

**Equine Research Committee Agenda
San Francisco, California
2008**

Committee Guidelines

1. The Board of Directors is empowered, under Association Bylaws, to adopt and amend rules and bylaws, and between Conventions, the Executive Committee has these same powers, "except the power to change any bylaws pertaining to the registration of horses and any rules or regulations pertaining to the registration of horses." A Standing Committee reports its recommendations to the general membership for the general membership's opinion vote, and it is the Board of Directors' adoption of Committee recommendations (and amendments thereof), which results in the adoption of a committee recommendation.
2. Unless otherwise specified by the AQHA Bylaws, adoption of a rule or amendment at Convention is subject to review by the Executive Committee.
3. Each standing committee should carefully stay within that committee's sphere of authority, and, if for any reason, its recommendations affect the area delegated to another committee, both committees should have a part in the recommendation to the Board of Directors.
4. The general mission for AQHA standing committees is to bring a larger number of knowledgeable, conscientious individuals into a defined area of the Association's activity; to continually examine and make sound recommendations to the governing body of the Association; to better achieve the Association's goals and objectives for the betterment of the American Quarter Horse and members of the Association. Additionally, standing committees give Directors an opportunity to become acquainted with Association affairs and to prove themselves capable for service to the Association as a committee chair, Executive Committee member or Association officer.
5. Confidentiality of committee deliberations is paramount to the successful and meaningful workings of a Standing Committee. Nothing subverts the harmonious relationship of committee members more than a breach of confidentiality. Of necessity, frank discussion sometimes requires discussion of sensitive information, and a person may be hesitant to speak freely among his committee members unless his or her comments are to remain confidential. In the event of question concerning confidentiality of a matter, the committee member must refer to his or her committee chair, and follow the chair's direction.
6. AQHA's rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, general, show, amateur, youth activities, international, racing and horseback riding program, but excluding those rules and regulations pertaining to registration of horses, may be amended at any time by change, addition or repeal by majority vote of the

Executive Committee, but only after proposal of specific amendment shall have been approved by the appropriate standing committee, or by the unanimous vote of the Executive Committee without such committee approval.

To be eligible for consideration by a standing committee for possible recommendation to the Executive Committee, a proposed amendment shall be filed with AQHA's Executive Vice President at least 60 days prior to AQHA's annual membership meeting at which the standing committee's report concerning such proposed amendment is presented. The Executive Committee may waive such required filing, after considering the merits of the proposed amendment.

A rule or regulation is not subject to amendment by change, addition or repeal until it has been in force for at least two calendar years, which limitation may be waived by the Executive Committee upon finding of extraordinary circumstances which (1) concerns the safety, health or well-being of a horse and/or rider, (2) materially benefits AQHA's programs or its financial stability, or (3) involves other compelling circumstances.

7. Per AQHA Rules, a committee member's tenure, with or without cause, may be terminated. Furthermore, a committee member may be reassigned to another Standing Committee.

Guidelines for All Committee Members

1. Subscribe to *The American Quarter Horse Journal* or *The American Quarter Horse Racing Journal* or both in order to be timely and properly informed of Association activities and rule changes. All specific rule changes will be published in these Association publications.
2. Maintain current AQHA membership in good standing.
3. Be an active member of respective state, provincial or country American Quarter Horse affiliate.
4. Attend and actively participate at the annual AQHA Convention in March and any other meeting called by the Chair.
5. Serve on any sub-committees which may be appointed from time to time.
6. Vote on issues as requested.
7. Maintain a working knowledge of the events, issues and priorities concerning the committee's areas of responsibility.
8. Communicate with AQHA staff on issues that affect the committee's areas of responsibility.

9. Continually review policies and stay current of the activities of the committee and assist the committee's efforts to support programs implemented.
10. Encourage American Quarter Horse owners to become members of AQHA.
11. Keep abreast of animal welfare issues.
12. Cooperate in efforts to affect federal and state legislation, governmental regulation and import/export requirements.
13. Recognize that even the appearance of impropriety or misconduct can be damaging to the Committee and AQHA, and act accordingly.

Equine Research Committee

1. Establish research priorities.
2. Review and approve research projects.
3. Attend site visits as assigned.
4. Monitor progress of approved projects.
5. If assigned as primary person to review a project, do an in-depth study of the project and report to the Committee.
6. Attend various scientific meetings as assigned by the chairperson.
7. Provide a written report of the site visit.
8. Review, if necessary, the site visit reports and determine if a project should be rejected or approved.
9. Review and recommend action on items that require scientific expertise.

Agenda

1. Welcome by Chair
2. Introduction of Members
3. Review Committee Guidelines
4. Explanation of Committee Functions
5. Meeting Protocol
6. Member Review and Comments on Agenda Items
7. Member Review of 2009-2010 Approved Research Projects
8. Discuss Protocol for Disease Outbreaks at Horse Shows
9. Consideration of Other Business
10. Voting for Chair and Vice-Chair
11. Adjourn