

Amateur Committee Guidelines

1. Provide leadership in maintaining a division of competition at AQHA-approved shows for those American Quarter Horse Association members who qualify as Amateurs pursuant to AQHA rules.
2. Continually evaluate Amateur eligibility rules to ensure AQHA Amateur competition is truly an avenue for Amateurs to compete against other Amateurs.
3. Propose marketing and publicity ideas to enhance AQHA Amateur membership at both national and grassroots levels.
4. Propose new and refine existing awards for AQHA Amateur competition.
5. Assist AQHA staff representatives with conducting the Bayer Select World Championship Show and World Championship Show as needed.
6. Conduct hearings regarding alleged violations of Amateur eligibility rules.

Amateur Committee Agenda
San Antonio, Texas
2009

1. Welcome by chair
2. Committee guidelines
3. Meeting Protocol
4. Member review of and comments on agenda items
5. Committee report from 2008 in San Francisco

Review the following member recommendations:

6. Amend Rule 448 (j) (3) Performance Halter to exclude showmanship at halter as a Register of Merit to qualify for performance halter-*Also being reviewed by Youth Committee; recommendation to Show Committee as primary*
7. Amend Rule 448 (j) (3) Performance Halter to exclude showmanship at halter and western horsemanship as a Register of Merit to qualify for performance halter-*Also being reviewed by the Youth Committee; recommendation to Show Committee as primary*
8. Amend Rule 448 (j) (3) Performance Halter by allowing an exhibitor with a performance or racing register of merit be eligible to compete in all divisions-*Also being reviewed by the Youth Committee; recommendation to Show Committee as primary*
9. Allow a horse with any performance register of merit be eligible to compete in all divisions of performance halter-*Also being reviewed by the Youth Committee; recommendation to Show Committee as primary*
10. Require a horse exhibiting in performance halter to also exhibit in a performance class in the same show-*Also being reviewed by the Youth Committee; recommendation to Show Committee as primary*

11. Divide performance halter into junior and senior divisions Junior and Senior winners show for champion performance halter horse Performance champion competes for grand and reserve champion halter horse-*Also being reviewed by the Youth and Professional Horsemen Committees; recommendation to Show Committee as primary*

12. Amend Rule 448 (d) (1) Halter Equipment to allow lip chains for youth and amateur in any gender division-*Also being reviewed by the Youth Committee; recommendation to Show Committee as primary*

13. Allow a novice division in team penning and ranch sorting-*Also being reviewed by the Youth Committee; recommendation to Show Committee as primary*

14. Allow an exhibitor to show more than one horse in showmanship-*Also being reviewed by the Youth Committee; recommendation to Show Committee as primary*

15. Allow youth, novice youth, amateur and novice amateur in individual working performance events, a youth and amateur may show up to three horses regardless of sex, except in youth and novice divisions where stallions are prohibited-*Also being reviewed by the Youth Committee; recommendation to Show Committee as primary*

16. An exhibitor entered in a walk/trot class may not enter a walk/trot/canter class-*Also being reviewed by the Youth Committee; recommendation to Show Committee as primary*

17. Limit the amount of jogging/trotting in the select showmanship or offer the option for exhibitors to walk while the horse jogs/trots-*Recommendation to the Show Committee as primary*

18. Increase fees at the World Show for the following classes and years in order to increase purses for the World Show events to competitive with other associations:

	2007	2008*	2009
Weanlings	\$500	\$500	\$500
Cutting	\$1,100	\$1,175	\$1,250
Cow Horse	\$600	\$675	\$750
Reining	\$850	\$925	\$1,000
2-yr-old Pleasure	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Roping/VRH	\$600	\$675	\$750
All others	\$350	\$425	\$500

(All others include speed events, team penning and ranch sorting)

*2008 increases not made, committee voted to leave the same as 2007-
*Also being reviewed by the Professional Horsemen Committee;
 recommendation to Show Committee as primary*

19. Redefine requirements for AQHA Champion to be 15 points - must be earned in halter classes with at least two performance halter championships or halter grand champions-*Also being reviewed by the Youth and Professional Horsemen Committees; recommendation to the Show Committee as primary*

20. Incentive Fund is not to be paid on points earned at Introductory shows-
*Also being reviewed by the Professional Horsemen Committee;
 recommendation to Show Committee as primary*

21. Develop a junior amateur class for amateurs that have little or no amateur or open points earned

22. Amend Rule 405 A from won a world or reserve world in an AQHA approved event, national or reserve national championship title in any equine breed organization to include **only applies if there were more than three (3) entries or more in the class**

23. Decrease the number of years an individual must wait to apply for their Amateur membership from 5 years to 3 years after being an accredited horse show judge

24. Amend Rule 403 (a) (3) by including **for those over age 65 must wait two (2) calendar years** previous to application

25. Amend Rule 403 (a) (3) by removing riding instructors from the list of activities that would make an individual ineligible to compete as an Amateur

26. Amend Rule 403 (a) (3) by allowing an amateur to provide riding instruction to those individuals not showing AQHA or any other show discipline. The amateur's income will be limited to \$10,000 or less annually

27. Increase the novice eligibility points in the more popular classes from 25 to 40- *Youth and Amateur Committee primary*

28. If an individual has earned 5 World or Congress Championships, they would no longer be eligible to compete in Amateur competition

29. An individual that has earned a world championship title is no longer to eligible to compete as an amateur

30. Allow every state to qualify two Amateurs from every class to compete at the AQHA World Championship Show

31. Develop an award to recognize a first time All-Around Novice Amateur at any given AQHA-approved show

32. Amend Rule 403 (a) (6) by adding select amateur eligible members who have earned Gold Card status within their respective individual associations will be allowed to compete in any AQHA amateur class

33. Move the Bayer Select World Championship Show to a different location than Amarillo, Texas

34. Amend Rule 403 (a) (2) by lowering the current Select exhibitor age from 50 years of age to 40 or 45 years of age

35. Increase the Select age from 50 years of age to 55 years of age

36. Clarify that an International Amateur to be eligible to compete at the Bayer Select World Show or the Amateur World Show on a leased horse, the individual must have qualified in their international country or receive an

invitation for owning the high-point horse in each event without being required to meet the minimum qualifying point levels

37. Allow an amateur exhibitor to show two different horses in the same group class (one horse in the all-age amateur class and one horse in the select amateur class)-

Also being reviewed by the Show Committee; recommendation to Amateur Committee as primary

38. Allow an amateur exhibitor to show two horses in an individually worked select class and two other horses in an individually worked amateur class-

Also being reviewed by the Show Committee; recommendation to Amateur Committee as primary

39. Amend Rule 408 (b) Amateur Division Approval to read, "management will combine these classes back into an all-age class when there are less

than 3 entries in the amateur or select class"-*Also being reviewed by the Show Committee; recommendation to Amateur Committee as primary*

40. Automatically combine amateur, select and youth classes when there are not at least three (3) in the class-*Also being reviewed by the Show Committees; recommendation to the Youth and Amateur Committees as primary*

41. Allow the same horse to be shown in both amateur and select in the same class at the same show-*Also being reviewed by the Show Committee; recommendation to Amateur Committee as primary*

42. Establish a novice select class-*Also being reviewed by the Show Committee; recommendation to Amateur Committee as primary*

43. Allow leased horses to be allowed to show in amateur and youth classes-*Also being reviewed by the Show Committee; recommendation to Youth and Amateur Committee as primary*

44. Amend Rule 403 (a) (1) by adding that a youth may begin showing in the Amateur division on August 1 of the year that the individual turns 19 rather than waiting until January 1 of the following year-*Also being reviewed by the Youth Committee; recommendation to Amateur Committee as primary.*

45. An Amateur not be disqualified from the Open division when using an Amateur permit

46. Increasing the exhibitor card fee for amateur exhibitors

47. Amateur Department Statistics

48. Consideration of Other Business

49. Chair and Vice-Chair Voting

50. Adjourn