

**Show Committee Agenda
2021 Convention
San Antonio, Texas**

Mr. President, the Show Committee makes the following recommendations:

GENERAL SUBCOMMITTEE

1. With respect to agenda item 8, it is recommended to offer longe line and trail in hand for yearling, two-year-old and three-year-old classes for international affiliates, excluding Canada.**
2. With respect to agenda item 9, amend Rule SHW467.1, "Optional trail course obstacles include but are not limited to: Water hazard (ditch or small pond). No metal or slick-bottom boxes will be used. **When a water hazard/box is used, it shall remain dry at all times in all divisions.**"
3. With respect to agenda item 12, it is recommended to request a task force be created to discuss AQHA-approved virtual shows for international countries, not including Canada, with the recommendation to include the Show Committee Chair or their designee, the General Show Subcommittee Chair or their designee, a representative from the Judge's Committee, at least one member of AQHA staff to provide input regarding programming, and 4-5 international members. A written report should be provided back to the General Show Subcommittee not later than 2022 Convention.
4. With respect to agenda item 13, it is recommended to approve all four recommendations from the Equestrians With Disabilities Task Force, which include:
 - a. Recommendation that the one-horse, one-rider rule applies to Equestrians With Disabilities riders.**
 - b. Recommendation to adjust Equestrians With Disabilities rules to be similar to only allow a horse to be shown once, in each class.**
 - c. Recommendation that Equestrians With Disabilities exhibitors may use both hands with any type of bridle.
 - d. Recommendation for AQHA staff, in conjunction with the Chair of the Task Force, Tom McBeath, to include three patterns for each class in the AQHA Rulebook.

SHOW FORMAT AND PROCEDURES SUBCOMMITTEE

5. With respect to agenda item 15, it is recommended to amend Rule SHW127.1, "Show officials are defined as any person performing the duties of a show manager, ring steward or show secretary. Show officials, with the exception of ring stewards, must have a current AQHA individual membership. Any reputable

person may act in the capacity of a show official who can furnish proof that he/she is capable through ability or experience. ~~No show official or member of their immediate family, any children or other relatives living in the same household of either or both of the married persons, or any person owning or leasing the grounds on which a show is being held whose ownership could influence the outcome of any show held on such property, shall enter or exhibit horses in any AQHA-approved open or amateur show at which he/she is officiating, nor may any horse owned by such person be entered and exhibited.~~

None of the following persons may enter or exhibit horses, nor may any horse owned by any of the following persons be entered and exhibited, in any AQHA-approved open or amateur show: (a) any show official for such particular AQHA-approved open or amateur show at which he/she is a show official; (b) any member of the immediate family [as defined in SHW220.1] of a show official, if such immediate family member is also living in the same household; or (c) the owner or tenant of the grounds on which such particular AQHA-approved open or amateur show is being held and whose ownership could influence the outcome of such show.

Youth events and alliance shows, where it is acceptable by the rules of the alliance, are excluded from coverage under this rule.”

6. With respect to agenda item 17, it is recommended to amend Rule SHW750.1, “GMSA **All Mounted Shooting** competition will be offered and approved through the ~~Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association~~ **AQHA as a special event**”, the committee recommends the Executive Committee create a task force to investigate all other rules and/or associations and possible AQHA rules to support mounted shooting with AQHA as the governing body.
7. With respect to agenda item 18, it is recommended to continue the study of the AQHA Show Calendar by the Show and Format Subcommittee. The original proposal was approved but paused due to programming; staff has raised concerns over implementation and how to proceed.
8. With respect to agenda item 18, it is also recommended that the Show and Format Subcommittee compile statistics and data to support the study of multi-breed concurrent classes. A report with their findings, information about the pilot program that was discussed, and the exploration of benefits and negatives will be resubmitted at the 2022 Convention.

LEVELING AND AWARDS SUBCOMMITTEE

9. With respect to agenda item 21, it is recommended to amend Rule SHW251.9, “Level eligibility will be effective January 1 of each year and the exhibitor or horse will remain eligible for that level for the entire calendar year, regardless of the number of points earned during the year. **For classes leveled by competitors (Youth, Amateur and Open Halter and Cattle classes),** competitors placing in the top two **three** in the Level 3 classes at the AQHYA, Open/Amateur or Select world shows **any**

of the World Shows are not eligible for Level 2 for the subsequent five years in that class within that division, regardless of points earned in the past three years.”**

10. With respect to agenda item 22, it is recommended to exclude 2020 points from leveling range calculations due to COVID-19 impact on sanctioned show participation. From this point forward, the 3-year leveling point ranges will be removed from the equation and points from 2021 will be reviewed at the 2022 Convention.**
11. With respect to agenda item 23, it is recommended to create a Task Force for development of a Green Non-Pro division for exhibitors. It will be recommended to show managers to consider adding as exhibition classes to start developing interest.**
12. With respect to agenda item 25, it is recommended to add Level 2 to the world show’s weanling halter classes in Amateur.**
13. With respect to agenda item 28, it is recommended to amend Rule SHW117, “An amateur division **and/or Select Amateur division** may be approved separately or in conjunction with an AQHA-approved show for all ages and/or a youth show, provided at least four AQHA-approved amateur **and/or select amateur** performance events are offered.**
14. With respect to agenda item 29, it is recommended to remove Rule SHW230 from the AQHA Rulebook, “Amateur card holders may ride horses owned by someone other than immediate family members in any open division performance class for which they have been granted exemption by AQHA with no penalty, provided the amateur member pays all entry fees and expenses in connection with showing. Upon written request to AQHA’s Competition Department, and after receiving from them a permit authorizing such, an amateur member will be permitted to exhibit a horse he/she does not own in open division classes at a maximum of two AQHA-approved shows. The amateur member seeking exemption must submit to AQHA’s Competition Department the names and exact dates of the two shows, as well as the horse’s name and AQHA registration number that they will exhibit. [SHW230.1] Only one such permit will be granted for a rider for a given horse, and no AQHA points will be awarded. [SHW230.2] Show management shall not allow a non-owned horse to be shown by an amateur member in the open division unless exhibitor has said permit at the time of entry. Failure to properly obtain permit prior to showing may result in revocation of amateur status and/or other penalties.
15. With respect to agenda item 29, it is recommended to amend Rule SHW245.8, “Level 1 exhibitors, in Amateur or Youth, may participate on a non- owned

horse in Level 1 Amateur or **Level 1** Youth classes. The recorded owner retains the ability to show the same horse in any class other than the same class as the Level 1 exhibitor. At the discretion of show management, this option is **may or may not be** available to competitors at the top 10 show circuits. The top 10 show circuits can be found at aqha.com. They are determined by the number of entries in the previous year. ~~For the top 10 shows (provided the show accepts permits a Level 1 amateur or Level 1 youth member may apply for up to 10 permits allowing them to compete with one permit per show on a non-owned horse in Level 1 classes only. Points earned by Level 1, whether using permits or not, will count toward the point cap per class for Level 1 eligibility. Applications for permits shall be directed to the AQHA Competition Department on application forms provided by AQHA or an application may be filled out at an AQHA approved show, and be granted as AQHA, in its sole discretion, determines. Exhibitors must have a current amateur or youth membership to participate. All Level 1 rules still apply whether using permits or not.~~

16. With respect to agenda item 30, amend Rule SHW 245.3.5, "When determining eligibility for a level in a particular class, an individual may not have exceeded the point cap described in SHW245.1 for that particular class. In addition, at the time of application for Level 1 an individual may not have competed on an NCEA equestrian team on a scholarship, or ride as a starting exhibitor, in a particular class, **excluded by division (Western – Horsemanship/Reining and English – Equitation/Equitation over fences). Exhibitors are ineligible to return to Level 1 by division until 10 years after final year of competition on a NCEA equestrian team.**
17. With respect to agenda item 31, the Leveling Task Force recommends compiling all leveling rules into one digital document.
18. With respect to agenda item 31, amend Rule SHW251.8, "Horses placing in the top ~~two~~ **three** in the Level 3 classes at the Open World Shows are not eligible for Level 2 for the sub-sequent five years in that class, regardless of points earned in the past three years."**

WESTERN & TIMED EVENTS SUBCOMMITTEE

19. With respect to agenda item number 33, it is recommended to refer the proposal to add an open ladies' breakaway class to the AQHA show docket to a task force to be reported back at the 2022 Convention.
20. With respect to agenda item number 38, it is recommended to amend SHW375.2, "The exhibitor must lead on the horse's left side holding the lead shank in the right hand near the halter with the tail of the lead loosely coiled in the left hand. ~~unless requested by the judge to show the horse's teeth. It is~~

~~preferable that~~ The exhibitor's hand shall not be on the snap or chain portion of the lead. ~~continuously.~~ The excess lead should never be tightly coiled, rolled or folded. When leading, the exhibitor should be positioned between the eye and the mid-point of the horse's neck, referred to as the leading position."

21. With respect to agenda item number 42, it is recommended to amend SHW564.1, Part Four – Drive the Cow back down the fence (original side) past the middle marker and continue until the judge blows the whistle to show completion. **While boxing the cow at the opposite end, if the rider loses control, the judge will whistle the end of the run if the cow passes center.**
22. With respect to agenda item number 43, it is recommended to approve modification to SHW417.6 ~~Posting at the extended trot is acceptable.~~ **Sitting the regular trot and lope is recommended; though standing in the stirrups at the extended trot and extended lope, or posting the extended trot is acceptable.**
23. With respect to agenda item number 46, it is recommended to approve a linked mouthpiece with minimum 3/8" diameter that is smooth with movable links that are solidly attached to the shanks.
24. With respect to agenda item number 48, it is recommended to approve clarification that any equipment and/or bit considered legal in an AQHA-approved class may be used on any horse for training purposes on show grounds, whether or not the horse will be shown in the class in which the equipment and/or bit is legal; for example, equipment and/or bits legal for barrel racing classes may be used on horses of other disciplines for training on the showgrounds.
25. With respect to agenda item number 49, it is recommended to approve modification to SHW437.1 (Three (3) points): ~~Obviously looking down to check leads.~~ SHW437.2 (Five (5) points): **Obviously looking down to check leads.**

ENGLISH & DRESSAGE SUBCOMMITTEE

26. With respect to agenda item 52, it is recommended to amend Rules SHW621.2.1, SHW621.2.2 and SHW621.2.3, "Maneuver evaluations and penalty applications are to be determined independently. The following penalties will be applied for each occurrence and will be deducted from the final score":
 - a. SHW621.2.1, "(Three (3) points)
Break of gait at the walk or trot up to 2 strides
Over or under turn from 1/8 to 1/4 turn
Tick or hit of cone

Obviously looking down to check leads or diagonals

Missing a diagonal up to 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail.

b. SHW621.2.2, "(Five (5) points)

Not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 10 feet-(3 meters) of designated location

Missing a diagonal up to **for more than** 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail

Incorrect lead or break of gait at the canter (except when correcting an incorrect lead)

Complete loss of contact between rider's hand and the horse's mouth

Break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 strides

Loss of iron Head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical while the horse is in motion, showing the appearance of intimidation

c. SHW621.2.3 (Ten (10) points)

Loss of rein

~~Missing a diagonal for more than 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail~~

Use of either hand to instill fear or praise while on pattern or during rail work

Holding saddle with either hand

Spurring or use of the of crop in front of girth

Blatant disobedience including kicking, pawing, bucking, and rearing

27. With respect to agenda item 53, it is recommended to amend Rules

SHW621.2.1 and SHW621.2.2, "Maneuver evaluations and penalty applications are to be determined independently. The following penalties will be applied for each occurrence and will be deduct-ed from the final score":

a. SHW621.2.1, "(Three (3) points)

Break of gait at the walk or trot up to 2 strides

Over or under turn from 1/8 to 1/4 turn

Tick or hit of cone

~~Obviously looking down to check leads or diagonals~~

Missing a diagonal up to 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail.

b. SHW621.2.2, "(Five (5) points)

Not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 10 feet-(3 meters) of designated location

Obviously looking down to check leads or diagonals.

~~Missing a diagonal up to 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail~~

Incorrect lead or break of gait at the canter (except when correcting an incorrect lead)

Complete loss of contact between rider's hand and the horse's mouth

Break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 strides

Loss of iron Head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical while the horse is in motion, showing the appearance of intimidation

28. With respect to agenda item 63, it is recommended that the Executive Committee appoint a Task Force to consider adding a new EVENTING Rule, SHW686, **"An AQHA-approved event. AQHA will recognize these levels of eventing competition starting with the Beginner Novice Level, continuing through Novice Level, Training Level, Preliminary Level, Intermediate Level and Advance Level."**
29. With respect to agenda item 64, it is recommended that the Executive Committee appoint a Task Force to consider adding a new EVENTING Rule, SHW686.1, **"Eventing will be offered and approved through USEA-licensed competitions holding an AQHA- approved class."**
30. With respect to agenda item 65, it is recommended that the Executive Committee appoint a Task Force to consider adding a new EVENTING Rule, SHW686.2, **"Show approval as well as horse and exhibitor eligibility requirements must be met."**
31. With respect to agenda item 66, it is recommended that the Executive Committee appoint a Task Force to consider adding a new EVENTING Rule, SHW686.3, **"A one-time license of \$85 for the horse must be recorded with AQHA prior to the competition."**
32. With respect to agenda item 67, it is recommended that the Executive Committee appoint a Task Force to consider adding a new POINTS Rule, SHW687, **"The final penalty score will be converted into a point value. Points will be awarded in each division and recorded on the horse's records. AQHA points can be earned starting at Beginner Novice Level going through Advanced Levels. The points are listed on the horse's record and count for awards such as Register of Merit and year-end high-points. AQHA recognizes high-points (first through 10th) for open, amateur and youth divisions for each level."**

WORLD SHOW SUBCOMMITTEE

33. With respect to agenda item number 71, it recommended to approve amendment to continue the 3-year-old Western Pleasure class at the World Show as a stakes class.**
34. With respect to agenda item number 74, it is recommended to form a task force to investigate the impact of changing the current 5-judge system (loss of high & low placings, average of 3 median placings) to a 4-judge system (loss of low placings only) for World Show halter classes.
35. With respect to agenda item number 75, it is recommended to approve offering an optional jackpot at the Youth World to serve as a self-funding scholarship opportunity. Staff to review and implement specific details to include the

percent of payback given to the scholarship, the payback scale (to be consistent with other scholarship formats) and the 501c5 and 501c3 implications.**

36. With respect to agenda item number 76, it is recommended to table offering Level 2 Select amateur core classes at the Open and Amateur world shows for one year while the ROI is evaluated.

HALTER SUBCOMMITTEE

37. With respect to agenda item number 81, the Membership recommended that the proposal to modify Rule SHW350.2 be denied. "All horses whose registration certificates are marked with a parrot mouth notation per registration rules, cryptorchid notation per registration rules ~~or excessive white notation per registration rules~~ are ineligible to compete in any halter class including performance halter. **Horses whose registration certificates are marked with an excessive white notation per registration rules are ineligible to compete in any halter class, including grand and reserve. Horses with an excessive white notation are eligible to compete in performance halter classes.**"
38. With respect to agenda item number 82, the Membership recommended that the proposal to amend Rule SHW567.3 be denied. "All horses whose registration certificates are marked with a parrot mouth or cryptorchid ~~or excessive white~~ notation are ineligible to compete in the ranch horse conformation class. All stallions shall be examined to confirm that they have two visible testicles. All stallions and mares shall be examined for parrot mouth. If examination reveals that a horse has parrot mouth or is cryptorchid, such horse should be excused from the ring prior to final placing by the judge regardless of whether the parrot mouth or cryptorchid condition is marked on the horse's registration certificate."
39. With respect to agenda item number 83, it is recommended to amend Rule SHW567.6, "Exhibitors may qualify and show more than one horse in ranch conformation classes. Not allowing these horses to be shown by other exhibitors will make them ineligible for the all-around which will also affect the overall all-around results for other exhibitors. Open exhibitors cannot show another youth or amateur horse; however, a youth or amateur exhibitor can show other youth, amateur or open horses. The preference is for another family member to show the additional horse(s). ~~This guideline is similar to SHW369.4 for other halter classes. For additional rules concerning halter not addressed in ranch conformation see SHW350 HALTER CLASSES.~~"**

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

40. Re-elect Robin Frid as Committee chair.

On behalf of the Show Committee and the membership, I move that the board of directors approve the recommendations as amended.

Robin Frid, Chairman

***Pending further review regarding feasibility of recommendation.*

PENDING EC APPROVAL APRIL 2021