

**AQHA Policy Concerning Awards and
Publicity
of Horses and/or Trainers with Racing Medication
Positives**

For purposes of this policy, the term “Violation” shall mean:

(a) a positive test for a Class 1 substance, Class 2 substance, Clenbuterol, any prohibited substances in the presiding jurisdiction, or any medications other than those defined by ARCI as being a Controlled Therapeutic Medication; or

(b) failure to report for out of competition testing.

1. If a racing jurisdiction reports a Violation for a horse, such horse and record trainer as of the violation date¹ in question (“Offending Trainer”):

(a) shall be ineligible to be considered for AQHA awards associated with the calendar year in which the Violation occurred; this will include pending appeals of violations; and

(b) shall, unless waived by AQHA, be ineligible to be included in AQHA media (online and publications) during the calendar year in which the Violation occurred; this will include pending appeals of violations.

2. All horses that record an official start under the Offending Trainer anytime in the calendar year **AFTER** the expiration of thirty (30) days of an Offending Trainer’s Violation being published on the AQHA website:

(a) shall be ineligible to be considered for AQHA awards associated with the calendar year in which the Violation occurred; this will include pending appeals of violations; and

(b) shall, unless waived by AQHA, be ineligible to be included in AQHA media (online and publications) during the calendar year in which the Violation occurred; this will include pending appeals of violations.

3. A horse that has recorded an official start under the Offending Trainer anytime in the calendar year **PRIOR** to the violation date but has **NOT** recorded an official start under the

¹ For purposes of this policy, the term “violation date” shall mean the date of the race in which the test sample was taken and resulted in a positive test or, in the case of failing to report for out of competition testing, the date on which the horse(s) were to be presented for testing.

Offending Trainer anytime in the calendar year **AFTER** the Violation confirmation date to be eligible to be considered for AQHA awards and included in AQHA media if AQHA is able to independently verify either (a) or (b) below:

(a) The owner moved the horse to another licensed trainer in good standing and notified AQHA in writing of such move on or before the expiration of thirty (30) days of the Offending Trainer's Violation being published on the AQHA website. Such new trainer must meet the following requirements:

- (i) was a licensed trainer in the calendar year immediately prior to the calendar year in which the Violation occurred;
- (ii) did not have a Violation in the previous year;
- (iii) started a horse under his/her own license as a trainer in the calendar year immediately prior to the calendar year in which the Violation occurred;
- (iv) was (and is) not the assistant trainer or an employee of the Offending Trainer during the calendar year of the Violation; and
- (v) is not the spouse or "immediate family member" (defined by AQHA RuleSHW220.1) of the Offending Trainer.

(b) The owner, on or before the expiration of thirty (30) days of the Offending Trainer's Violation being published on the AQHA website, removed the horse from the care and control of the Offending Trainer and the horse has no further starts during the calendar year of the Violation.

4. A horse in the care and control of an Offending Trainer that has **NOT** recorded an official start under the Offending Trainer **PRIOR** to the violation date but subsequently records a start under a new trainer may be eligible to be considered for AQHA awards and included in AQHA media if the requirements set forth in 3.(a) above are met.

5. If a horse is ineligible to be considered for AQHA awards and included in AQHA media pursuant to the above provisions, its race records and earnings shall also be ineligible to be considered for any AQHA awards associated with the calendar year in which the Violation occurred.

6. A report of Violations can be found here [AQHA Policy](#). Such report lists: (a) Offending Trainers that have had a Violation during the calendar year; (b) horses that have had a Violation during the calendar year; and (c) horses that have not had a Violation during the calendar year but are reported as having started for an Offending Trainer during the calendar year. With

respect to horses that have not had a Violation during the calendar year but are reported as having started for an Offending Trainer during the calendar year, such horses are ineligible to be considered for AQHA awards and included in AQHA media unless the requirements set forth in this policy are met.