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 300 (b) and 302 are examples of ways that AQHA has worked to protect horses involved in racing.

300. GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) AQHA'S STATEMENT OF DISCLAIMER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY AT THE TRACK

(1) AQHA will accept race results in Amarillo, Texas, as official and use such results to calculate awards and/or qualification for advancement of a horse in AQHA's breed registry.

(2) AQHA does not assume or accept duty or responsibility for safety at any race or races in regard to participants or any other third parties, or for the horses or other property thereof, which responsibility, as between AQHA and track management, this responsibility remains solely with track management.

(3) As an express condition of the privilege to participate at an AQHA-approved 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 conducted by the race management or on race grounds thereof.

(b) RACE RECOGNITION AND RESULTS. In order for the results of a race to be eligible for recognition by AQHA, the race in question must (1) be run under the supervision of a state, provincial or national racing commission (collectively "Racing Commissions") or other recognized turf governing body and (2) observe the rules and regulations contained in Section III of the AQHA Official Handbook of Rules & Regulations. As of April 1, 1992, there will be a moratorium on applications for AQHA sanction and regulation of nonpari-mutuel race meets. In adopting the rules and regulations contained in this Section III, it is not AQHA's intention that they conflict with the rules and regulations of Racing Commissions or recognized turf governing bodies in regard to racing. In cases where races eligible for AQHA approval are run under the supervision of a Racing Commission or recognized turf governing body, the rules of such Racing Commission or recognized turf governing body take precedence. While the rules of Racing Commissions or recognized turf governing bodies take precedence, AQHA reserves the right to deny or revoke its approval of a race which does not observe the rules and regulations contained in this Section III.

(1) Unless otherwise specified in this handbook, AQHA recognizes and requests adoption of the "Model Rules for Flat Racing."

(2) 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.

(3) A race will not be recognized in which a 2-year-old starts prior to March 1; competes against older horses; or is allowed to compete at a distance greater than 440 yards prior to September 1. The trials and finals for the West Texas Futurity and the Mardi

Gras Futurity are exempt from the March 1st rule. Races will be recognized in which an American Quarter Horse competes with a horse registered with other breed associations: Thoroughbreds registered with The American Jockey Club, The Canadian Jockey Club or The Mexican Jockey Club as well as horses registered with the American Paint Horse Association or the Appaloosa Horse Club.

(4) 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. A certified statement by a licensed surveyor that all American Quarter Horse distances at each track have been surveyed for grade and distance within the last five years shall be filed with AQHA.

(5) Race results charts and an official program shall be filed with AQHA following each day's racing by fax, online computer transmission 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. A videotape of all graded or restricted graded stakes shall be provided to AQHA at the track's expense.

(6) An American Quarter Horse may not earn a speed index or achieve register of merit 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.

(7) All racetracks conducting American Quarter Horse racing shall utilize an electric 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 photo-finish camera shall be calibrated every year with a copy of the calibration report filed with AQHA. In cases of questionable times reported from tracks where the performance records indicate possible error, issuance of Register of Merit certificates and acceptance of the time and speed index as official is to be withheld until the race is reviewed by AQHA. AQHA reserves the right to adjust questionable times when the presiding race officials and racing commission do not provide reasonable justification for the questionable time using the procedure described in AQHA rule 300 (d)(10). Such decisions by AQHA may be appealed to the AQHA Racing Council for further consideration. Decisions of the Racing Council may be appealed to the AQHA Executive Committee as per rule 107. A questionable time is a race time that is significantly inconsistent with the past performance record of the horses participating in that race.

(8) Any commission 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.

(9) Should an owner participate in a race while currently under AQHA suspension or ineligible for a license or ineligible to participate under the rules of any state racing commission, turf governing body or stud book registry, the horse may not receive an official speed index or racing points for having started in the race.

(10) If the laboratory report on the chemical analysis of the

urine or other specimen taken from a horse indicates the presence of a forbidden drug or medication and the horse is disqualified, the horse shall receive no official speed index or racing points for having started in the race.

(11) 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.

(12) All monetary amounts recorded as part of race results (purses, bonus earnings, claiming prices, wagering pool, payoffs, etc.) will be recorded in U.S. funds.

(c) EARNINGS. AQHA will only record the following as total money earned in the Official AQHA Race Record:

(1) Purse earnings reported in the race result chart; and

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

(A) 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

(B) Reported in the race result chart.

(3) 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.

(4) 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.

(d) TIME TRIALS

In the absence of specific conditions for a particular elimination or time trial race, the following rules shall apply:

(1) 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.

(2) The time trials shall be raced under the same conditions as the finals. If the time trials are conducted on the same day, the horses with the 10 fastest times shall qualify to participate in the finals. 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 finals. 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.

(3) 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.

(4) 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 finals only. If 11 or 12 horses participate in the finals, only the first 10 finishers will receive purse money.

(5) 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 finals. 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.

(6) 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.

(7) 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 finals.

(8) 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.

(9) 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.

(10) 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.

(11) 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.

(12) 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.

(13) 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.

301. SPEED INDEX AND RACING POINTS

(a) Speed index ratings are based on an average of the three fastest winning electric times run each year for the immediate past three years for each distance at each track. The average of the nine times (to the nearest 1/1000 (.001) of a second) will represent a speed index rating of 100.

(1) In the event the average time or any of the fastest times included therein are slower than the minimum standard time(s), the minimum standard will be used to compile the average(s) from which the speed index ratings will be computed the following year. 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. At tracks with less than a three-year immediate history, the minimum standard will be used for the year(s) when the track was not in operation.

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

(A) First year: A speed index of 100 will be based on an average of the three fastest winning electric times at each distance run for the previous year at each of the five tracks with the largest number of race starters the previous year. No horse will be counted more than once.

(B) Second year: A speed index of 100 will be based on an average of the three fastest winning electric times at each distance run for the previous year at each of the five tracks with the largest number of race starters the previous year and the average of three fastest times at the new track for the previous year. No horse will counted more than once.

(C) Third year: A speed index of 100 will be based on an average of the three fastest winning electric times at each distance run for the previous year at each of the five tracks with the largest number of race starters the previous year and the average of the three fastest times at the new track for the previous two years. No horse will be counted more than once.

(3) 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.

(4) The following times will be used to compile speed index ratings at tracks where the average times are slower than the Minimum Standard Time.

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

(b) 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 80-81.)

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

(2) 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 would receive points based on their actual finish.

(3) A disqualified horse will receive points according to its final placement.

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

(5) The final decision as to which category a race shall be placed will be made by AQHA's Racing Department.

302. ENHANCEMENT OF PENALTY RULE

(a) Without necessity of referral or recommendation by stewards, to enhance penalties and sanctions, AQHA reserves the right to independently direct disciplinary action or sanction against individuals coming under AQHA recognition by their participation in American Quarter Horse racing conducted under the provisions of the AQHA Official Handbook and regulated by duly authorized state racing commissions, the results of which are accepted by AQHA, in regard to the following matters:

(1) Positive lab results involving classified narcotics or drugs restricted from administration to horses entered to race;

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

(3) Racing a ringer for fraudulent purposes; and

(4) Multiple offenses for the same ownership.

(b) Such procedure will be conducted according to rule 106. Individuals may be suspended from membership and horses owned, trained and/or ridden by such individuals may be suspended from

participation privileges in AQHA-approved events.

(c) AQHA, in cooperation with RCI, 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.

303. HORSE OWNERSHIP

(a) For purposes of this rule, the term "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) For purposes of this rule, 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 shall only be credited to the "Record Owner" of such horse for that race ("AQHA Credit").

(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) AQHA registration certificates presented to race officials;

(2) AQHA lease certificates presented to race officials; or

(3) valid transfer reports or leases 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), such person shall not enjoy 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) For information on transferring horses claimed in claiming races, see rule 224(h).

304. IDENTIFICATION TATTOOING AND PARENTAGE VERIFICATION. American Quarter Horses participating at tracks, the results of which are recognized by AQHA, require tattoo identification as follows:

(a) Tattoo Identification: Unless otherwise stipulated by the responsible turf governing body, every horse registered with AQHA, prior to participating in an American Quarter Horse race, shall be identified and branded with a tattoo number on the upper lip by an AQHA-authorized tattoo technician. 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. The official tattoo identification number shall be affixed on the horse's registration certificate, filed with AQHA and become part of the identifying markings of said horse. The fee for tattoo identification by an AQHA-authorized tattoo technician as specified in rule 222 is payable at the time of tattoo identification.

(b) AQHA's tattooing of an identification number on a horse is another manner of identification only and, in no event, constitutes a waiver by AQHA of its privilege to correct and/or cancel a registration certificate for cause under AQHA's rules and regulations, which is the express condition of its issuance as noted on the face of the certificate.

(c) Parentage Verification: All horses foaled on or after January 1, 1992, to be eligible to be tattoo identified, shall be parentage verified through genetic testing on the basis of written analysis filed with AQHA from an AQHA-approved laboratory. The horse's registration certificate shall be issued or reissued with the designation as "parentage verified."

(1) Payment of all fees as specified in rule 222 for genetic testing and parentage verification is the expense of the owner of the horse for which tattoo identification is requested.

(2) When a previously parentage verified 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. This may require additional genetic testing for analysis to confirm the original sample analysis report.

(3) Refusal by an owner of sire, dam or foal to comply with the requirements of genetic testing, parentage verification and/or tattoo identification shall automatically disqualify such horse from participation in AQHA-approved racing until such time as compliance with said request, and it may be grounds for possible disciplinary action by AQHA.

305. STAKES RACE. A stakes race is a race in which stakes of $50 or more are posted by the owners of the participating horses and is still a stakes when money or another prize is added. Nominations must close more than 48 hours before time for the first race of the day on which such stakes are to be run. A stakes may not be restricted or exclude entries in any way other than age or sex. No race with a purse of less than $15,000 will be considered a stakes. Match races shall not be eligible for stakes recognition. However, 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, shall also be considered a stakes race, provided it carries a minimum purse of $15,000 or more. The minimum purse for American Quarter Horse stakes races conducted internationally shall be $7,500 U.S. funds, based on the conversion rate on each race day, except in Canada where the minimum is $15,000 Canadian funds.

(a) When provided with the conditions and purse structure (nomination, sustaining and entry fees, added monies and gross purse distribution), AQHA will consider the following types of races for stakes and restricted stakes classifications:

(1) Races restricted to state of breeding, foaling and/or ownership. Races where state breds are preferred shall be considered restricted stakes.

(2) 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.

(3) 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

		1st	2nd
A	Graded stakes for $100,000 or more		
E	Stakes races for $100,000 or more		
I	Restricted graded stakes for $100,000 or more	20	19
M	Restricted stakes races for $100,000 or more		
B	Graded stakes for $50,000-$99,999		
F	Stakes races for $50,000-$99,999		
J	Restricted graded stakes for $50,000-$99,999	19	18
N	Restricted stakes races for $50,000-$99,999		
C	Graded stakes for $25,000-$49,999		
G	Stakes races for $25,000-$49,999		
K	Restricted graded stakes for $25,000-$49,999	16	15
O	Restricted stakes races for $25,000-$49,999		
D	Graded stakes for $15,000-$24,999		
H	Stakes races for $15,000-$24,999		
L	Restricted graded stakes for $15,000-$24,999	14	13
P	Restricted stakes for $15,000-$24,999		
Q	Allowance, Consolations, Claiming Stakes or Finals races for $15,000 or more	14	12
R	Allowance, Consolation or Finals $3,500-$14,999		
OR	Mexico stakes races $7,500-$14,999	12	10
OR	Trials for races with purse of $50,000 & up		
S	Allowance, Consolation or Finals $2,000-$3,499		
OR	Trials for races with purse of $25,000-$49,999		
OR	Claiming price of $7,500 & up with purse of $2,000 & up	10	8
T	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		
OR	Claiming price of $7,500 & up with purse of $1,000-$1,999	8	6
U	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
OR	Claiming price of $4,000-$7,499 with purse of $1,000 & up		
V	Trials for races with purse less than $5,000		
OR	Claiming price of $4,000-$7,499 with purse of $200-$999	6	4
OR	Claiming price of $2,500-$3,999 with purse of $1,000 & up		
W	Claiming price of $2,500-$3,999 with purse of $200-$999		
OR	Claiming price of $1,000-$2,499 with purse of $1,000 & up	5	3
X	Claiming price of $1,000-$2,499 with purse of $200-$999	4	3
Y	Graded races (Speed Index, Speed Index Trial, Speed Index Final)		
OR	Any Race with a purse of less than $200	3	1
OR	Any maiden race		

Z 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
17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8
14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
10	8	6	4	2	1				
8	6	4	2	1					
6	4	2	1						
4	3	2	1						
4	3	2	1						
3	2	1							
2	1								
1									

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

(b) Annually, AQHA will consider for grading, all eligible stakes and restricted stakes races as outlined in the Graded Stakes Committee Guidelines. 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. In order for AQHA to grade stakes race, such race must limit entry and competition to only American Quarter Horses registered with the American Quarter Horse Association.

306. RACING AWARDS AND CHAMPIONS.

(a) Racing Register of Merit can be achieved by obtaining a speed index of 80 or higher. A speed index will only be awarded for approved electric times at AQHA recognized official distances. Should a horse receive no speed index due to a hand-time caused by the malfunction of the electric timer; and the time would have resulted in a speed index of 80 or higher; and the hand-time is certified by track stewards, the owner of the horse may appeal to AQHA for designation of the horse as a Register of Merit qualifier. Upon request, a Register of Merit certificate will be furnished to the recorded owner at the time the Register of Merit is earned.

(b) World Champion and Champion Racing American Quarter Horses will be awarded annually by written ballot.

(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; champion distance horse and broodmare 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) Leading 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 track record.

(2) The second-place time is equal to or faster than the existing track 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 an AQHA track record, a speed index of 80 or better must be achieved.

(h) 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.

(i) 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.

307. CUTTER AND CHARIOT RACING. Only results of cutter and chariot racing contests conducted under the direct supervision of a state racing commission and/or the World's Champion Cutter and Chariot Racing Association (WCCCRA) will be accepted for recognition by AQHA.

(a) AQHA'S STATEMENT OF DISCLAIMER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY AT CUTTER AND CHARIOT RACING CONTESTS:

(1) AQHA will accept cutter and chariot racing contest

results in Amarillo, Texas, as official and use such results to calculate awards and/or qualification for advancements of a horse in AQHA's breed registry.

(2) AQHA does not assume or accept duty or responsibility for safety at these racing contests in regard to participants or any other third parties, or for the horses or other property thereof, which responsibility, as between AQHA, track management and WCCCRA, remains solely with track management and the WCCCRA.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

AQHA POINTS DISTRIBUTION FOR WCCCRA RACES

	1ST PLACE	*2ND PLACE*	*3RD PLACE*
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP CHARIOT RACING FINALS *			
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
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES* – 1ST DIVISION			
Two-team race	10		
Three-team race	10	5	
Four-team race	10	6	4
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES* - 2ND DIVISION			
Two-team race	8		
Three-team race	8	4	
Four-team race	8	5	3
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES* - 3RD DIVISION 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
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES* - 4TH DIVISION 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
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES* - 5TH DIVISION 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
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING RACES - 6TH DIVISION 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
HOME ASSOCIATION RACES			
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*

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

(e) 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.

(f) 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.

(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 electric timer is used, there must still be two hand-timers. The time for any given team will be the time electrically recorded for that team, or the average of the hand timers in the event the electric 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) Register of Merit shall be awarded according to rule 306. Official speed indexes shall be awarded according to rule 301.

(l) 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.

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

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

308. 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 Conditions applicable to the year in which the Challenge races are conducted ("Official Challenge Conditions"). The Official Challenge Conditions are published on AQHA's website (www.aqha.org) and are incorporated herein by reference.