



AQHA Judges Newsletter

Summer 2019

I have had the opportunity to attend some horse shows this summer. Thank you for representing AQHA in such a professional way!

Please take the time to read the 2019 summer newsletter. It contains important information for all judges! I have had several judges recently contact me, asking if there was a December workshop. This information was published in the Spring newsletter. All newsletters are archived on *AQHA.com* under judge resources.

Save the Dates! Judges Workshop is December 16-17 in Dallas

Mandatory for domestic All Around, Progressive and Level 1 judges.

Registration fees were included in the 2019 AQHU tuition, but you MUST be registered by November 1 to receive credit for attendance. Use this [registration form](#) and email to judges@aqha.org

Topics:

- Halter
- Western Pleasure
- Hunter Under Saddle
- Western Riding
- Animal Welfare
- Info on new 2020 AQHA classes
- Judges Forum
- Guest Speakers
- Free Judge photos
- WCHA Judges will be recertifying
- NRCHA workshop
- APHA recertification
- And more.....

To book a room, call

Hyatt Regency DFW Airport at 1-800-233-1234

Ask for the AQHA room block. Room rate is \$119.

Permitted and Not Permitted Equipment For your convenience, on the Judge Resources page you will find a catalog of [permitted equipment and not permitted equipment](#)

Rules (some new) of which to be aware:

Working Cow Horse

In 2020, AQHA (to be in line with NRCHA) will be adding a “2 point C” penalty. The definition is below.

2 point C: Circling turn-this penalty applies only in a two (2) turn run in which the second turn is an attempted open field turn where it is not possible to tell where the second turn ends and the first circle begins. Note: this penalty appears on the 2019 NRCHA score sheets.

In 2019, in this situation, apply at least one 1 point P penalty (working out of position) this becomes official in the 2020 AQHA rule book.

Rule clarification on rubber bands. The following clarification will be in the 2020 rule book:

Exhibitors 19 years of age or older may use a rubber band per foot (maximum width of 1/4 inch) during any competition. Exhibitors 19 years of age or older may also be tied, buckled or fastened by other means during any competition. Exhibitors 18 years of age or younger may use a rubber band per foot (maximum width of 1/4 inch) only during speed events in the youth, Level 1 youth and open divisions. Exhibitors 18 years of age or under may not be tied, buckled or fastened by any other means during any competition.

Be aware of the verbiage/pattern change in Western Riding pattern #3:

2019 rule 1. Walk at least 15 feet from start cone to the first marker, transition to jog, jog over log vs. the 2018 rule 1. Walk halfway between markers, transition to jog, jog over log. If you are at a show in which Pattern #3 is being used, please make sure 1.) Pattern is set correctly 2) Exhibitors are aware of the change. PLEASE REVIEW YOUR RULE BOOK - Page 154

SHW108.2.2

Mistakes have been made pertaining to Rule SHW 108.2.2:

Maximum combination of shows in one day will be up to four shows; no more than four judges are allowed to judge in the ring at one time, with the exception of the halter classes which are allowed a maximum of six judges in the ring at one time. It is the difference between points counting or not. Please assist AQHA and show management to monitor this.

Grand and Reserve Procedures

AQHA needs your help in continuing to recognize our valued customers. Line up Grand and Reserve in all divisions. This is an easy way to recognize our exhibitors. The exhibitors will appreciate you for it!

Pattern Classes

Judge horsemanship and equitation rail work from inside the arena. This will give you insight on how an exhibitor sits on his/her horse, how they manage their hands, and show expression. Don't be complacent!

When using the pattern class score sheets, take the time to circle the appropriate class on top of the sheet. When this is not done, show management and exhibitors can't identify the class.

VRH/AQHA Ranch Riding

Sitting at the trot is recommended. It is optional, depending how an exhibitor chooses to show their horse at the extended trot.

VRH - Clarification on Off Patterns (OPs)

OPs occur per maneuver – Exhibitor A takes two hands on the reins for the entire reining class and there are 7 maneuvers. Exhibitor A would incur 7 OPs.

Exhibitor B in the same class takes two hands on the reins in maneuver 2 and maneuver 5. Exhibitor B would incur 2 OPs and be placed over Exhibitor A.

Remember when judging: Judge on the positive. Let the penalties find you.

If you have read this far, please email me at pcarter@aqha.org to confirm you have read all the information. Thank you



VRH Webinar

2019 VRH updated webinars are now available online at AQHU. Bill Enk and Todd Crawford did a fantastic job! There is so much great information available on AQHU. Please take advantage of it!

The Cutting Webinar by Russell McCord will be held Wednesday, September 18 starting 9 am Central on AQHU. You won't want to miss this one!



Think about . . .

When judging, make sure you are spread out. When sitting too close, it gives the public the impression that you are judging by committee.

In addition to checking the bridles in at least one class per show, AQHA highly recommends you bring a couple of rail classes to the center and have the horses back. All major events back the horses in the center. Therefore, judges owe it to our industry to help them prepare for the major events.

If you have a signature that is not legible, please use a stamp. Print your name/or AQHA ID # on several cards. Illegible signatures could hold up the results process up for several days.