTS DISTRIBUTION FOR WCCCRA RACES

	1ST PLACE	2ND PLACE	3RD PLACE
<b>WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP CHARIOT RACING FINALS *</b>			
1st Division . . . . .	16	10	5
2nd Division . . . . .	12	6	3
3rd Division . . . . .	10	5	3
4th Division . . . . .	8	4	2
5th Division . . . . .	6	3	2
6th Division . . . . .	5	3	2
<b>WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES* - 1ST DIVISION</b>			
Two-team race . . . . .	10		
Three-team race . . . . .	10	5	
Four-team race . . . . .	10	6	4
<b>WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES* - 2ND DIVISION</b>			
Two-team race . . . . .	8		
Three-team race . . . . .	8	4	
Four-team race . . . . .	8	5	3
<b>WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES* - 3RD DIVISION</b>			
State Finals - 1st Division and World Chariot Challenge Day Two 1st Division			
Two-team race . . . . .	7		
Three-team race . . . . .	7	3	
Four-team race . . . . .	7	4	2
<b>WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES* - 4TH DIVISION</b>			
State Finals - 2nd Division and World Chariot Challenge Day Two 2nd Division			
Two-team race . . . . .	6		
Three-team race . . . . .	6	3	
Four-team race . . . . .	6	4	2
<b>WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES* - 5TH DIVISION</b>			
State Finals - 3rd Division and World Chariot Challenge Day Two 3rd Division			
Two-team race . . . . .	5		
Three-team race . . . . .	5	2	
Four-team race . . . . .	5	3	2
<b>WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES - 6TH DIVISION</b>			
State Finals - 4th through 12th Division and World Chariot Challenge Day One; Day Two - 4th Division and Extra Teams			
Two-team race . . . . .	4		
Three-team race . . . . .	4	2	
Four-team race . . . . .	4	3	2
<b>HOME ASSOCIATION RACES</b>			
Two-team race . . . . .	3		
Three-team race . . . . .	3	1	
Four-team race . . . . .	3	2	1

\* First four days of World Championships and the 1st thru next-to-last divisional races on the final day are Qualifying races. Only the last race in each division on the final day is for that division's overall winner – the winners of the last race in the 1st Division are the World Champion