

halter, bridle and/or saddle in order to de-sensitize the horse (minimum level 2);

**VIO204.6** use of training techniques or methods such as poling or striking a horse's legs with objects (minimum level 2);

**VIO204.7** excessive spurring or whipping (minimum level 1);

**VIO204.8** excessive jerking of reins (minimum level 1);

**VIO204.9** excessive fencing (minimum level 1);

**VIO204.10** excessive spinning (defined as no more than eight (8) consecutive turns in either direction) (minimum level 1);

**VIO204.11** schooling over ramped oxers in reverse order (i.e., from highest to lowest instead of lowest to highest) (minimum level 1);

**VIO204.12** schooling using rails higher than four (4) feet (minimum level 1);

**VIO204.13** use of prohibited equipment, including, but not limited to: saw tooth bits; hock hobbles; tack collars; tack curb staps or tack hackamores; whips used for showmanship; war bridles or like devices; wire or solid metal curb straps no matter how padded; wire cavesson; wire or cable tie-downs; bumper bits; metal bosals (no matter how padded); metal longeing hackamores; chambons; headstalls made of metal (no matter how wrapped or padded), twisted rawhide, or rope may not be used on a horse's head (3/8 inch rope may be used with a slip/gag bit or a bonnet); running martingales used with curb bits used without rein stops; (minimum level 2); riding in a curb bit without a curb strap; draw reins attached between or around the front legs will not be allowed; side reins (direct rein from bit to cinch or surcingle); excessively tight cavessons (minimum level 1) will not be allowed at AQHA-approved events;

**VIO204.14** use of any item or appliance that restricts circulation of the horse's tail (minimum level 3); use of any item or appliance that restricts movement of the horse's tail is a minimum level 1 violation.

**VIO204.15** a horse which appears to be sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired (minimum level 1);

**VIO204.16** intentional or negligent treatment which results in any bleeding – intentional (minimum level 3); unintentional (minimum level 1); for purposes of this section, "negligence" is the failure to exercise care that a reasonably prudent person would exercise. Regardless of whether bleeding resulted from intentional or negligent treatment, horse may be disqualified.

**VIO204.17** applying excessive pressure on or excessively jerking of a halter lead shank or an allowed lip cord (minimum level 2).

**VIO204.18** any other treatment or conduct deemed by a show official to be inhumane or abusive (minimum level 1).

**VIO205.** AQHA may accept (1) an individual's conviction, no contest plea, or deferred adjudication or (2) judicial confiscation of a horse under state, federal, provincial or international law, for an offense of cruelty to or inhumane treatment of a horse, whether or not an American Quarter Horse is involved, as a presumptive violation of this rule, the effect of which is to automatically suspend the individual from AQHA membership privileges, or deny such privileges, for a period of no less than two (2) years after AQHA receives notice of the conviction, no contest plea, deferred adjudication or judicial confiscation. After the expiration of the two-year suspension, the individual may apply for reinstatement. AQHA may also temporarily suspend an individual charged or indicted pursuant to state, federal, provincial or international law for an offense of cruelty or inhumane treatment of a