

## Q-Ribbon: July/August 2016

### Deadlines to Remember

Prior to July 1, AQHA should receive your **completed** November show application(s) and any corrections to your October show(s).

Prior to August 1, AQHA should receive your **completed** December show application(s) and any corrections to your November show(s).



### Moratorium Lifted for Introductory and Single-Judged Shows

Great news! The AQHA Show Committee recently passed, and the AQHA Executive Committee approved a recommendation from the AQHA Shows Format Task Force to remove the moratorium on introductory and single-judged shows. Show approval will be based on affiliate consideration for shows 100 miles or less to an existing show within stated affiliates and not to be combined or added to any existing show or circuit. No more than two single-judged shows will be approved at one time. Simply put, guidelines are being relaxed so that introductory shows and single-judged shows can be approved if said introductory show or single-judged show is 100 or less miles from an existing show within the same affiliate state.

### Show Management Reports to AQHA

Please remember it is very important to [submit reports](#) of unsportsmanlike conduct, abuse or inhumane treatment to AQHA at the time of the incident.

[SHW128.10](#) upon a report or discovery of inhumane treatment, immediately investigate the incident and report it to AQHA. Show management shall make every effort to obtain the concurrence of any AQHA-approved judge on the grounds or AQHA-authorized personnel, if available. Any verbal or written warning performed by the show manager at a show for inhumane treatment is to be reported in writing to AQHA. If an incident is later reported to AQHA and knowledge is gained that the show manager was present but did not report the incident, this could jeopardize their ability to manage an AQHA-approved show in the future.

### New Rules

*Attire/Equipment* -- Effective June 1, 2016, judges may disqualify exhibitors for any equipment or attire that would give an unfair advantage. Please be familiar with [this new rule](#), which is now in effect.

*Animal Welfare* -- The AQHA Executive Committee approved recommendations from the AQHA Animal Welfare Commission to continue to make strides for the benefit of American Quarter Horses. Please pay special attention to [the new rules and procedures regarding belly bands](#), which became effective June 1.

## Progressive Judges

A slight adjustment has been made in the show number count that determines the eligibility of progressive judges. As you may be aware, when the progressive judge program started, the judge was allowed to judge shows that had 250 entries or less the previous year. Several years ago, we changed that number to 350.

Now, progressive judges can accept a show that has 350 entries or less the previous year, excluding Level 1 or Rookie entries. For example, if a show in 2015 had a total of 425 entries, but 80 of those entries were Level 1 and/or Rookie entries, a progressive judge would be eligible to judge the 2016 show.



## Rookie/Level 1 Classes

It is a great idea to separate out your Rookie and Level 1 classes if you have the option of putting those classes in another arena. This allows those exhibitors to show once and could shorten your show day. Also, AQHA has a great list of Level 1 and progressive judges who would love the opportunity to judge these classes.

## AQHA Walk-Trot Clarifications

**SHW755** Level 1 walk-trot classes can be held in western pleasure, horsemanship, trail, hunter under saddle and hunt seat equitation. Walk-trot classes are available, at the discretion of show management, at any approved show in Level 1 youth and Level 1 amateur classes.

*SHW755.1* The Level 1 walk-trot classes can only be held as an all-age (Level 1 youth or Level 1 amateur) class and cannot be split out into youth age groups or Select. Only one horse/rider combination is allowed per class. If a horse/ rider combination was entered into a Level 1 walk-trot class, that horse/rider combination could not show in the corresponding loping/ cantering class at that show. However, that combination can switch back and forth between the different shows.

*Example 1:* If a youth exhibitor/horse combination shows in walk-jog trail, that same youth exhibitor/horse combination cannot show in the youth walk-jog-lope trail, but the team would be eligible for the youth walk-jog-lope horsemanship.

*Example 2:* Exhibitor A/Horse A shows in walk-jog horsemanship. Exhibitor A/Horse A **cannot** show in walk-jog-lope horsemanship but Exhibitor A/Horse B Can show in walk-jog-lope horsemanship.

## Versatility Ranch Horse Updates and Announcers Guide

Remember, you have the option of offering one or all Versatility Ranch Horse classes within your show bill.



To give the VRH all-around award, the show must have:

1. VRH ranch conformation
2. VRH ranch reining
3. One, or both, of the two cattle classes (VRH ranch cutting/VRH ranch cow work)
4. One, or both, of the remaining classes (VRH ranch riding/VRH ranch trail)

A regular carded (all-around or progressive) judge can judge VRH classes. However, if the show offers the required number of classes to award the VRH all-around award, the regular carded (all-around) judge must also be approved as a VRH-specialized judge, or you can use a VRH-specialized judge.

If you are looking to hire a judge who is not currently approved as a VRH-specialized judge, that judge may submit a request in writing or by email ([judges@aqha.org](mailto:judges@aqha.org)) to the AQHA Judges Committee for consideration.

We have also updated an [announcer's guide book](#), which gives helpful VRH class descriptions and fillers for your announcer to share with spectators.

### **New Judges' Profiles**

We are looking to improve judges' profiles on AQHA's website. What information would you like to see – picture, favorite class to judge, other breed cards held, other suggestions? Email Patti Carter at [pcarter@aqha.org](mailto:pcarter@aqha.org) to submit your suggestions.

### **Show Management Reminders**

- From time to time, we receive show approval applications that list the credit card as “being on file.” At the present time, AQHA does not keep your credit card on file, so please provide that information for each approval request.
- We also receive show approval applications listing “signature on file.” We must have a signature for both the show management and show secretary on each application and the manager's signature on the statement of promise; these signatures are not kept on file as a blanket signature for all of a person's show application.
- As a courtesy, we are now emailing results for shows to the secretary after results are processed. Check over those when you receive them and let us know if you see anything that needs to be corrected. These could also come in handy for your group's year-end points keeper.
- Remember to send your show bill along with show approval applications.
- We are now keeping track of show sponsors. When submitting your show application, please include a contact name, address and phone number.
- Check out the Montana Silversmith Awards Program Buckle Catalog on the manager's resource page. Could be some great award ideas!
- **Reminder: Adequan® (polysulfated glycosaminoglycan) is now the title sponsor of Level 2 classes. [Here are the guidelines.](#)**

**Q-Ribbon Newsletter**

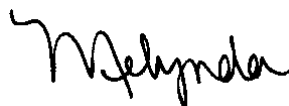
Miss an issue of the *Q-Ribbon Newsletter*? Check them out here – [Q-Ribbon Newsletter Archives](#).

Thanks for all you do!



Patti Carter

*Director of Shows and Professional Horsemen*



Melynda Ackley

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