

SSHBEA



RULE BOOK

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Spotted Saddle Horse Breeders' & Exhibitors' Association

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I. Introduction

The Spotted Saddle Horse Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association, hereinafter known as the SSHBEA or the Association, is an organization that was established in 1985 to promote the Spotted Saddle Horse. To accomplish this, SSHBEA has instituted a program for affiliating horse shows, licensing judges, and has established official rules for the registering and showing of the Spotted Saddle Horse.

II. Code of Ethics

A. The Code of Ethics is promulgated as an aid to the preservation of the integrity of the Spotted Saddle Horse, the records of the Association, and the relationships among the Association, its members, and any other person(s) who enjoy its benefits and privileges. All persons are expected to abide by the following standards:

B. Standards

1. All persons and specifically members, officers, and directors of the Association shall conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen in all meetings and dealings with the Association, with any other person or in any matter in which the Association has an interest.
2. In an effort to demonstrate respect for the Spotted Saddle Horse breed, all persons shall support the Association Position Statement on Animal Welfare which states: "The SSHBEA actively protects and promotes the welfare of the Spotted Saddle Horse." To this end, the SSHBEA is committed to:
 - a. Ensuring that the overall and ongoing welfare of the Spotted Saddle Horse is the primary concern of all breeders, owners, trainers and exhibitors
 - b. Ensuring that all breeders, owners, trainers and exhibitors treat their horses humanely and with dignity and respect, and use proper care in training, handling and showing them
 - c. Educating breeders, owners, trainers and exhibitors on the proper care of Spotted Saddle Horses

- d. Continuing to work with USDA officials to ensure that the highest standards of welfare, safety and health are maintained at all SSHBEA events
 - e. Developing and enforcing stringent rules that govern the exhibiting, judging, showing, and selling of Spotted Saddle Horses, in order that the natural abilities of the animals are best reflected
 - f. Increasing awareness of the rules among all breeders, owners, trainers and exhibitors, emphasizing that they are responsible for the welfare and humane treatment of the horses entrusted to their care
3. No person shall knowingly or intentionally disseminate false or misleading information or engage in any practice which has the effect of corrupting the integrity of the Association or any activity it sanctions.
 4. No person shall otherwise engage in an unethical practice in any situation involving a Spotted Saddle Horse or any matter in which this Association has an interest.
 5. No person shall disseminate or make any false statement or representation, written or spoken, concerning any other person or the SSHBEA on social media or any other public platform and, if so made, he/she shall act promptly to correct erroneous communications which he/she has disseminated.
- C. Enforcement
1. This Code of Ethics is intended as a guideline for the self-policing of a person's actions. Any individual who has committed flagrant or repeated violations of this code may be subject to disciplinary actions as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors of this Association.
 2. Upon being installed as an Officer or Director of the SSHBEA, Persons shall recite the "Oath of Office" as follows: *"I have read and understand the Code of Ethics adopted by the Spotted Saddle Horse Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association. I hereby agree to abide by the requirements of this Code in my conduct as an Officer, Director and Member of this Association."*

III. General Guidelines

- A. This rule book is published for the express purpose of providing, in written form, uniform rules for registering and exhibiting the Spotted Saddle Horse. These rules pertain to the classification, inspection, conduct, and operation of shows, as well as general matters affecting Exhibitors, Judges, DQPs and Show Committees.
- B. The SSHBEA rules outlined in this rule book shall take precedence over the rules of any other committee. All divisions, sections, and classes for which rules are provided herein must be conducted accordingly and shall not be held under any rules that are not in agreement.
- C. Every show and every person participating, including exhibitor, owner, lessee, manager, agent, rider, driver, judge, show official or employee, is subject to the rules of the SSHBEA and to the local rules of the show. Every person participating in any show recognized by the SSHBEA is subject to provisions of the SSHBEA rules.
- D. Knowledge of the rules of any sport is required of each participant, and the exhibitor at a horse show is in no way exempt from this responsibility. A complete knowledge of the rules and compliance with them is essential. Exhibitors must fully understand all the rules as well as class specifications for the divisions in which they show.
- E. It is obvious that, however complete the rules may be, they can never cover all possible situations that may arise. If a matter cannot be resolved by the interpretation of the rules to the letter, then the only official rule interpretation is that which is received from the SSHBEA Board of Directors.
- F. Any rule change (or publication of new rule book) will become effective April 1st and shall take precedence over any previous rules.
- G. All rule changes approved by the Board of Directors between publications of new rule books will be submitted to the Membership in writing, published 30 days before they will be in effect. Action taken with regard to adoption, amendment, and repeal of these rules shall be published in the SSHBEA newsletter and online, in addition to the minutes of the Board of Directors. This action shall be RULE ACTION.
- H. An individual has the responsibility of adding rule change(s) to his/her rule book.

- I. In the SSHBEA magazine or newsletter, no other breed's registration papers may be used in advertising. No picture of horses wearing action devices, pads, set tails, etc. may be used in the publications. If the horse is registered with other breeds, that fact may be noted in the ad but the SSHBEA registration must come before any other breed registration listing.

IV. Definitions

- A. **Age of Horse:** For horse show purposes, a horse shall be considered to be one year of age on the first day of January following the date of foaling.
Exception: Foals born in September through December are eligible for classes along with foals born the following calendar year.
- B. **Affiliated Sales:** All sales that have been accepted for this privilege by the SSHBEA and are affiliated with a recognized HIO.
- C. **Affiliated Shows:** All shows that have been accepted for this privilege by the SSHBEA and are affiliated with a recognized HIO.
- D. **Affiliation:** Organizations whose shows or events are not sponsored by SSHBEA but choose to affiliate their shows or events with SSHBEA.
- E. **Amateur Exhibitor:** A person who, after his/her 18th birthday, has not engaged in any activities which would cause him/her to be classified as a trainer, and who holds a valid Amateur Card.
Note: An amateur CANNOT have received payment or compensation of any kind for training or assisting in training.
- F. **Amateur Owned & Trained:** an amateur exhibitor who by records of registry owns the horse he/she is exhibiting or is an immediate family member of owner (see definition of immediate family member below); horse must not have been trained by any other person for 90 days prior to showing in an AO&T class
- G. **Challenge Trophy:** A trophy donated to or offered by a show that must be won a specified number of times under specified conditions in order to be permanently retired.

- H. **Designated Qualified Person (DQP):** A person qualified and licensed by a recognized HIO to detect horses in violation and to inspect horses for the purposes of enforcing the Horse Protection Act and SSHBEA Rules.
- I. **Event:** Any show, sale or exhibition affiliated or sponsored by the Spotted Saddle Horse Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association.
- J. **Exhibitor:** any rider, driver, handler or contestant who shows or exhibits any horse in a horse show, horse exhibition, horse sale or auction.
- K. **Youth Exhibitor:** for horse show purposes, a youth exhibitor is an individual who on January 1st of the show year has not reached his/her 18th birthday.
Example: An exhibitor who is seventeen (17) on January 1st but turns eighteen (18) on January 2nd, is still eligible to show as a youth exhibitor for that year. However, an exhibitor who turns eighteen (18) on January 1st may not show as a youth exhibitor during that year.
- L. **Exhibiting:** For horse show purposes, exhibiting means showing in competition at a horse show, exhibiting a horse at a sale, presenting the National Colors at a horse show/event or any other public exhibition of a Spotted Saddle Horse.
- M. **Hearing Committee:** committee established to hear alleged violations, impose penalties, and handle other matters that SSHBEA may direct.
- N. **Horse Protection Act (HPA):** The federal Horse Protection Act of 1970, as amended by the Horse Protection Act Amendments of 1976, 15 §§ 1821 et seq. is a federal law stating that the act of soring is a crime punishable by both criminal and civil penalties.
- O. **Immediate Family:** For horse show purposes, the term "immediate family" shall include the following: husband, wife, parent, stepparent, child, stepchild, brother, sister, half-brother and half-sister, in-laws of the same relations stated herein, and/or grandparents and grandchildren.
- P. **Inspector:** For the SSHBEA, an inspector refers to a person who is qualified and licensed to evaluate color and gait in order to approve horses for registration purposes. To be granted a SSHBEA Inspector's License, application must be made on the official form

available from the SSHBEA. Approval shall be given by the Inspectors Licensing Committee, whose Chairman is appointed annually by the SSHBEA Board of Directors.

- Q. **Judge, Apprentice:** A person who wishes to become a regular judge but lacks the experience and/or knowledge to qualify.
- R. **Judge, Competitive Trail:** A judge licensed to officiate any competitive trail ride. *Note: Guest judges are acceptable.*
- S. **Judge, Equitation/Showmanship:** A judge licensed to officiate any Equitation and/or Showmanship class.
- T. **Judge, Guest:** An individual 18 years of age or over, not presently enrolled as a judge but who has been granted the privilege of judging at a sanctioned show.
- U. **Judge, Master:** The highest judge ranking; judge qualified to officiate in all divisions at all shows.
- V. **Judge, Regular:** A judge who has completed apprenticeship of at least two separate shows to the satisfaction of the SSHBEA Judges Committee and Board of Directors.
- W. **Keg Shoe:** Factory stamped (poured or cast) hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum, non-toe-weighted shoe; poured or cast clips if poured in original cast (may not be welded on); poured or cast heels/caulks if poured in original cast (may not be welded on); Borium is allowed on the toe (1 ½" wide at the toe and spots on heels no more than 1/8" thick).
- X. **Medication:** Any stimulant, depressant, tranquilizer or local anesthetic which might affect the performance of a horse. (Stimulants and depressants are defined as medications/drugs/forbidden substances that stimulate or depress the circulatory, respiratory or central nervous system.)
- Y. **Non-affiliated show:** A show that is not affiliated with any organization that licenses judges and/or DQPs and does not publish a current rule book.
- Z. **Novice:** Horse or rider has not won a blue ribbon *Class Sheet will specify whether class is HORSE or RIDER Novice. Once a horse has won a blue ribbon at the show, that horse is no longer qualified to exhibit in a Novice class unless there is a designated Novice Championship

- AA. **Owner:** For horse show purposes, the term “owner” means the person shown as the owner by the records of registry or a person who has a bona fide lease on said horse (only where leases are allowed). *Co-ownership is not permitted in owned and trained classes with the exception of immediate family. (See immediate family.)*
- BB. **Pleasure** (as relates to divisions): Must display an elegant and cooperative way of going, with smooth performance.
- CC. **Sanctioned Show:** Refers to those shows that offer other breed classes, in addition to Spotted Saddle Horse classes, which have been accepted for this privilege by the SSHBEA.
- DD. **Serviceable Soundness:** All horses entered at a SSHBEA event must be serviceably sound. Any horse that appears to be unhealthy, dehydrated, exhausted, painful, exhibits a low body condition score, etc. may be classified as unfit to show. If the serviceable soundness of an entry is called into question by the DQP or judge, they shall notify the official veterinarian and his/her decision will be final. If the official veterinarian is not available or called on, then the judge’s decision will be final.
- EE. **Show Employees:** For horse show, sale or exhibition purposes, the term “show employees” shall include and refer to the following: Managers, Announcers, Ringmasters, Ring Clerks, Farriers (Optional), Entry Office Personnel and other persons engaged directly by the show.
- FF. **Show/Sale/Exhibition Management:** For horse show, sale or exhibition purposes, the term “show management” shall refer to the personnel representing the sponsoring organization.
- GG. **Show Officials:** For horse show, sale or exhibition purposes, the term “show officials” shall include and refer to the following: Chairman/Manager of the Show, Judges, DQPs, Veterinarians and Timekeepers.
- HH. **Suspension:** the temporary prevention of showing/exhibiting at a SSHBEA event to which specific guidelines will be set for a specific length of time.
- II. **Trainer:** any adult who has the responsibility for the care, training, custody and/or performance of a horse; a person is a Trainer (professional) for horse show purposes who, after his/her 18th birthday, accepts any remuneration for training, showing, or riding of a

horse, whether or not it is the principal means of his/her income. *All Exhibitors, other than amateurs and youth exhibitors 17 years and under, must hold a current trainer's license issued by SSHBEA.*

- JJ. **Violation:** any act committed at an affiliated event prejudicial to the best interests of the SSHBEA, including but not limited to violation of the rules of the SSHBEA.

V. Affiliation Rules

A. Procedures for Affiliating/Sanctioning an Event with SSHBEA

1. Any show desiring to affiliate may apply, upon agreeing to the following:
 - a. Use only SSHBEA licensed Judges or Guest Judges which have been SSHBEA approved
 - b. Use an assigned/approved DQP in all Spotted Saddle Horse classes
 - c. Abide by all the rules, regulations, and procedures of the SSHBEA
2. Any sale desiring to affiliate may apply, upon agreeing to the following:
 - a. Use an assigned/approved DQP
 - b. Abide by all the rules, regulations, and procedures of the SSHBEA
3. Any show desiring to sanction may apply, upon agreeing to the following:
 - a. Only DQPs licensed by a USDA approved Horse Industry Organization (HIO) for all gaited classes
 - b. All spotted class must abide by the SSHBEA rules and regulations
4. A show applying for affiliation/sanctioning that has had a SSHBEA affiliated/sanctioned show in the past must furnish the SSHBEA with proof of the number of entries from previous year. (If not immediately available, may be obtained from the SSHBEA office.)
 - a. A show with total entries the past year of 125 or less is urged to obtain a Regular Judge from the SSHBEA Judges List.
 - b. A new show, not having previous records, is urged to obtain a Regular Judge from the SSHBEA Judges list.
 - c. However, it is permissible for these two types of shows to employ a Master Judge if they so desire.

5. All class sheets, programs or catalogues (show or sale) must bear the words "Affiliated (or sanctioned) by the SSHBEA", and the SSHBEA logo must appear on all class/sale sheets/flyers and/or programs.
6. Inspection Fees: Any show or sale agreeing to affiliate must agree to collect all appropriate HIO inspection fees.
7. To allow time for affiliation/sanctioning approval, application should be made not less than 30 days prior to desired show/sale date.
8. When the request for affiliation/sanctioning is received, an application form and all necessary information will be promptly forwarded to the requesting organization.

B. Privileges of Affiliating/Sanctioning an Event with SSHBEA

1. Listing in the SSHBEA's advertised schedule of show and sale dates
2. Cooperation of the SSHBEA staff, including assistance in obtaining the services of Judges and DQPs
3. Services of the SSHBEA Hearing Committee
4. Protection of Show Committees and Sale Committees afforded through the use of licensed Judges and qualified DQP

VI. Registration Rules and Guidelines

A. General Registration Rules

1. The SSHBEA is an official registry for Spotted Saddle Horses. To qualify for registration as a Spotted Saddle Horse, the horse must possess one spot above a level line, midway between the center of the knee and the floor of the chest and midway between the point of the hock and the center point of the stifle.
2. A horse must exhibit a spot two inches or more in diameter with underlying contrasting skin in the area described above or in the tail. Facial markings, spots on the genitals, and/or high stockings alone do not qualify as a spot.
3. All horses must exhibit a smooth, easy saddle gait other than a trot (such as a single-foot, running walk, rack, stepping pace, etc.).

4. All horses must have at least one SSHBEA registered parent and that parent must be a SSHBEA registered tobiano sire or a SSHBEA registered tobiano dam and must meet all other qualifications in order to be eligible for registration. *Tobiano is defined to be a horse that has the appearance or phenotype which is indicative of a horse that has the tobiano gene.*
5. In the event neither parent is registered but one or both meet all qualifications for registration, at least one parent must be registered in accordance with these rules prior to the application for registration of the foal being processed.
6. Solid colored horses with at least one SSHBEA registered tobiano parent may be registered with the SSHBEA for identification purposes only. *Solid colored (ID ONLY) offspring may show in classes specifically for them, but may not show in spotted classes.*
7. Application for registration must be made on an official application for registration furnished by the SSHBEA.
8. All certificates of registrations, to be valid, must be filed with the SSHBEA on an application for registration and accepted by the Secretary of the SSHBEA.
9. The application for registration must be neat, complete, and in ink or typewritten. Forms filled out in pencil will be returned.
10. All applications for registration become an important and permanent part of SSHBEA records. Every care should be exercised to ensure accuracy.
11. The name of horse must not exceed 25 characters.
12. Application for registration must bear the signature of the recorded owner(s) of stallion and mare at time of service as well as the signature of the owner(s) of mare at time of foaling.
13. Application for registration must be accompanied by 2-4 color pictures showing left and right sides, front and back, and evidence of all spots. Digital photos will be accepted on photographic paper only. Copy paper will not be accepted. Photos must be clear.
14. The horse must exhibit a saddle gait. The application must bear the signature of a SSHBEA licensed inspector that has inspected the horse to determine that it meets the color and gait requirements specified. *(See "Inspector" in Definitions.)*

A horse that has been inspected for color that does not meet the color specifications according to the SSHBEA Board of Directors may be denied registration, even if an inspector had approved the registration. Videos are mandatory in some cases.

15. VIDEO REQUIREMENT: A video will be mandatory for the purpose of inspection on horses that are crossbred. If the parent of a horse is a non-gaited horse (American Saddlebred, Arabian, Quarter horse, etc.) a video must be submitted with the application for registration. The video will need to have footage showing the horse exhibiting a gait other than a walk, trot or canter.
16. The SSHBEA takes no responsibility for certificates of registration once they are mailed to the owner. The person(s) applying for transfer or registration is solely responsible for the accuracy of the mailing address.
17. The certificate of registration is intended for the private use of the owner(s) of the horse and the content thereof may not be copied or otherwise reproduced without the express written consent of the SSHBEA.
18. Papers returned for completion or correction more than once will be subject to a "Not in Order Fee".
19. Registration papers in question from other associations/breed registries shall be pulled and brought before the SSHBEA Board of Directors.
20. Any person(s) who shall willfully register or record a false pedigree may be forever barred from making further registrations and from SSHBEA Membership. The registration of such false pedigree shall be void.

B. Rules for Transfer of Registration

1. Each transfer of a registered horse shall be recorded in the SSHBEA office.
2. The seller (owner of record at time of sale) shall have the responsibility for completion of the transfer and for sending all items to the SSHBEA. This should be done immediately after the sale in order to (a) ensure prompt service, (b) reduce the possibility of losing either registration certificate or transfer form and (c) to lessen the chance of complications which might make it impossible to ever record the transfer.

3. The transfer should include complete and accurate information in the designated areas on transfer form including:
 - a. Name and address of buyer(s)
 - b. Horse's correct name, registration number and sex
 - c. Signature of the last recorded owner(s) as the seller(s) of horse
 - d. Seller's complete address
 - e. Date of purchase
4. All transfer forms and the transfer blocks on the certificates of registration must be completed in ink.
5. If the transfer is for a mare that has been served but has not delivered a foal prior to sale, the lower portion of the transfer form must be completed and signed by owner of sire and dam at time of service.
6. The transfer form must agree with the transfer block on back of the certificate of registration.
7. Transfer forms are required with applications for registration of foals when the dam of the unregistered foal was owned at the time of foaling by someone other than the owner of the foal at the time application for registration is submitted. Transfer forms should be submitted at the same time as applications for registration.
8. Individual signatures of all joint owners of a horse are required on the line marked "Seller must sign his name here", if such owners are named on the horse's current registration certificate.
9. When written authorization has been filed in the SSHBEA office for someone other than the recorded owner to sign in his/her stead, the SSHBEA will accept the signature of such authorized individual as sufficient to complete the recording of the transfer forms. The written authorization must be signed individually by all owners (if horse is jointly owned) and by the person being authorized to sign the transfer forms.
10. In the event a horse is sold through a sale, the seller may deliver the registration certificate and transfer form (properly completed) to the Sale Committee. All information should be accurately completed on transfer form, including the following:

- a. Name, registration number and sex of the horse being sold
 - b. Signature and address of seller and date of sale
 - c. Name and address of the sale to which the horse is consigned
11. The Sale Committee may also be instructed by the seller to obtain the name and address of the buyer and to send the registration certificate, the completed transfer form, and required transfer fee to the SSHBEA on the seller's behalf.
 12. Ultimate responsibility for completion and delivery of the transfer form to SSHBEA shall always remain with the seller.
 13. No person shall make any alteration to a completed transfer form, nor in any manner deface, change, or amend its provisions.
 14. When the owner of a registered horse disposes of said horse without papers, the owner shall notify the SSHBEA of the fact and surrender the appropriate registration certificate to the SSHBEA for proper notation. If requested, the canceled certificate will be returned to the owner of record.

C. Rules for Alterations, Corrections and Duplicate Certificates

1. Alterations may be made to certificates of registration after issuance ONLY for the purpose of correcting (1) color and/or markings or (2) office errors.
2. Old certificates must be returned with a notarized statement describing desired change and reason for change. It must be signed by the breeder listed on the face of the certificate, and be accompanied by designated fee. If the error was made by the SSHBEA office, it will be corrected without charge (after proper notification to office is made with submission of sufficient proof).
3. Any other correction must be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.
4. The name of any registered Spotted Saddle Horse may be changed provided it has not sired or produced a registered foal.
 - a. Owner must send the certificate of registration, three choices of name, and designated fee to the SSHBEA office.
 - b. The certificate will be reissued showing the new name but will retain the same registration number.

5. Duplicate certificates of registration will be issued if the original has been lost or destroyed provided that an affidavit for duplicate (form furnished by the SSHBEA) has been signed by the last recorded owner(s) before a notary public and sent to the SSHBEA with designated fee.
 - a. Once the duplicate has been issued, the original shall automatically be void.
 - b. Responsibility for the issuance of the duplicate lies with the individual making the affidavit.

D. Rules for Productions Records

1. Mare production records will be furnished to any SSHBEA member, provided said request is made in writing and accompanied by designated fee.
2. Stallion production records will be furnished for each stallion per year to any member of the SSHBEA provided said request is made in writing accompanied by designated fee.

VII. Membership Rules

- A. Dues cover the 12-month calendar year January 1st-December 31st.
- B. Members have a 90-day grace period after January 1 before they will be removed from the membership list.
- C. Members must be 18 years of age or over and own a horse registered with the SSHBEA to be eligible to vote.
- D. Dues must be paid by December 31st to be eligible to vote in annual meeting. However, a member can vote on "Horse of the Year" awards at the annual meeting for the year in which dues were paid.
- E. If any promotion involving a "Free Registration" is ongoing, it must be requested at the time of registration. It will not be automatically granted.

VIII. Rules for Entries

A. General Entry Rules

1. In all Spotted Saddle Horse classes at SSHBEA affiliated or sanctioned shows, all entries must be registered with SSHBEA.

2. The entry form must contain the officially registered name and number of each entry, the owner(s) and trainer's names, complete address, and amateur card number or trainer's card number, as applicable. (Show entry information is furnished by the SSHBEA upon request.)
3. The exhibitor or his/her representative (whether this person be an owner, exhibitor, agent and/or coach, trainer, etc.) must sign the entry form at each show. This signature shall constitute the following:
 - a. An agreement that the person making it (owner, lessee, trainer, manager, agent, coach, exhibitor) and the horse shall be subject to the Bylaws and the Rules of the SSHBEA as well as the local rules of the show
 - b. Should an exhibitor or his/her agent fail to sign an entry form as required, his/her first entrance into the ring as an exhibitor shall be interpreted as his/her acceptance of the Rules of the SSHBEA and shall, ipso facto, render him/her subject to said Rules
4. Where a youth exhibitor has no trainer, a parent or guardian must sign as the trainer.
5. The name of the trainer, not the farm or stable name, must be designated as such on the entry form.
6. Violation of the rules in connection with entries may be cause for disqualification of the exhibitor, agent and/or trainer by the show committee.
7. A horse's registered name must be listed accurately and the same for all classes.
8. A horse must also be entered under the name of the registered owner or of the registered farm name.
9. The back number will be assigned to the horse, not the rider.
10. The requirement of correct names/numbers is to ensure proper credit is given for High Point Champions, Supreme Champions and other awards to which an exhibitor and/or horse may be entitled.

B. Unpaid Entries

1. Any show or sale which accepts entries without the payment of the required entry fees, etc., does so at its own risk and the SSHBEA will not be responsible for the collection of fees.

2. If a person makes a payment for entries, etc., which is non-negotiable, the secretary of the show shall report the name and address of the exhibitor in writing to the SSHBEA immediately.

Upon receipt of such notice, the SSHBEA shall notify the exhibitor by certified mail of the indebtedness and state that unless settlement is made within thirty (30) days of the postmark, the exhibitor and all of the horses for which the non-negotiable fees have been paid will automatically be barred from taking part in affiliated shows until settlement is made.

C. Rules for Amateur Exhibitors and Amateur Classes

1. An amateur exhibitor, for horse show purposes, is a person who, after his/her 18th birthday, has not engaged in any activities which would cause him/her to be classified as a trainer. (See *Definitions*.)
2. An amateur exhibitor must hold a valid amateur card which must be renewed annually.
3. An Amateur Class is one in which every exhibitor is an amateur

D. Changing from Trainer to Amateur Status

1. In order to change status from a professional “trainer” to an “amateur” exhibitor, a person must notify SSHBEA in writing of their intent, stating the date with which they want their three (3) year waiting period to begin.
2. They will then be issued a Pro-Am Exhibitor Card at a cost of \$10 by the SSHBEA.
3. During the three (3) year waiting period, the Pro-Am Exhibitor may prepare and show their own horses in open classes only. They may **NOT** show in Amateur Classes.
4. During the waiting period, the person applying for amateur status may **NOT** assist a professional trainer in any of the activities that constitute a professional.
5. Any person who, under these rules, is a trainer and knowingly and falsely represents himself/herself to be an amateur in order to exhibit in amateur classes, shall be subject to disciplinary action. If found guilty, there will be a mandatory three (3) full calendar year (January - December) waiting period before re-applying for amateur status.
6. If there is a question as to whether a person is a trainer or amateur, determination shall be made by the SSHBEA Board of Directors.

7. Any person who has not reached his/her 18th birthday is declared to be an amateur and is not required to have an amateur card.

Exception: A youth whose parent is a trainer cannot exhibit a horse in an amateur class if the trainer has received remuneration for that horse.

8. A trainer's immediate family (no matter their age) cannot exhibit a horse as an amateur if the trainer has received remuneration for that horse.
9. Standing a breeding stallion, buying/selling horses, and boarding horses does not affect a person's amateur status unless it is his/her principle means of income.
10. Having the occupation of veterinarian, farrier or riding instructor or owning a tack store do not themselves affect the amateur status of a person who is otherwise qualified.
11. The writing of books or articles for horse show purposes or the acceptance or remuneration for judging or serving in the capacity of DQP at horse shows does not affect a person's amateur status. *Clarification: Riding instructors may coach riders from the rail in Equitation and Showmanship but coaching riders in any other class will jeopardize amateur status.*

E. Rules for Youth Exhibitors and Youth Classes

1. Youth Classes are so stated to facilitate the separation of points for High Point Youth Champions
2. Youth classes may be ages 17 & under or split into 2 categories: 11 years & under and 12-17 years.
3. Exhibitors 11 years and under cannot exhibit a stallion in any class at a SSHBEA affiliated/sanctioned show, nor can any youth exhibitor show a stallion in a class designated for exhibitors 17 and under. Stallions are only allowed in classes designated for youth 12-17 years
4. If a judge or parent determines a child cannot handle a horse, the judge or properly identified parent may request the entry be excused.
5. Exhibitors 11 years and under will be allowed one groom in the lineup.
6. Transmitting devices are allowed for youth exhibitors with the exception of equitation and showmanship divisions.

7. Fastening a child to the saddle, in any way, is strictly prohibited and the entry shall be excused.
8. Exhibitors 11 years and under will not be required to back in the line-up.
9. Any youth 17 years and under class shall follow the same rules as a youth 11 years and under class (i.e., no canter and no backing).

IX. Show Tack and Attire

A. General Tack and Attire Rules

1. Exhibitors must be correctly attired, attendants (grooms, etc.) must be neatly dressed and horses must be presented in correct tack for the classes in which they compete.
2. Unless otherwise stated for special classes, Spotted Saddle Horses and exhibitors are to be presented in western tack and attire.
3. Silver or ornate equipment may be used but shall not be considered over suitable, well-kept equipment in judging.
4. A Show Committee Representative/Chairman or Judge must excuse any entry from the ring if not properly attired.
5. Correct Tack: Western saddle, Western saddle pad, Western breast strap (optional), Western bridle. (Cavesons permitted.)
6. Correct Attire: Long-sleeved western shirt, Western pants, Western boots, Western hat or safety helmet, Western tie (optional), Western spurs (optional), Western chaps (optional), Western dress coat or jacket (optional), Western vest (optional), Leather gloves (optional); and Rain gear (optional; back number must be clearly visible).
 - a. Exception: Clear or transparent rain gear REQUIRED in Equitation (Western Horsemanship) and Showmanship.
 - b. Exception: Western long-sleeved dress or skirt may be substituted for shirt & pants for show officials

B. Prohibited in All Classes

1. Hackamores, running or standing martingales, tie-downs, training paraphernalia (cables, ropes, rollers, pulleys, knee pads, boots, etc.)

Exception: Tendons may be wrapped for protection from just below the knee to the top of the ankle after the horse has been inspected by the DQP.

2. Possession of action devices (chains, artificial appliances, etc.) on the show grounds is a basis for expulsion from the show grounds.
3. Name plates displaying names of horses, stables, trainers or exhibitors on show equipment, exhibitor's attire, or attendant's attire

Exception: Name plates on saddles or names on belt buckles are permitted.

4. No lashes, appendages, or any other appliances attached to a whip (when whips are permitted).
5. No bits in excess of 9 1/2".
6. Lubricant is not allowed *EXCEPT* what is furnished by the DQP and may only be applied after inspection.
7. Paint and/or metal shall not be allowed on the bottom of the foot.
8. Any change in color of markings other than hoof is prohibited.
9. Only clear grooming materials are allowed on the hide and hair. Materials may be used to remove stains.
10. No entry may be administered any medication/drug that will alter its disposition or deportment in the ring.
 - a. Also prohibited are any medications/drugs regardless of how harmless or innocuous they might be, which by their very nature mask or screen the presence of the aforementioned medications/drugs, or prevent or delay testing procedures.
 - b. Entries showing obvious signs of being sedated or tranquilized shall be excused.
 - c. When a medication/drug is suspected by a Judge, he/she shall have the authority to order a medical examination to determine if such medication/drug has been administered.
 - d. The SSHBEA shall reserve the right to examine any entry to determine if medication/drugs have been administered.
 - e. Such examination as may be required shall be administered after the class.

C. Prohibited Specifically in Western Presentation

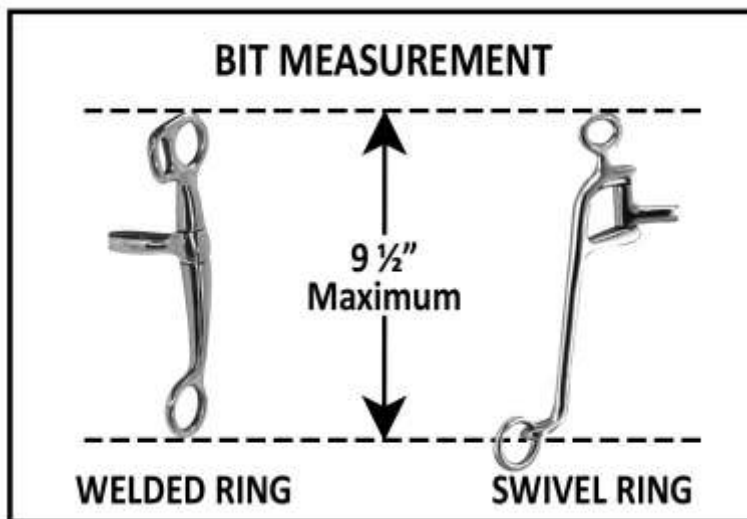
1. Vinyl and patent leather. *Exception: Driving Classes*
2. Braids

D. Prohibited in Pleasure Divisions

1. Cross chain cavesons
2. Whips

E. Rules for Bits

1. Bits with shanks in excess of 9 1/2" are **NOT** permitted.
2. Shanks are measured from the top of the metal of the top ring to bottom of the metal of the bottom ring. The top ring will always be included in the measurement of the shank.
3. If the bottom ring of the shank is not broken, that is, the bottom ring is welded or joined to the shank (bottom ring will not turn, twist or swivel), it is part of the shank and must be included in the shank measurement.
4. If the bottom ring of the shank is "broken" (ring will turn, twist or swivel) in any way, it is not considered a part of the shank and should not be included in the shank measurement.



X. Rules for Showing & Judging Criteria

- A. **General Show Rules** (The following procedure and criteria applies to all classes, with the exception of special classes, for which alternate procedure and criteria is so stated.)

1. Any show which issues its prize list and begins its show before March 1st shall be governed entirely by the previous rule book with amendments.
2. All entries should be presented clean, neatly trimmed, and in good flesh presenting a healthy appearance.
3. Each entry should be outfitted in clean and appropriate tack. The exhibitor of each entry should be neat in appearance, and be dressed in properly fitting riding attire as previously described.

B. Conformation

1. In general appearance, the Spotted Saddle Horse should have an intelligent look, neat head, well-shaped and pointed ears, clear and alert eyes and a tapered muzzle. The neck should be long and graceful, and the shoulders should be muscular and well-sloped.
2. The back should be short with good coupling at the loins.
3. The horse should be deep in the girth, well-ribbed and the chest should be of good proportion and width.
4. The croup should be generally sloping and the hips well-muscled with muscular development extending down toward the hocks.
5. The legs should be flat and cordy.

C. Show Ring Procedure

1. Using two hands is optional in all classes.
2. Horses shall enter the ring and proceed to the right at the Show Walk, and shall continue at the Show Walk until the class/gate is closed.
3. When it is found that a class is being delayed by horses not being ready to perform, the entrance gate may be closed at the order of the Judge(s) or Show Chairman.
 - a. This is provided that warning is issued and exhibitors are given three (3) minutes in which to appear at the entrance gate ready to participate.
 - b. If there is a legitimate request for a tack change and the paddock master approved it, the time limit for the tack change is three (3) minutes.
4. Judging shall not commence until the gate is closed at the end of the three (3) minute call. An official timer must be appointed to enforce this rule.

5. Entrance gate to show ring will be closed when the Judge calls for the first gait, and no entry shall be admitted into the ring after the gate is closed.
6. After the class is closed, the Judge shall call for performance gaits in the following order: Show Walk, Show Gait, Show Walk, Canter (if applicable), and Show Walk.
7. When horses are reversed, the order shall remain the same.
8. Any bouncing, swaying or undulating motion or other exaggerated motion of the rider must be penalized. Any bumping, pumping or extreme use of aids or body movement in any gait is not considered good form and must be penalized.
9. Horses should move freely in each gait and proceed in a smooth, fluid manner. The horse is to work quietly, exhibiting an exceptionally smooth, comfortable ride. The horse should be collected, obedient, alert, and responsive.
10. At all gaits, the horse should be flexed at the poll with muzzle slightly tucked.
11. Stiff front or rear leg motion, stumbling, bucking knees, pointing or favoring a particular leg, especially when entering the ring, are typical of the movement of a sore horse and the Judge must immediately excuse any horse exhibiting this type of motion.
12. As the horses enter the ring, the Judge must observe their way of going, and if an entry deviates from the standard gaits set forth in the rules, is unsound or does not conform with the rules, the entry must be excused immediately.
13. If, in the opinion of the judge, an entry poses a threat to other exhibitors, or by its behavior, offers an obstacle to other exhibitors (horse rearing, balking, kicking, running away, or leaving the ring, etc.) it must be excused immediately.
14. Prohibited bits must be penalized in the final judging.
*Example: Bits with shanks in excess of 9 1/2" and gag bits without shanks are prohibited and horse must be excused. (See **Rules for Bits.**)*
15. Curb chains or straps must lie flat against the jaw and be at least 1/2" wide.
16. Any exhibitor who, in the opinion of the Judge, abuses an entry with a whip or other instrument shall be excused.
17. No horse may be shown before a Judge that has been sold by said Judge or by his/her employer within a period of 90 days prior to the show.

18. No horse may be shown before a Judge that has been boarded, owned, trained or shown by said Judge within a period of 30 days prior to the show.
19. No horse for which a Judge has acted in the capacity of agent, and/or has collected a commission as the result of a sale, may be shown before the Judge within a period of 90 days prior to the show.
20. Gingering of tails is prohibited and any horse suspected of having a gingered tail will be excused.
21. If a horse is bleeding excessively from the ankle up (defined as blood running or dripping down) or from the mouth or on the body, it must be excused.
22. In the judging of a class, a Judge makes the final decision (on possible rule violations) as whether to excuse a horse or permit it to remain in the class.
23. All horses shown must be serviceably sound and must not show evidence of lameness, broken wind, or complete loss of sight in either eye. (*See **Serviceably Sound in Definitions.***)
24. The official veterinarian's decision, if requested by the Judge, as to the serviceable soundness of a horse shall be final. If the official veterinarian is not immediately available or called on, the Judge's decision as to the serviceable soundness of a horse shall be final.
25. In a championship show or any show when three or more Judges are used, any horse and/or exhibitor being excused must be excused by the majority of the Judges (two if three Judges, three if four or five Judges are used).

All Judges who are signing the excuse must sign the appropriate forms provided by the SSHBEA and form must be given to the Show Chairman immediately.
26. An entry who has been excused previously shall be eligible to show in a succeeding qualifying class if the problem can be corrected.
27. If a Ringmaster suspects a horse and/or exhibitor is in violation of the rules, he/she must immediately report said horse and/or exhibitor to Judge.
28. The exhibitor/horse may be barred from all SSHBEA activities if the Judge's decision is upheld by the SSHBEA Hearing Committee.

29. If a horse exits the ring and is written a ticket as sore by the DQP, the winnings of that class shall be forfeited. Lower placed horses shall be advanced.
30. Horses must be worked both ways of the ring at all required gaits sufficiently for all horses to have performed before each officiating Judge.
31. A workout must be held if there are 22 or more entries.
32. A horse that has not performed all required gaits shall not be placed over a horse that has performed all gaits.
33. The horse must perform all gaits in order to be judged in overall performance, presentation and conformation.
34. Minor adjustments made by an exhibitor (without dismounting, if horse is being ridden) when horses are being reversed, at ease, lined up in the ring, etc., shall be allowed.
35. Horse will be excused if physical assistance over the rail is obtained in accomplishing adjustments.
36. No item may be used inside or from outside the ring while showing a horse except one whip per handler (when whips are allowed).
37. After all gaits are completed, the Judge will walk the line and ask each pleasure horse to back individually, then evaluate conformation.
38. Pleasure horses must back easily and stand quietly.
Exception: 11 & under entries.
39. If there is more than one judge, the Call Judge must walk the line up.
40. Exhibitors must conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times.
41. Exhibitors and/or spectators talking to or criticizing a Judge or Judges in center ring will not be tolerated and Judges or any other show officials that are witness to such incident must report the violation to the SSHBEA. Penalty will be assessed by the SSHBEA Hearing Committee
42. A horse is deemed to have been exhibited when he departs the ring at the end of the exhibition.

D. Falls

1. An exhibitor is considered to have fallen when he/she is separated from a horse that has not fallen in such a way as to necessitate remounting or vaulting into the saddle.
2. A horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and haunch on the same side have touched the ground.
3. Any horse or exhibitor to have fallen in ring must be excused. *Exception: equipment breakage.*

E. Time-Outs

1. An exhibitor desiring a time-out will proceed to the center of the ring and remain mounted/seated while requesting it of the Judge.
 - a. The Judge will ascertain the reason for the time-out and either grant or deny the request.
 - b. If the Judge finds the reason for a time-out not valid, the entry must return to the rail immediately.
2. Time-outs interrupt a show, therefore unauthorized time-outs will not be permitted.
3. If the Judge grants a time-out, horses on the rail will go at ease.
4. A total of five (5) minutes in aggregate shall be allowed for each entry for authorized time-outs, but no more than two time-outs per class will be allowed.
5. All time-outs will begin when justifiable reasons are acknowledged.
6. A five (5) minute time-out for a thrown shoe will be allowed and begins when farrier picks up horse's hoof.

F. Workouts (Single Judge show)

1. All horses chosen for a workout must be worked both ways of the ring at each gait asked for by the Judge. *(See also specific Judging system if using more than one Judge.)*
2. Workouts may be called for by the Judge for any place or places.
3. Workouts shall be judged as a separate class and horses must be tied for positions being considered within that workout.
4. A Judge shall not place any entry in a workout where the entries are working for first place, unless the entry has performed all required gaits both ways of the ring in the initial performance.

Note: Any Judge ignoring this rule shall be subjected to disciplinary action by the SSHBEA Judges Committee.

5. When a workout becomes necessary, it must be announced (over public address system).

G. Rules for Model Classes

1. Entries shall be led into the ring, lined up, then judged on conformation.
2. When lined up, horses should stand parked quietly, alert to their surroundings, ears forward.
3. Entries should be representative of the conformation that makes the Spotted Saddle Horse distinctive.
4. Entries should be in sufficient good flesh to present a healthy appearance and should be immaculately groomed.
5. Transmittable weaknesses shall be considered faults and must be penalized.
6. No horse that has had surgical alteration for appearance may show in a Model Class.
7. Model classes are offered for horses 2 years old and over; Championship Classes may be offered.
8. Classes may be further divided by sex, age or height of entries.
9. Entries shall be judged 75% on conformation and 25% on presentation.

H. Rules for Halter Classes

Suggested classes are (1) Weanlings, (2) Yearlings, (3) Mare and Foal, and (4) Get of Sire.

1. Entries shall be led into the ring and proceed in a counter clockwise direction, reverse, line up, then be judged on conformation.
2. Mare and Foal Classes and Get of Sire Classes shall be worked within the general guidelines at the discretion of the Judge(s).
3. In Get of Sire Classes, the stallion may be shown in hand with as many as three, but not more than five, of his get.
4. When lined up, horses should stand parked quietly, alert to their surroundings, ears forward.

5. Entries should be in sufficient good flesh to present a healthy appearance and should be immaculately groomed.
6. Transmittable weaknesses shall be considered faults and shall be penalized.
7. Unsoundness (defined as lameness, broken wind or complete loss of sight in either eye) shall not penalize a breeding mare/stallion unless it is sufficiently severe as to impair the required performance or severe enough that further competition shall constitute an act of cruelty. Dismissal is at the discretion of the Judge and, in all cases with regard to soundness, the Judge's decision shall be final.
8. In judging, strong emphasis should be placed on naturalness and those characteristics that are passed on through breeding that reflect the ability possessed by the Spotted Saddle Horse.
9. When moving, the horse should possess a smooth, easy gait, a natural headset and always be under control.
10. Shall be judged on overall performance, presentation, and conformation (50%), with emphasis on gait (50%).
11. An entry in the Mare & Foal Class shall consist of a mare and her natural weanling foal. The judging shall be 50% on the mare and 50% on her current foal.
12. Get of Sire Classes are judged 100% on his get.
13. Mares and stallions must be shown in a western bridle or western leather show halter with matching lead.
14. Weanlings and yearlings must be shown in a western leather show halter with matching lead.
15. Yearlings may be shod with a shoe weighing no more than 16 ounces.
16. Shoes on weanlings are prohibited.

I. Rules for Yearling Classes

1. All yearlings will enter the ring and be judged both ways of the ring at a walk.
2. Horses will then be lined up head to tail and judged on conformation.
3. Yearlings will be judged 50% on conformation and presentation; 50% on gait.

Note: Progressive Yearlings will follow the same rules; however, they will then be judged individually as they are walked down the rail to the opposite turn, reversed, and then stepped up to a show gait as they return to their point of origin.

XI. Rules for Other Divisions and Special Classes

A. Championship Classes

1. A Show Committee must designate all qualifying classes and may require any and all winners in a qualifying class to compete in a Performance Championship Class provided it is so stated in the prize list.
2. If a Show Committee requires all winners in qualifying classes to compete in a Performance Championship class and an exhibitor fails to comply, he/she shall forfeit all qualifying class winnings.
3. If a Show Committee requires all winners in qualifying classes to compete in a Performance Championship class and an exhibitor qualifies more than one horse for a Championship Class, he/she may elect to show only one.
4. If in an appropriate qualifying class, an entry completes the class and is excused by a Judge after or during the initial lineup without request by the exhibitor to be excused, the entry is deemed to have qualified.
5. Horses that have qualified in a no canter class shall not be eligible for a Performance Championship Class requiring three gaits.
6. If a horse of any age is shown in its regular age-based class, it is qualified for that age championship.
7. Model classes or Equitation classes do not qualify a horse for a Performance Championship Class.
8. Classes for a specific height or sex may be offered as set forth. Judging specifications shall follow those in the Open Championship Classes.
9. Horses may be stripped for conformation judging at the discretion of a Judge(s) or Show Committee.

- a. If horses are stripped for conformation judging, two (2) grooms may be allowed in the ring during the line-up.
- b. Grooms will not touch a horse below the knees unless directed to do so by the Judge(s). Entry will be excused if found in violation.

B. Ladies Classes

Shall be restricted to female exhibitors who are 18 years of age or older, which should also be stated on the prize list.

C. 14.2 and Under Classes

1. This class shall be limited to horses (ponies) measuring 14.2 hands and under.
2. The height of all animals shall be stated in hands; a “hand” is defined as four inches. (*See Measurement of Height.*)
3. At a given show a horse or pony shall be permitted to show in a horse class and a pony class.

D. Lead Line Classes

1. Limited to children 6 years of age and under.
2. Entry must be led by a person 18 years of age or older.
3. Safety of child is of utmost importance.
4. Horse should be well groomed.
5. Tack should be neat, clean, and properly adjusted.
6. Child’s feet must be in stirrups.
7. Child must hold reins in hands and should exhibit good posture.
8. Attire should be neat and clean.
9. Matching attire should be placed higher than unmatched attire.
10. Horse and handler should be well mannered, with no crowding, deliberate blocking, cutting in front of other exhibitors, etc.
11. Horse should lead readily and be under control at all times. (Neither horse nor handler should appear to be dragged around ring.)
12. Horse should stand quietly when parked.
13. In line up, handler should stand quietly. (No blowing, waving, etc.)

14. Total package approach should be used when judging.

E. Ladies Auxiliary and Youth Council Classes

1. To be shown in keeping with general Spotted Saddle Horse procedures.
2. Classes are limited to members who have met the requirements of the specific group/organization.
3. No stallions are allowed in Youth Council Classes.

F. Novice Classes

1. Open to horses and/or exhibitors that have not won a first-place ribbon at an affiliated show.
2. The show sheet must specify if the class is for novice rider or novice horse or a combination of both.
3. If a blue ribbon is won at a multi-day show, that horse or rider is no longer considered a novice and may not show in a novice class held later at that show. *Exception: Novice Championship Classes*

G. Costume Classes

1. Entries shall be shown in appropriate costumes reflecting a particular theme.
2. Horses shall be shown in accordance with the SSHBEA rules and shall be judged 50% on the horse and 50% on the costume of the exhibitor.

H. Speed Racking Classes

1. Entries in this class shall be shown at the Show Walk, followed by the Slow Rack, Fast Rack and Speed Rack.
2. Horses breaking gait must be penalized.
3. It is suggested that classes be judged 25% form and 75% speed.

I. "Exhibitor to Judge" Classes

1. Name(s) will be drawn from the total exhibitors in the class.
2. The exhibitor(s) whose names are drawn will act as the Judge(s) in this class.
3. The canter is optional in this class. The determination is to be made by the Show Committee and must be indicated on the class sheet.

J. Trail Riders Classes

1. Horse should exhibit a smooth, natural gait.
2. Rider must have control of horse at all times.
3. No whips allowed.
4. Gait will be as follows: trail walk and pleasure gait.
5. Horses will be asked to whoa at least one way of the ring.
6. Tack and riding attire suitable for trail riding.

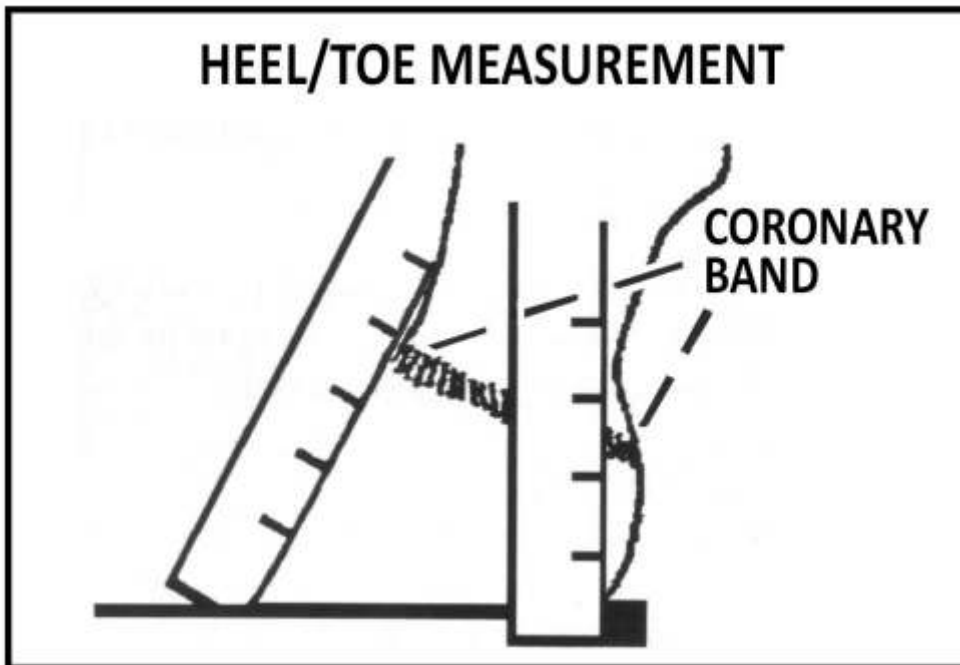
XII. Gait Descriptions

- A. The Trail Walk is a relaxed walk with a loose reign and no appearance of strain.
- B. The Show Walk is a smooth easy gait, smooth backend, with the horse under control and the head set.
- C. The Show Gait has an increase in speed from the Show Walk, with the horse still under control with the head set.
- D. During the Show Walk and Show Gait, the backend should be smooth and the exhibitor should exhibit an easy, comfortable ride.
- E. Head shake or nodding of the horse's head is desirable and will not be penalized except in the Spotted Pleasure division.
- F. The Show Gait should have an increase in speed from the Show Walk, but form should not be sacrificed for speed
- G. The Canter is basically a collected gallop and should be smooth and naturally rolling. It is an extremely collected movement that is enjoyable to ride. The horse should be under control and on the correct lead, front and rear, when cantering. Horses not on the correct lead will be penalized. *Note: A horse show class sheet MUST clearly designate any class in which the canter will be required.*

XIII. General Shoeing Rules

- A. All horses shall be flat shod or barefooted.
- B. Borium is allowed on the toe and each caulk but may be no more than 1/8" thick.
- C. Barefoot horses may be shown; however, the judge must disqualify lame or tender footed horses.

- D. Hoof bands are permitted; however, they must be 1/2" from bottom of coronary band.
- E. Clips 1/2" are optional when drawn from the original steel or poured, not welded. The limit is 3 clips to a shoe: 1 on toe and 1 on each side permitted.
- F. Heel and Toe Measurement: Toe length must exceed the height of the heel by 1" or more.



- G. The heel shall be measured from the coronary band at the most lateral portion of the rear pastern, at a 90-degree angle to the ground (not including normal caulks at the rear of the horseshoe that do not exceed 3/4").
- H. The portion of caulk at the rear of the horseshoe in excess of 3/4" shall be added to the height of the heel in determining the heel-to-toe ratio.
- I. The length of the shoe cannot extend more than 1/4" beyond the hoof from the front of toe to halfway around the foot on each side.
- J. Tungsten shoes are illegal (banned) in all divisions.
- K. There will be no welded caulks on shoes worn by a Trail Pleasure, Country Pleasure or Spotted Pleasure horses.
- L. The shoes for all divisions cannot be made from any material heavier than conventional steel.
- M. No pads are allowed.

1. *Exception:* Corrective shoeing with a wedge and artificial hoof material shall be allowed in the show ring when applied to one hoof only, for the purpose of mending a broken hoof or hoof wall.
 2. The mended hoof must match natural hoof and the sole of the hoof must be visible.
- N. No plates to be welded inside or onto the shoe.
- O. No additional weight shall be allowed on or in the hoof, other than the shoe and nails.
- P. The length of the toe shall be measured from the coronary band at the center of the front pastern (along the front of the hoof wall), to the ground.

XIV. Division Descriptions and Rules

A. Open Shod

1. The Open Shod horse must display a true four-beat gait at the show walk and show gait, effortlessly displaying elegance and classic beauty with a balanced head nod. The Open Shod horse should be collected and well balanced. In open shod divisions, the horse should break higher with its front legs in all gaits than other divisions. Horses will be required to back in the lineup.
2. Shoeing: Shoes must not exceed the maximum 1 1/2" wide by 1/2" thick, hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum. Borium is allowed on the caulks and toes of the shoe. The thickness of the shoe, caulk, and borium together must not exceed 1 1/8" thick. A maximum 1 5/8" turnback (measured from the front to the back of the caulk) is allowed. Clips are optional when drawn from the original steel or poured. Proper heel-to-toe ratio must be followed. *(See page 34 for heel/toe measurement)*

B. Lite Shod

1. The Lite Shod Pleasure horse must also display a true four-beat gait at the show walk and show gait, effortlessly displaying elegance and classic beauty with a balanced head nod. The Lite Shod horse should be collected and well balanced. Similar to Open Shod, the Lite Shod horse should break higher with its front legs in all gaits than horses competing in the pleasure divisions. Horses will be required to back in the lineup.

2. Shoeing: Shoes must not exceed the maximum 1" wide by 1/2" thick hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum. Borium is allowed on the caulks and toes of the shoe. The thickness of the shoe, caulk, and borium together must not exceed 1 1/8" thick.

A maximum 1 1/2" turnback (measured from the front to the back of the caulk) is allowed. Clips are optional when drawn from the original steel or poured. Proper heel-to-toe ratio must be followed. *(See page 34 for heel/toe measurement)*

C. Trail Pleasure

1. The Trail Pleasure horse is expected to have a deeper head shake and be slightly more animated than the Country Pleasure horse. The Trail Pleasure horse should not break over 45 degrees from the vertical and should not look like a Lite Shod horse. The Trail Pleasure horse must give the impression of the ultimate trail horse at all times during the class, demonstrating perfect manners and an exceptionally smooth, four-beat gait at the show walk and show gait. Headshake is desirable. Horse nor exhibitor may show any sign of strain. The judge may call for a "whoa" on the rail to test for quietness. Horses must stand quietly on the rail and in the lineup, and back readily. If a horse does not stand quietly either on the rail or in lineup, it shall be penalized.
2. Shoeing: Shoes must not exceed 3/4" wide by 3/8" thick with up to 1/16" variance. The caulk cannot exceed 1 1/2"(measured from the front to the back of the caulk). Proper heel-to-toe ratio must be followed. The toe must not exceed 5". *(See page 34 for heel/toe measurement)*

D. Country Pleasure

1. The Country Pleasure horse should display true pleasure qualities. This horse should also give the impression of the ultimate trail horse at all times during the class, demonstrating perfect manners and an exceptionally smooth, four-beat gait at the show walk and show gait. Headshake is desirable but is not expected to be as deep as that of the Trail Pleasure horse. Front leg animation is expected to be less than that of the Trail Pleasure horse. This horse should represent the horse that gives equal pleasure "on the trail or inside the rail." Horse nor exhibitor may show any sign of strain. A "Trail Walk"

will be called for. The sequence will be the following: show walk, show gait, trail walk, reverse, repeat and then show walk to lineup.

2. Shoeing: Shoe must be a manufactured, “stamped” cast keg shoe on all 4 feet, not to exceed 3/8” by 3/4”. The toe must not exceed 4.5”.

E. Spotted Pleasure

1. The Spotted Pleasure horse should exhibit a smooth, 4-beat gait. Headshake is NOT allowed in this division and must be penalized. The judge may call for a “whoa” on the rail to test for quietness. Horses must stand quietly on the rail and in the lineup, and back readily. If a horse does not stand quietly either on the rail or in lineup, it shall be penalized. A “Trail Walk” will be called for. The sequence will be the following: show walk, show gait, trail walk, reverse, repeat and then show walk to lineup.
2. Shoes must be a manufactured, “stamped,” cast keg shoe on all four feet, not to exceed 3/8” by 3/4”. The toe must not exceed 4.5”.

F. Flat Shod Racking Rules

1. Trail Pleasure Racking

- a. Horses shall enter the ring at a trail rack. The judge will call for a trail walk and trail rack in both directions of the ring. Trail Racking horses should exhibit a true four-beat gait with an effortlessness geared toward stamina and longevity on the trails. Horses must walk and rack on a loose rein and be extremely well mannered, responsive and quiet. Animation and action are not desired in this division. The judge may call for a “whoa” on the rail to test for quietness. Horses must stand quietly on the rail. Horses must stand quietly in the lineup and back readily. If a horse does not stand quietly either on the rail or in lineup, it shall be penalized. Correct western tack is to be used. A cavesson is allowed. The rider may use two hands.
- b. Shoes must not exceed of 3/4” by 3/8”.

2. Country Pleasure Racking

- a. Horses shall enter the ring at a slow rack. The judge will call for a show walk, slow rack and fast rack (country pleasure rack) both ways of the ring. Country pleasure

horses should exhibit a true four-beat gait with slightly more animation than the trail racking horse. Horses shall remain well-mannered and responsive to the rider.

Quality of gait shall not be sacrificed for speed. The judge may call for a “whoa” on the rail to test for quietness. Horses must stand quietly on the rail. Horses must stand quietly in the lineup and back readily. If a horse does not stand quietly either on the rail or in lineup, it shall be penalized. Correct Western tack is to be used. A cavesson is allowed. The rider may use two hands.

- b. Shoes must not exceed of 1 1/2” by 1/2”.

G. General Pleasure Division Rules

1. In all pleasure classes, horses will be asked to “whoa” at least once while performing at a Show Walk or Show Gait at the Judge's discretion. When asked to “whoa”, the horse should stop and stand quietly on a relaxed rein until asked to continue.
2. The pleasure horse must stand quietly and back readily in the line-up or be penalized in the final judging.
3. Entries in the pleasure divisions should exhibit a natural trail gait on a relaxed rein and may be ridden with two hands.
4. Crossover showing among the pleasure divisions is permitted as long as shoeing requirements are met.
5. An exaggerated gait (i.e., breaking to the bottom of the knee or above, excessive reaching and/or pointing in front), twisting, squatting wringing of the hocks, crampy or gimmicky way of going must be excused.
6. Pleasure horses should work on a relaxed rein which is defined as follows: The rider should have contact with the horse's mouth at all times; however, the rider will be penalized if excessive pressure is applied to the horse's mouth.
7. When using split reins, a hand around the reins or index finger between the reins is permitted, but the free hand is not allowed to touch the reins. When using Romal reins, a hand should be around the reins, but a finger between the reins is not permitted.

- a. Romal refers to an extension of braided material attached to closed reins. This extension is allowed to be carried in the free hand with approximately a 16" space between the reining hand and the free hand holding the Romal.
- b. The Romal shall not be used forward of the cinch or used to signal or cue the horse.
8. Advanced Trail Pleasure classes will be required to perform the canter both ways of the ring, back clear of the line-up and perform a 360-degree neck reined turn. All horses must be neck reined. The reins must be held in one hand and the bight shall fall to one side. When split reins are used, the same above-mentioned rules apply.

XV. Rules for Equitation (Western Horsemanship) & Showmanship

A. General Guidelines

1. Only 1 Judge will be allowed to officiate.
2. No exhibitor may compete before a Judge with whom his/her parent, guardian, or instructor has had any financial transaction in connection with the sale, lease, boarding or training of a horse within 90 days prior to the show, unless the sale or purchase was made at public auction.
3. No exhibitor may compete before a Judge by whom he/she had been instructed, coached or tutored, with or without pay, within 90 days prior to the show.
Exception: The conducting of clinics or assistance in group activities, unless individual instruction is given, is not considered to be instructing, coaching or tutoring.
4. No stallions will be allowed regardless of age of exhibitor.
5. If any entry fee is charged, a payback may be given at the Show Committee's discretion, but usually no entry fee is charged and no payback is given in Equitation and Showmanship classes.

B. General Guidelines for Equitation (Western Horsemanship)

1. The exhibitor, as opposed to the horse, is judged on seat and hands, as well as the ability to ride and control the horse properly.
2. Results as shown by the performance of the horse are not to be considered more important than the method used in obtaining them.

3. Judging is based on exhibitor's ability and no consideration shall be given to the horse except for grooming and fitting.
4. A fall of horse and/or exhibitor is cause for immediate disqualification.
5. The use of prohibited equipment and/or attire is cause for immediate disqualification.
6. No exhibitor shall be required to change horses due to difficulty of properly fitting tack.
7. Transmitting devices of any kind are prohibited.

C. Procedure for Judging Equitation (Western Horsemanship)

1. Class shall enter the ring at a Show Walk, in a counter-clockwise direction.
2. Youth 12-17 years old and 18 years and over to be worked at a Show Walk, Show Gait, Show Walk and Canter, unless specified otherwise on the class sheet.
3. Exhibitors must be on the correct lead in the Canter.
However, since the exhibitor is being judged, a wrong lead shall only be considered a minor fault unless it is not corrected immediately. If not corrected immediately, it shall become a major fault.
4. Youth 11 years old and under do not canter.
5. When reversing, horses must turn away from the rail.
6. When lined up, horses are to stand quietly and back readily on command.
7. Exhibitors 12-17 and exhibitors 18 and over may be required to mount and dismount.
8. Exhibitors 11 years of age and under will not be required to mount and dismount.
9. The Judge may deem it necessary to evaluate the exhibitor's ability by having them work individually.
10. Test(s) may be performed either individually or as a group and should be asked for after the entire class has performed both directions of the ring. The following tests are permissible.
 - a. Pick up reins: A quick check on muscular control and sensitivity of hands.
 - b. Backing: Must be required as a check on hands, arms, thighs, knees, lower legs, feet and voice commands.
 - c. Dismount and mount: To be done as quietly and gracefully as possible. To mount, take up reins in left hand and place hand on withers. Grasp stirrup leather with right

- hand and insert left foot in stirrup and mount. To dismount, rider may either step down or slide down.
- d. Group performance around ring: To check on maneuverability, ring generalship, etiquette and sportsmanship.
 - e. Individual performance on rail: Any or all gaits and tests may be required, including change of canter leads. To observe rider in motion from both front and rear at all three spotted horse gaits.
 - f. Ride without stirrups: Any or all gaits may be requested.
 - g. Change canter leads down center of ring: Change leads, stopping at each change.
 - h. Figure eight at canter on correct lead: Full stop required on each change of lead. Pattern to begin at center of two circles so as to work lead change.
 - i. Perform demonstration ride of approximately one minute on own mount. Rider must write down and give to Judge beforehand the patterns that will be demonstrated. To be used for close placing of top riders in class.
11. Equitation is a natural, coordinated and comfortable riding position and should in no way be rigid or exaggerated.
12. A rider should convey the impression of effective and easy control, with the general appearance of being able to ride for a considerable length of time with pleasure.
13. To show a horse well, rider should show self to the best advantage. The Judge shall take ring generalship into consideration. The appearance, presentation and alertness of the rider and his/her mount make the overall picture of utmost importance.
14. Hands: Good hands are paramount. Two hands must be used, as in "plow reining." The hands should be held in an easy position above the saddle horn with palms downward; waist or elbow high, slightly turned toward body, wrist rounded slightly.
- a. The hands should be in unison with the horse's mouth, showing adaptability as well as control. How and where the horse carries his/her head determines the height the hands are held above the horse's withers.

- b. Hands and wrists should be flexible and not held extremely separated (from exhibitor's view, the hands should be in a V shape, close enough for thumbs to touch).
 - c. The fingers should be closed over reins, firm but not rigid. The rider should use pressure between the thumbs and index fingers to secure the ends.
 - d. Closed (or crossed) reins should be used, with both hands on the reins and the bight of the rein should be on the off side.
15. Basic Position: To obtain proper position, rider should sit comfortably in the middle of the saddle and find his/her center of gravity by sitting with a slight bend at the knees, without use of the stirrups.
- a. While in this position, have stirrups adjusted to fit so that they will be under the ball of the foot with even pressure on the entire width of sole and center of stirrup.
 - b. The foot position will be natural and comfortable if the knee and thigh are rolled inward and the heel is slightly lower than the toes.
 - c. From the front or rear view, the lower leg will be held naturally away from the horse, depending on the anatomy of the rider and the size of the horse.
 - d. Knee should rest against the saddle.
16. Position in motion: The position in motion should be natural, coordinated and graceful, attained only with practice. From the side view, a straight line can be drawn perpendicular to the ground through the exhibitor's head, neck, shoulder, hip and ankle.
- a. The exhibitor's toe should never be any more forward than his/her knee, thereby keeping the center of balance directly above the feet and ankles.
 - b. Upper arms should fall naturally from the shoulders toward the hip bones, and should be flexible, never clutched to the body, extended forward or spread away from the body.
 - c. Hands should be in a comfortable waist-level position, depending on how and where the horse carries its head. The use of the hands should be smooth and gradual, without jerking or pumping at any of the gaits.
 - d. There should be no jerks on the reins when parked.

D. General Guidelines for Showmanship (At Halter)

1. Designed to furnish the exhibitor an opportunity to demonstrate the ability to fit and show a conformation horse.
2. Judging shall be based on exhibitor ability and no consideration shall be given to the horse except for grooming and fitting.
3. Horses must be two years old or over.
4. To be judged on their performance of the quarter system.
5. It is mandatory that Show Management post the pattern at least one 1 hour prior to the commencing of the class. All exhibitors will initially execute the posted pattern; however, if the judge chooses to bring back exhibitors for consideration of final placing, the final pattern need not be posted and all exhibitors competing for final placement will execute the same final placement pattern.
6. If exhibitors enter collectively, they are not to be judged on the rail, but should instead be lined up and then worked individually.
7. Exhibitors should only be judged on their individual performance.
8. Whips are not permitted in Western Showmanship.
9. Horses must be shown in a clean leather halter and leather lead.

E. Procedure for Showmanship Classes

1. Enter leading horse at a Show Walk in a counter-clockwise direction until the Judge requests the horses line up for inspection.
2. Walk on horse's left side holding lead strap in right hand near the halter.
3. The remaining portion of the lead strap or reins may be either neatly coiled or doubled and carried safely in the left hand.
4. A tightly coiled or rolled lead shank, or one with fingers inserted or laced through the coils, will be considered a fault.
5. When making a turn, the horse is turned to the right with the exhibitor walking around the horse.
6. Lead the horse at a Show Walk as the Judge directs, with the horse's head and neck carried at a height appropriate to the horse.

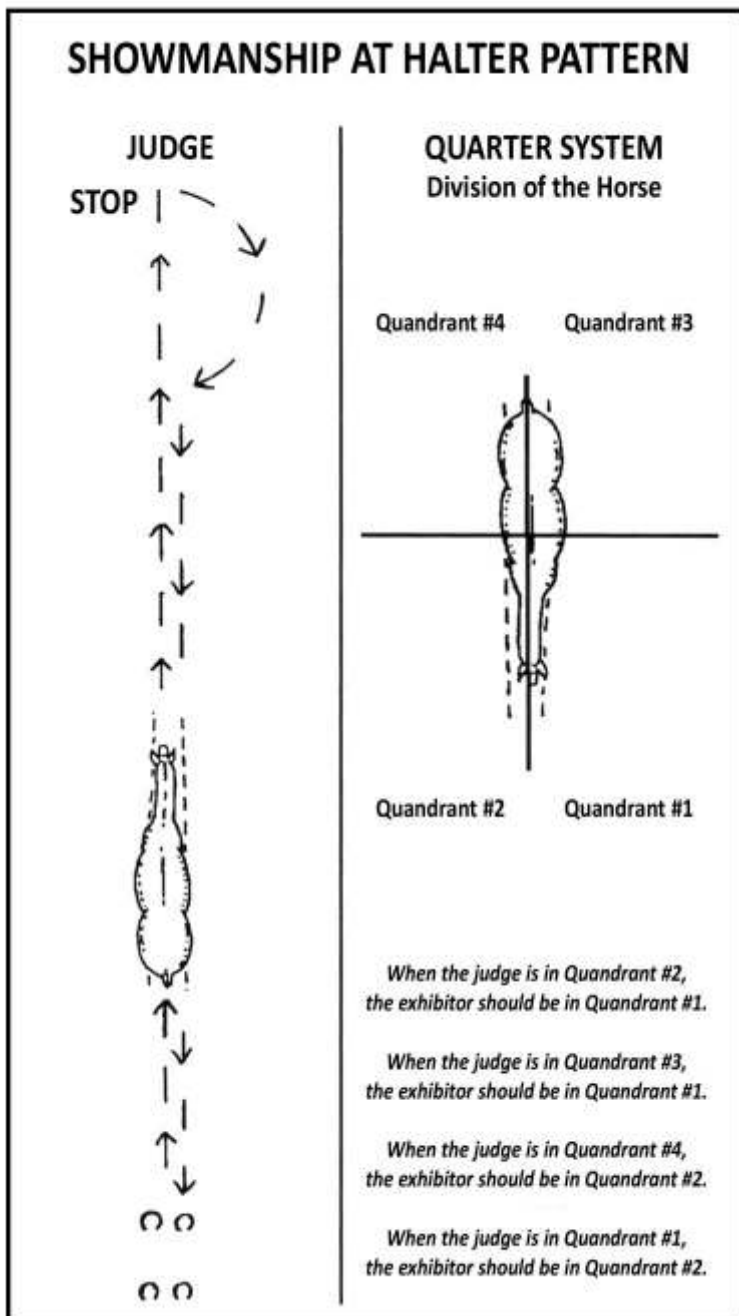
7. When posing the horse, stand in front facing the horse alongside the horse's head in a position that allows control and observation of the horse.
8. Exhibitor's position should not interfere with the Judge's view of the horse.
9. Changing the lead strap/reins from one hand to another is permissible when presenting your horse as the Judge moves about the ring.
10. Pose horse with feet placed squarely.
11. Do not crowd the exhibitor next to you when leading into a side-by-side position. Do not crowd exhibitor in front or behind when lined up head-to-tail.
12. Always leave a horse's length between you and the next horse.
13. When Judge requests that a horse's position in line-up be changed, the horse should be led to a new position without obstructing the Judge's view, utilizing the quarter system.
14. All showing will be done with the lead strap or reins.
15. Never kick horse's feet and legs into position.
16. Proper use of hands or voice is accepted.
17. Horse is not to be touched.
18. When the Judge is observing other horses, let your horse stand if posed reasonably well.
19. Be natural. Over showing, undue fussing and maneuvering are objectionable; however, the exhibitor should not stand motionless like a statue.
20. Show horse to its best advantage: Quickly recognize the conformation faults of your horse and show it to overcome these faults.
21. Keep an eye on your horse and be aware of the position of the Judge at all times.
Respond rapidly to requests from the Judge and Show Officials.

F. Appropriate Appearance of Horses for Showmanship Classes

1. Horses should be thrifty and in good condition.
2. Over-fat or thin, unthrifty horses are not attractive or physically fit and will be tied down in the final judging.
3. Hair coat should be clean, well brushed, glossy and free of stains, loose hairs, dust, dandruff, fly eggs, etc. Hairdressing should be used sparingly. Mane and tail should be clean and free of tangles.

4. Excess hair should be clipped or trimmed from the fetlocks, muzzle, jaws and ears.
5. Clipping must not be used as a substitute for proper grooming. Total clipping will be discounted compared to a horse shown with a natural, well-groomed hair coat. Clipping is a customary practice late in the season; horses are not normally clipped during the summer and early fall.
6. Hoofs should be clean, trimmed and shaped to enable the horse to walk and stand naturally. If shod, shoes must fit and not show undue wear. Clinches should be smooth. Clear hoof polish is encouraged.
7. Tack should be clean, neat, properly adjusted and in good repair.
8. Exhibitor and his/her attire should be neat, clean and well groomed.

9. Pattern:



XVI. Rules for Licensing of Judges

- A. Judges shall be a member in good standing with the SSHBEA, 18 years and older, and hold a current Judges License.

- B. Applicants must secure and complete an application furnished by the SSHBEA, and it should be accompanied by designated fee.
- C. Annual renewals for all Judges are required with the designated fee.
- D. The procedure for becoming a Judge is available from the SSHBEA.
- E. The SSHBEA Board of Directors and the Judges Committee reserve the right to take any and all reasonable measures in determining the qualifications of an applicant. The evidence to be considered by the Board of Directors and the Judges Committee is such evidence as may be obtained and any other facts that may be in the applicant's file.
- F. If any infraction of a Judge is observed by a Judges Committee Member (during their term), the committee member shall place a letter in the party's file outlining the incident.
 - 1. Said letter will be reviewed and considered in the re-issuance of the party's license for the next term.
 - 2. If an infraction is resolved and no other incidents have been reported or observed, the letter will be removed from the judges file in two (2) years.
 - 3. If a review of the decision is requested, the party shall follow procedure.
- G. If the application is approved, the applicant shall be notified and the license issued.
- H. If the application is denied, the applicant shall be notified of the denial and the criteria that he/she failed to meet.
- I. The applicant may, within 15 days after the date of notification letter, request in writing or by telephone, a hearing before the Judges Committee. The Hearing shall be held as soon as it meets the Judges Committee's schedule and a decision shall be rendered immediately after the hearing
- J. The approval or denial of application shall be by seventy-five percent (75%) majority vote of the Board of Directors, after reviewing the recommendation of the Judges Committee.
- K. When a Judge is denied renewal of his/her license, such denial shall be for a period of 1 year. No re-application will be accepted before the expiration of the 1-year term. There shall be no appeal of such action.

XVII. Classification of Judges

- A. Judges shall be licensed in six classifications: Master (M), Regular (R), Equitation/Showmanship (E), Trail (T), Competitive Trail Ride (C), and Apprentice (A).
- B. Requirements for each classification are as follows:
1. To qualify to become a Master Judge (M), a person must have judged three one-night shows or one multi-day show, and be approved by the Judges Committee and the Board of Directors. A Master Judge officiates in all divisions at all shows.
 2. A Regular Judge (R) has completed apprenticeship of at least two shows to the satisfaction of the SSHBEA Board of Directors and the Judges Committee.
 3. An Equitation/Showmanship Judge (E) has provided appropriate records/recommendations to the SSHBEA Judges Committee and the Board of Directors, providing proof of experience, knowledge, ability and skill in this field. An applicant will receive license after proof of qualification has been met to the satisfaction of the Judges Committee and the Board of Directors. This license will enable the Judge to officiate any Equitation and/or Showmanship class.
 4. A Trail Judge (T) has provided appropriate records/recommendations to the SSHBEA Judges Committee and Board of Directors, providing proof of experience, knowledge, ability and skill in this field. Applicant will receive license after proof of qualification has been met to the satisfaction of the Judges Committee and Board of Directors. This license will enable the Judge to officiate any Trail Class.
 5. A Competitive Trail Ride Judge (C) has provided appropriate records/ recommendations to the SSHBEA Judges Committee and Board of Directors, providing proof of experience, knowledge, ability and skill in this field. An applicant will receive license after proof of qualification has been met to the satisfaction of the Judges Committee and Board of Directors. This license will enable the Judge to officiate any Competitive Trail Ride.
 6. An Apprentice Judge (A) wishes to become a Regular Judge but lacks the experience and/or knowledge to qualify. In order to gain such experience or knowledge, such person must serve an apprenticeship under a SSHBEA Master Judge or SSHBEA Regular Judge. An Apprentice Judge may not show in the shows in which he/she is apprenticing.

The Judges Committee will evaluate apprentice cards and make a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

- a. To qualify for a Regular Judge license, the applicant must tie three (3) places in each class out of the five (5) places that the Master Judge ties, at least 75% of the show.
 - b. If an Apprentice does not fall within these criteria, he/she may be asked to apprentice additional shows before being issued a Regular Judge license. If an apprentice never falls within the guidelines, he/she may be permanently refused a license.
- C. Upon request of a Show Committee, the SSHBEA Board of Directors may grant a Guest Judge License to that show only. The Show Committee/sponsoring organization holds itself responsible that the individual hired to officiate is familiar with the SSHBEA rules and is capable to adjudicate as requested.
1. Authority to act as a Guest Judge shall not be granted to any person more than once without the approval of the Judges Committee.
 2. Guest approval shall not be issued to anyone who has been rejected by the Judges Committee.
 3. The SSHBEA Board of Directors may refuse to issue guest approval to any person who has been reported by a breed registry (another association) or Show Committee person for acting in a manner contrary to the rules or prejudicial to the best interests of the SSHBEA. The SSHBEA discourages the use of a Guest Judge.

XVIII. Rules for the Judges Committee

- A. The Committee is composed of a Chairman, Co-Chairman, and five SSHBEA Members to review all Judges' applications and renewals for Judges License. The Committee will make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding approval or denial of licenses.
- B. The Chairman, Co-Chairman, and five members of the Judges Committee must all be SSHBEA members in good standing.

- C. The Chairman of the Judges Committee cannot show during his/her term as Chairman, nor can horses owned by the Judges Committee Chairman be shown during his/her term as Chairman.
- D. No more than two (2) members of the Judges Committee, including the Chairman and Co-Chairman, may hold a judge's license.
- E. Existing Judges' conduct and ability are subject to continual review by the Judges Committee.
- F. The SSHBEA Board of Directors will approve the Chairman of the Judges Committee

XIX. Rules for the Conduct of Judges

- A. Correct attire: (1) Long-sleeved Western shirt (2) Western pants, skirt, or gaucho (3) Western boots (4) Western hat (5) Western tie (6) Western dress coat, or jacket and (7) Rain gear (optional).
 - 1. Western long-sleeved dress may be substituted for (1), (2) and (6).
 - 2. It is strongly recommended that a Judge dress professionally and neatly in order to command respect; however, it is not required for a Judge to wear a jacket prior to 8:00 p.m. except at the Spring and Fall shows where they must wear a jacket after 6:00 p.m.
- B. When officiating at a show, a Judge shall not arrive on the show grounds more than thirty (30) minutes prior to show time.
- C. A Judge, by accepting an invitation to officiate a show, assumes a responsibility to protect the Show Committee by excusing from the ring all horses suspected of being in violation of the HPA and SSHBEA Rules.
- D. A Judge is obligated to adjudicate each class in conformity with the Rules and specifications of that class as they appear in the SSHBEA Rule Book. The Judge is expected to be proficient and to possess a thorough knowledge of the Rules of the SSHBEA.
- E. All Judges licensed by the SSHBEA must conduct themselves in a manner that reflects credit upon the SSHBEA, the horse show, and the Spotted Saddle Horse.
- F. No Judge selected to officiate at a show shall be contacted relative to that show by any person having an interest in any horse expected to be shown at such show. Any contact in

an attempt to influence a Judge, written or verbal, from trainers, exhibitors, etc., must be reported to the Judges Committee. The Judges Committee may make a charge and refer the person to the Hearing Committee for discipline.

- G. A Judge shall not inspect or discuss any horse entered in the show prior to the beginning of the show, unless so requested by the Show Committee.
- H. All contacts made in violation hereof shall be reported immediately to the SSHBEA Judges Committee by said Judge.
- I. It is the responsibility of a Judge to report any violation to the SSHBEA.
- J. Failure of a Judge to attend a show to which he/she is committed, failure to perform his/her duties or failure to officiate in the classes to which he/she is assigned shall constitute cause for disciplinary action, except in cases of extreme emergencies.
- K. After a Judge's license has been issued to any person, and such Judge shall demonstrate lack of competence, skill, integrity, cooperation or the desire to carry himself/herself in a manner as to be worthy of a Judge, the license of such Judge may be suspended or revoked by the SSHBEA Board of Directors or Hearing Committee.
- L. Judges holding a license with SSHBEA who have an indebtedness to a horse show or sale of required fees which are thirty (30) days past due shall be subject to suspension of license for one (1) year and indebtedness record will be filed in Judges file. The Judge may reapply for license the following year.
- M. A Judge suspended by the SSHBEA may not judge any show that he/she had contracted to Judge prior to suspension. However, it is the responsibility of that suspended Judge to obtain from the Show Committee a copy of his/her contract and submit it to SSHBEA.
- N. All Judges are required to attend a yearly Judges clinic to keep abreast of new rules, procedures, etc.
- O. All Judges will be advised by mail of any rule changes. It is the individual judge's responsibility to keep his/her rule book updated.
- P. Violation of any SSHBEA Rule of Conduct may result in penalties ranging from a letter of reprimand to 12 months suspension depending on what the Hearing Committee deems appropriate.

- Q. A SSHBEA licensed judge cannot judge a show at which horses are owned or exhibited by member(s) of his or her immediate family.

XX. Judging Systems

A. Rules for the Majority Opinion Three-Judge System

1. Under the Majority Opinion System (M-O-S), all three Judges carry equal weight in the final class decision and winners are placed by the best two out of three votes.
2. Each horse is judged as if it were working individually and then compared with the performance of all other horses in the class who are judged on the same basis.
3. All Judges place the same number of entries in each class, depending on class size. These are resolved by averaging the opinions of the three Judges.
4. Judges should discuss and plan how to cover the ring and work classes before the show to avoid "cluster judging."

Suggestion: Section the ring into three areas to give each Judge a separate but equal view of the rail with rotation of positions for each class.

5. Judges should vary their judging positions and rotate around the ring.
6. Judges' rotation and Call Judge designation should be noted on the judges' cards prior to each class.
7. No referee is required since all ties are broken by a two-thirds majority vote.
8. Judges must work independently, with no discussion of any kind until the winners are announced.
9. Judges' Cards should indicate how many entries should be placed prior to each class.
10. Three additional ties are recommended for each class
Example: Tie 11 horses in a class in which 8 horses receive awards.
11. The Ringmaster should return an incompletely tied card to the Judge for correction before giving it to the Scorer(s).
12. Any Judge may request a workout in any class by communicating through the Ringmaster.

- a. The Judge making the request must state the numbers of those horses to be called to the workout and for how many places they are to be worked.
 - b. The Ringmaster relates this to the other Judges one at a time.
 - c. The Ringmaster must be sure that all Judges know what horses are working to fill the places.
 - d. The Ringmaster must inform the Announcer of the workout request. Whenever horses are being called for a workout, the Announcer must call for them in numerical order.
 - e. A workout requires agreement by two of the three, or the positions must be filled without a workout.
 - f. If a workout is agreed upon, the Ringmaster must ask the other Judges if they wish to add other horses to those being sent to the rail.
 - g. In order to be included in a workout, an entry must appear on two Judges' lists. If an entry does not receive two votes for the inclusion in the workout, that entry does not return to the rail.
 - h. If no entries receive two workout votes, there is no workout and the class is tied.
13. When three numbers are circled on the same line and their vote counts are identical, it is an extremely rare three-way identical tie. When a three-way identical tie occurs for first place, a workout is optional. If the Judge calls for a workout, the three horses involved shall be sent back to the rail. If a workout is not called for the class, the class will be tied by the Fall of the Cards. If there has already been a workout, the Judges should be notified and given the option of going with the Fall of the Cards or sending the horses back to the rail for additional work. If the tie is still identical after the workout, the class is tied by the Fall of the Cards. When the identical three-way tie is for second place or lower, the class is determined by Fall of the Cards.

14. EXAMPLE OF SCORING JUDGES CARDS:

	A	B	C
(1-2-3)	*101	102	103
(1-2-3)	*102	103	101
(1-2-3)	*103	101	102

15. The number that is positioned first (not the circled line) on the Call Judge’s Card will be first (101). The second (102) and third (103) places are then determined by the Judges’ choices as their Cards are placed in sequence.

16. In the example shown above, if B was the Call Judge, then 102 would be first, C’s choice of 103 would be second, and A’s choice of 101 would be third. If C were the Call Judge, then 103 would be first, 101 would be second, and 102 third.

B. Rules for the Mary Three-Judge System

1. Under the Mary Three-Judge System, the Call Judge is primary in placing the horses, and the Second Judge is secondary. The opinion of the Referee is considered only in so far as it agrees with that of either the Call Judge or Second Judge.
2. If the Call Judge and Second Judge agree on a number, then the number that they have selected is the winner. If they do not agree, the Referee’s Card is referred to, and, of the two numbers, the number highest on the Referee’s Card receives the award. The Card is scored this way until all the required ties are made.
3. In each class where three Judges are used, a Call Judge and a Referee shall be selected by lot by Show Committee. The remaining Judge shall be the Second Judge.
4. The Call Judge shall direct the presentation of horses throughout the class.
5. The Referee shall tie all horses under consideration for final judgment but does not have to walk the line up.
6. In all workouts, two or more of the three judging officials may agree to limit the number of horses each such official may select for the workout and no official may select more than the number agreed upon.

- a. In all workouts in which the maximum number of horses allowed to be selected by any one official is less than the number of places to be tied, the only horses eligible for such workout are those selected by two or more of said officials.
- b. All horses in a workout shall be placed consecutively insofar as the number of places will allow.
- c. When pulling horses in from the rail for additional workouts, the Call Judge, the Second Judge and the Referee shall have equal authority.

C. Rules for the High-Low Olympic Judging System

1. Five Judges working independently of each other will place each class. Judge number one will be the Call Judge
2. Points will be assigned to the placings on a one to ten basis with first place receiving ten points, second place receiving nine points, third place receiving eight points, and so forth on down to one point for tenth place. The highest placing and the lowest placing are eliminated for each entry.
3. The remaining three placings are totaled and the entry receiving the most points wins the class. In case of a tie, then all five places are added. If still tied, then the first or Call Judge's Card shall determine first place.
4. If a horse receives four or less placings, the top score is eliminated.
5. The Ringmaster must inform the Announcer of a workout request. Whenever horses are being called for a workout, the Announcer must call for them in numerical order.
 - a. A workout requires agreement by three of the five judges, or the positions must be filled without a workout.
 - b. If a workout is agreed upon, the Ringmaster must ask the other Judges if they wish to add other horses to those being sent to the rail.
 - c. In order to be included in a workout, an entry must appear on two Judges' lists. If an entry does not receive two votes for the inclusion in the workout, that entry does not return to the rail.
 - d. If no entries receive two workout votes, there is no workout and the class is tied.

XXI. Rules for the High Point System

- A. Exhibitor and owner must be a SSHBEA Member to participate.
- B. Horse must be SSHBEA registered.
- C. Nomination fee must be paid before points will begin to be tabulated
- D. Only SSHBEA affiliated or sanctioned shows count in accumulation of points. At shows with multiple breeds, classes must be designated “SSHBEA Spotted” for points to count.
- E. Accumulation of points begins upon nomination of horse (any time after November 16 for the following year’s awards).
- F. November 30 is designated as the deadline to determine that year’s awards.
- G. High Point Titles: Refer to current SSHBEA High Point Categories on file at SSHBEA Office.
- H. Procedure:
 - 1. Points earned in Youth classes will only be counted in Youth categories.
 - 2. Points earned in Model classes will only count in Model category.
 - 3. Lite Shod classes will only count in Lite Shod category.
Exception: Youth Lite Shod, which will count only in Youth category.
 - 4. Amateur classes will only count in Amateur category.
 - 5. The 14.2 and Under classes will only count in 14.2 and Under category. *Exception: Youth 14.2 and Under, which would count only in the designated Youth category.*
 - 6. Trail Pleasure will only count in Trail Pleasure Category.
 - 7. Youth Equitation will only count in Youth Equitation category.
 - 8. Youth Showmanship will only count in Youth Showmanship category.
- I. Horses may earn points in more than one category (in which nominated); however, points earned in any one class may only count in one category.
Example: Points earned by a two-year-old horse in a Youth 11 and Under class may counted only in the Youth 11 and Under class.
- J. This system always leaves 1 point available per exhibitor who is considered to “have shown” (i.e., until all placings have been called out by the announcer for that class and the announcer dismisses the class)
- K. No points to be awarded if horse leaves ring before announcer dismisses the whole class.

L. Each individual State Club will receive an Adult Award and a Youth Award. Points may be accumulated in designated state only. Horse must be stabled or trained in designated state.

M. Tabulation of Points

1. **Standard Tabulation**

2. Tabulation if number of horses in class is less than places ties: If the number of horses in the class is less than the number of places tied, points earned shall be awarded based on the total number of horses considered to have shown and been judged in the class. First place will receive the same number of points as there are number of horses in the class.

Place	Points
*1	6
*2	5
*3	4
*4	3
*5	2

*1 point earned for participation in class for those who did not place.

Place	Points
*1	11
*2	10
*3	9
*4	8
*5	7
*6	6
*7	5
*8	4
*9	3
*10	2

*1 point earned for participation in class for those who did not place.

XXII. Rules for Height Of Horse Measurement

- A. Stand the animal on a smooth, level surface, in such a position that the front legs are vertical and the backs of the hocks are in a vertical line with the points of the horse's quarters. The head should be held low enough to reveal the highest point of the withers from the ground.
- B. The arm of the Measuring Standard shall be placed over the highest point of the withers and no measurement taken at any other part of the horse's body shall count.
- C. The Standard must be a straight, stiff, unbendable stick and should be provided with a plumb bob or spirit level to make sure the standard is perpendicular from the withers to the ground and that the cross piece is parallel with the ground surface.

XXIII. Rules for Retirement Ceremonies

- A. In the event that a retirement ceremony shall be allowed at the request of the owner of a horse, said horse shall not be permitted to compete at that show.
- B. Any horse officially retired shall be barred for life from further competition, except by special permission of the SSHBEA Board of Directors.
- C. The SSHBEA shall give necessary publicity to official retirement ceremonies.
- D. Any ceremony announcing an exhibitor's retirement from competition is prohibited.

XXIV. Rules for Challenge Trophies

- A. When a challenge trophy is originally placed in competition, it becomes the property of that Show (sponsoring organization), and cannot be withdrawn by the donor.
- B. The conditions under which a challenge trophy may be retired shall not be changed without the consent of the trophy donor or his/her legal representative and of all who have qualified as potential winners of such trophy, except in the event that the conditions stipulated are in conflict with the current rules of the SSHBEA. In such an event, the Show Committee/sponsoring organization shall confer with the SSHBEA as to procedure.

XXV. Rules Regarding the DQP

A. Authority of DQP

1. A DQP has no authority in connection with the management or the judging of a show.
2. A DQP is the representative of a designated HIO and should point out in a diplomatic manner any instance where rules are not followed.
3. A DQP cannot dictate to the Judges or management but must immediately report to the appropriate officials any violations of the rules, which provide that only sound horses are shown.
4. A DQP should be available to judges, exhibitors, and management at all times to investigate any situation where these rules are not upheld.
5. A DQP has the authority and will disqualify from competition or sale any horse found in his/her opinion to be in violation of the HPA or regulations.
6. All horses become subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the DQP when they are brought upon the show grounds.
7. The method and manner of determining the eligibility of horses to show shall be within the sole discretion of the DQP.
8. In shows using both a veterinarian and a DQP, any horse declared ineligible to show by either one shall not be allowed to show.

B. Duties and Responsibilities of the DQP

1. To protect the interest of exhibitors and Show Committee.
2. To report to the Show Committee any misrepresentation or substitution of entry without waiting for a Protest.
3. To report to the Show Committee any offense or violation of the rules and prefer charges against the violator if the violation is not properly handled by the Show Committee.
4. To report to the Hearing Committee any exhibitor/trainer who has failed to comply fully with the provisions of the rules regarding the showing of only sound horses.
5. To appear upon the request of the SSHBEA at any and all Hearings involving the DQP.

6. To be aware of all SSHBEA Rules and the Horse Protection Act and have an updated copy of both available for reference when operating in an official capacity.
7. To provide a measuring device when operating in an official capacity.

XXVI. Rules for Disciplinary Actions

- A. SSHBEA shall discipline its members and any non-members exercising privileges of the Association or engaging in any of the activities of the SSHBEA thereby for violation of these rules. This discipline shall be administered by the Hearing Committee. The Hearing Committee shall act on Complaints, Protests, and Charges.
- B. The Hearing Committee has the authority to issue the following disciplinary actions.
 1. **Censure:** A vote of Censure shall be reported to the Directors at their next meeting and listed under the respondent's name in the SSHBEA's Record of Penalties.
 2. **Suspension:** The person may be suspended from participating in any SSHBEA activities and from any privilege of the SSHBEA, including but not limited to registration, transfer of ownership, membership, holding any office, or doing any business with the SSHBEA. The term of suspension shall be a minimum of 10 days and a maximum of lifetime.
 3. **Fine:** The person may be assessed a fine of not less than \$25 or more than \$5,000. The person shall not be eligible to use any SSHBEA service or function until the fine is fully paid, regardless of other penalties assessed.
- C. **Complaint**
 1. Applicable for Registration Violations Only
 2. A complaint may be filed by any Member of the SSHBEA with the SSHBEA office as follows:
 - a. The complaint must be in writing.
 - b. The complaint must contain a reasonably clear description of the offense and cite the Rule(s) allegedly violated.
 - c. The complaint must be signed by the member.
 - d. The complaint must state the full name and address of the respondent.

- e. The complaint must be accompanied by a deposit of \$25 which will be refunded only if the complaint is sustained.
3. The SSHBEA office shall immediately notify the respondent of the complaint, send him/her a copy, set a hearing date and notify the parties of the date.
4. The hearing shall be conducted within 30 days of the receipt of the complaint.
5. The hearing shall allow each party to fairly and adequately present their case.
6. The decision shall be made on the date of the conclusion of the hearing. The deliberations shall be in private and the parties notified by mail.
7. If the decision is in favor of the respondent, the complaint shall be dismissed. If the decision is in favor of the complainant, the Committee shall take one, more or all of the following actions: censure, suspension, or fine.

D. Protest

1. Protest must be made to a Show Chairman or Show Committee for any violation of these Rules. Forms shall be provided by the SSHBEA for the Show Committee to have available at the show grounds. The completed protest shall include the following:
 - a. A reasonably clear description of the offense and cite the Rule(s) allegedly violated.
 - b. Be signed by the person making the Protest.
 - c. Be addressed to the Show Secretary or Show Chairman of the show at which the alleged violation occurred.
 - d. Be accompanied by a deposit of \$100 to the SSHBEA, which will be refunded only if the Protest is upheld by the Show Committee.
 - e. Be received by the Show Chairman or Show Secretary no later than thirty (30) minutes after show ends.
 - f. State the full name and address of the accused, if possible.

E. Charge

1. A charge must be made to the SSHBEA by the Show Secretary or any other person for any violation of these Rules. It must be accompanied by a fee of \$100 which shall be refunded only if the charge is upheld by the Show Committee of the Protest and Show Committee. The charge must be filed with the SSHBEA as follows:

- a. The charge must be in writing.
- b. The charge must be signed by the person making the charge.
- c. The charge must be addressed to the SSHBEA.
- d. The charge must state the full name and address of the accused, if possible.
- e. The charge must be received by the SSHBEA within twenty (20) days of the alleged offense.
- f. The charge must contain a reasonably clear description of the offense and cite the Rules(s) allegedly violated.

XXVII. Rules for the Hearing Committee

- A. The SSHBEA Board of Directors shall appoint a Committee to handle Protests, Charges, Complaints, and Hearings, hereinafter referred to as the Hearing Committee.
- B. This Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Co-Chairman, and five others plus two alternates. Under the direction of the Chairman, it shall function as a court.
- C. The Hearing Committee shall keep written minutes of its proceedings that shall be presented to the SSHBEA Board of Directors and will be kept on file in the SSHBEA office. A Regional Committee appointed by the SSHBEA may hold a Hearing whenever a Protest or Charge is referred to it, and its findings shall be reported to the Hearing Committee for a final determination and such further action as it may dictate.
- D. Protests shall be heard by the Show Committee to which they are addressed, after reasonable notice to the accused, or be referred to the SSHBEA for Hearing by the Hearing Committee.
- E. Protests or Charges shall be heard by the Hearing Committee no sooner than 10 days and no later than 30 days after receipt by SSHBEA unless written and justifiable circumstances merit a longer time as determined by the Hearing Committee. The accused may waive the notice in writing.
- F. Notice of Hearing shall consist of a copy of the Protest or Charge as filed and a statement of the specific time, date, and place of the Hearing.

- G. Any person who initiates a Protest or Charge must be prepared to substantiate same by personal testimony at the Hearing and/or by sworn statements, witnesses, or other evidence.
- H. Accused persons may be required to attend the hearing and may bring witnesses to testify in his/her behalf.
- I. A Show Committee receiving a Protest shall promptly hold a Hearing and obtain from witnesses, entry blanks, and other sources, all necessary information and evidence. All persons directly concerned shall be given the opportunity to appear. It shall then adjudicate the issue impartially and make known its determination to the SSHBEA. If the Protest is sustained, the deposit must be refunded.
- J. A Show Committee or Show Chairman may disqualify a person at that show for violation of these rules. In all cases, the findings and/or recommendations by a Show Committee shall be reported to the Hearing Committee for determination of the penalty. In the event a Show Committee cannot reach a decision in regard to a Protest against an individual, it must be referred to the SSHBEA Hearing Committee.
- K. Any Charge or Protest against a show must be referred to the Hearing Committee.

XXVIII. Rules for Hearing Procedures for Violations Reported by the

DQP

- A. When a report is filed by the DQP showing a violation, the SSHBEA shall issue suspension notices within ten (10) days of the violation by sending the notice to the violator by certified and regular mail. All suspensions shall begin 20 days from the date of the notification unless the violator has previously consented to having the suspension start at an earlier date. A violator may file an appeal of the suspension notice in writing within twenty (20) days of the date of the service of the notice, the SSHBEA Hearing Committee must make a decision on the appeal promptly, normally within ten (10) days. If the Hearing Committee determines that the appeal is frivolous or is made for the purpose of postponing the suspension, the Hearing Committee may assess further penalties.

- B. If a Hearing is requested within the time period, the respondent must deposit the sum of \$100 with the SSHBEA in order to have a Hearing set. The SSHBEA shall then set a date for the Hearing before the Hearing Committee and shall notify the respondent of the date, time, and place of said Hearing. The matter must be set for Hearing as soon as possible.
- C. The Hearing shall be conducted by the Hearing Committee according to the Rules of the SSHBEA.
- D. Appeals and Re-Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of the SSHBEA (See Section XXIX below.)
- E. Penalties for Violations reported by the DQP: Violations will be assessed at all shows, sales, and exhibitions where there is a licensed DQP.

XXIX. Rules for Appeals and Re-Hearings

- A. Either party to a Protest may appeal the decision of the Show Committee and/or Show Chairman to the Hearing Committee. That appeal shall be heard from the beginning with full authority as to punishment and without consideration of the previous decision.
- B. Appellant shall file written notice of his/her appeal with the SSHBEA within five (5) days of the decision of the Show Committee.
- C. There shall be no appeal of action of the Hearing Committee on Protest or Charge.
- D. A person suspended shall have twenty (20) days from the date the notice is mailed by certified or registered mail by SSHBEA office to appeal.

XXX. Re-Hearing

- A. Either party may file a request for Re-Hearing with the SSHBEA within thirty (30) days of the Hearing Committee's decision.
- B. This request must be based upon evidence which was not known at the time of the Hearing and must be supported by a sworn affidavit setting out the nature of the newly-discovered evidence and the reason(s) that it was not presented at the Hearing, as well as a direct statement that the party did not know of its existence at the Hearing.

- C. The President of the SSHBEA has the authority to grant or deny a Re-Hearing and shall base the decision on (1) whether he/she believes the evidence is newly-discovered and (2) whether evidence, if presented, would likely affect the decision.
- D. If granted, the Hearing Committee shall conduct the Re-Hearing on the record of the initial Hearing plus the new evidence and any opposing evidence to the new evidence.
- E. The Penalty imposed on the initial Hearing is suspended when Re-Hearing is granted. The Hearing Committee, after Re-Hearing may impose more, but not less penalty, if it sustains the initial hearing's decision.

XXXI. Matter Not Subject to Protest

- A. The soundness of a horse, when determined by an official veterinarian, DQP or judge, is not subject to protest.
- B. A judge's decision, representing an individual preference, is not subject to protest unless it is alleged to be in violation of the rules.

XXXII. Affected Individuals, Firms, Corporations or Partners

- A. The provisions of these Rules shall apply to all owners, exhibitors, agents, trainers, managers, riders, handlers, show officials, show employees, members of the families or employees of the above, participating either individually, or as a member of an entity.
- B. In classes where trainers can show, the exhibitor of the horse, if a trainer, shall be responsible for the condition of the horse, and shall be considered to be the responsible person.
- C. Any person, firm, corporation, partnership, or other entity granted any right, privilege, authorization, or license, or accepting any benefit from the SSHBEA, shall be deemed to contractually agree to fully cooperate with all duly appointed committees, agents, and employees in enforcement of all Rules, regulations, and the SSHBEA.
- D. Any person, firm, corporation, partnership, or other entity granted any right, privilege, authorization, or license, or accepting, receiving, or exercising same, may be required to give evidence or testimony in any investigation, hearing, trial, or other proceeding held by

duly appointed representatives of the SSHBEA in connection with investigation of possible violation and enforcement of these Rules.

- E. Any violation and penalties of these rules shall apply equally to all horse shows, sales and exhibitors affiliated with the SSHBEA.

XXXIII. Violations

- A. Failing to present a horse to the DQP for inspection before showing or exhibiting.
- B. Failing to present for re-inspection immediately following the class, all first-place winners or any other horse requested by Show Committee, the DQP or USDA.
- C. Being in possession (riding, leading, standing) of a horse wearing action devices.
- D. Penalization by another Horse Industry Organization, or Court of Law for violation of SSHBEA Rules.
- E. Acting or enticing or permitting any other to act in a manner contrary to the Rules of the SSHBEA, or in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, unsportsmanlike, or intemperate, or prejudicial to the best interest of the SSHBEA.
- F. Committing any act or making any remark considered offensive and/or having been made with intent to influence or cast aspersions on the judging.
- G. Failing, as a Judge or DQP, to perform duties at a show in accordance with the Rules.
- H. Failing, as an exhibitor or his/her representative, to sign the entry blank of a show in which he/she competes.
- I. Physically assaulting a person and/or treating a horse cruelly.
- J. Failing to obey any penalty imposed by the SSHBEA.
- K. Influencing or attempting to influence by any means or manner any DQP in determining the eligibility of any horse entering any class at any affiliated show.
- L. Influencing or attempting to influence by any means or manner any Judge in determining which horses shall win in any class at any affiliated show.
- M. Failure to pay any debt(s) to the SSHBEA 30 days from billing date.
- N. WEAPONS: Carrying or possessing, on the premises, show grounds (which includes but is not limited to the entire area, including out buildings, warm up areas, exercise areas and

parking lots), office, or other meeting place of any SSHBEA activity, whether openly or concealed, with the intent to go armed, or inflict injury, any weapon capable of, or adapted for, the infliction of serious bodily injury or death by either shooting, hitting, cutting, swinging, or stabbing. Weapon shall include, but not be limited to, any firearm (handgun, pistol, rifle or shotgun) explosive, explosive weapon (which includes explosive incendiary, poisonous gas or irritating gas or agent), bowie knife, hawk bill knife, ice pick, dagger, leaded cane, switch-blade knife, blackjack, knuckles, or any other instrument of like kind.

- O. Any exhibitor for violations of such things as refusing a ribbon at any SSHBEA Affiliated/Sanctioned Show may be suspended for 30 days.
- P. Responsible parties may receive a suspension of no more than (1) year for the following violations:
1. Refusal to provide the necessary information to DQP.
 2. Failure to have a horse re-inspected after notification by Show Chairman, DQP, or USDA.
 3. Verbal abuse to anyone representing Show Management, DQP, DQP Program Director, Employees or Director, and/or USDA while functioning in any official capacity at, or pertaining to, any horse show, sale, etc.
 4. Physical abuse to anyone representing Show Management, DQP, DQP Program Director, Employees or Directors, or USDA while functioning in any official capacity at, or pertaining to, any horse show, sale, etc. This will require a mandatory appearance before Hearing Committee. SSHBEA Board Members, Committee Members, and employees will be subject to the same disciplinary action as all other members who violate this rule.
 5. Providing false information of any nature to any show official or DQP will require mandatory appearance before Committee.
 6. Any report filed by Show Committee, or any Judge(s), showing that a horse was excused or dismissed from the ring for violation for which weeks are assigned as provided herein, will be penalized in the same manner as violations reported by DQP.

XXXIV. Penalties and Suspensions

A. The SSHBEA shall have final jurisdiction in all matters pertaining to restrictions levied for any violation of the Rules, or any prejudicial act, and may order suspensions and penalties including but not limited to the following:

B. General Guidelines for Penalties

1. Any person found guilty of a violation of the SSHBEA Rules may be subject to suspension for any period from showing or having others show, exhibit or train for them. Suspension shall be assessed to the trainer, owner and exhibitor.
2. A suspended person is forbidden for the time specified in the sentence to:
 - a. hold or exercise office in the SSHBEA or any Affiliated Show
 - b. may be excluded from all show grounds during Affiliated Shows
 - c. may be excluded from participating in any SSHBEA activity including voting and attending the annual meeting.
3. Any person suspended by the USDA is automatically suspended by the SSHBEA for the period of the USDA suspension. The SSHBEA may levy any other such penalty against the person as deemed appropriate.
4. Any volunteer or any employed person who assists, rides, exhibits, or grooms for the benefit, credit, reputation or satisfaction of the person disciplined may be suspended for any period.
5. Any Judge or Show Official may be suspended from his/her official duties.
6. Any Elected Officer or Board of Director while serving a suspension issued by the SSHBEA is also suspended from his/her duties as an Officer or Director for the same period of time.
7. Any person who violates the "WEAPONS" rule previously mentioned shall be suspended from Membership in SSHBEA for the remainder of his/her natural life, and will also be prohibited from participating in any SSHBEA show, meeting, function, or any other activity for a like period.
8. Penalties Resulting in Immediate Disqualifications and/or Return of Premiums include but are not limited to:

- a. Misrepresentation of a horse's identity, name, height, age, eligibility for the class, registered or recorded name, registration number, owner of record, and other information on any entry blank, or substitution in the show ring of an entry other than the one named for the class in question which shall result in the exhibitor's forfeiture of any ribbon, trophy, cash prize and other award won by such misrepresented or substituted animal, and shall render the exhibitor liable for further penalty.
- b. Voluntarily removing a horse from the ring without the permission of a Judge. The exhibitor and all animals under his/her care and training may be disqualified from all future classes at that show by the Show Committee and caused to forfeit all prizes and entry fees for the entire show.

C. General Guidelines for Suspensions

1. Any person who desires their suspension to commence before the twenty (20) day period allowed for requesting a Hearing shall file a written statement with the Committee stating that he/she is guilty as charged and requesting the suspension begin immediately. In this event, the applicable suspension days will begin running on the post- marked date of the letter to SSHBEA.
2. Any person who desires his/her suspension to commence immediately may sign the back of his/her DQP ticket. This is an admission of guilt.

D. Additional Penalties Which May Be Levied

1. Any person found guilty of a violation of the SSHBEA Rules may be subject to the following:
 - a. **Expulsion** from all affiliated shows, sales or exhibitions, as well as expulsion from registering or transferring horses.
 - b. **Forfeiture** of awards, trophies, ribbons and prize money won in connection with the offense committed.
 - c. **Revocation** of a Judge's, DQP's or Inspector's license.
 - d. **Fine** of not less than \$25 nor more than \$5,000.

- e. **Probation** for any period of time up to one (1) year from the date of decision or, if Suspension is levied, from the date the Suspension is terminated. Probation shall be a time during which the conduct of the person is scrutinized carefully by the SSHBEA and should violation be filed against said person he/she is automatically suspended from all rights and privileges until the Hearing, without action of the Hearing Committee.

E. Restrictions, Notification, Reciprocity

- 1. Suspension must be taken during the SSHBEA show season.
- 2. A person suspended by USDA cannot present a horse for inspection or warm the horse up on the show grounds.
- 3. The SSHBEA office staff shall notify the sponsoring organization of every Affiliated Show of persons on suspension. The SSHBEA may report disciplinary action taken to another horse association/breed registry if in their opinion some course is advisable for the protection of mutual interest.

XXXV. Record & Publication of Board of Directors & Hearing

Committee Actions

Action taken by the Board of Directors and the Hearing Committee with regard to administrative and operational matters shall be recorded in the minutes of the SSHBEA. This action shall be OPERATIONAL ACTION.

XXXVI. Duties of Show/Sale Committee and Show/Sale Officials

- A. The sponsoring organization of a show/sale, or the governing body in charge, shall be responsible for the operation of the show/sale.
- B. They may act as a Show/Sale Committee or may appoint a Show/Sale Committee of at least three responsible people consisting of a Show/Sale Chairman, Co- Chairman, and Secretary, who must be available at all times during the show/sale to act in an executive capacity. They shall be known collectively as the Show/Sale Committee. It shall be the duty of the Show/Sale Committee:

1. To abide by all decisions made by a Judge or a DQP.
2. To employ/obtain a qualified DQP.
3. To ensure that no Show Chairman or DQP serves as a Judge or DQP at his/her show.
4. To ensure that no Sale Chairman serves as a DQP at his/her own sale.
5. To provide all necessary physical facilities to accommodate the show/sale, including an area set aside for the inspection of horses by DQPs.
6. To provide the necessary personnel if requested for the DQP to carry out his/her duties.
7. To employ/obtain a Judge licensed by the SSHBEA. (The SSHBEA office will furnish a list of licensed SSHBEA Judges to organizations requesting affiliation.)
8. To exercise great care in selecting a substitute Judge for one who was officially designated in the prize list and/or program but is unable to serve because of circumstances beyond his/her control.
9. To obtain, if necessary, the Guest Card(s) for the Judge(s).
10. To post in a conspicuous place during the show, the Judge's Cards, or copies thereof, at those shows which employ a multi-Judge system.
11. To take steps to ensure the personal safety of all Show/Sale Officials representing the SSHBEA.
12. To enforce all the rules of the SSHBEA from the time entries are admitted to the show grounds until their departure.
13. To eliminate, without waiting for a protest to be made, any entry of horse or exhibitor that is known to be ineligible.
14. To disqualify any exhibitor and/or his/her entries if there is just cause and to rule that he/she forfeit his/her winnings and ribbons at that show, and, if necessary, to have the horses of such exhibitor removed from the grounds without being held liable for damage. Such actions must be reported to the SSHBEA
15. To receive and act upon Protests and Charges in accordance with the Rules, and to report whatever action is taken to the SSHBEA
16. To re-tie a class, in case of a Protest, following resolution of a protest

17. To, while using discretion, disqualify a person from further participation at that show only who has committed an offense or violation described in the Rules. Any such offense shall be reported to the SSHBEA for whatever further action is deemed necessary
 18. To take reasonable steps to ensure that all entries in classes where measurements are required are in compliance with the rules
 19. To resolve any protest regarding measurements (This is mandatory. Conduct measurements immediately, to the end that there be no change by reshoeing. Make a final decision(s), which shall not be reviewable by the SSHBEA.)
 20. To strictly enforce USDA regulations and cooperate in any way requested with the USDA.
 21. To pay premiums and other indebtedness of the show/sale.
 22. To fulfill the obligations of affiliation/sanctioned shows, & sales as set forth in the rules.
 23. To keep exhibitors and trainers informed of all changes in the class sheet/program.
 24. To split classes in when entry numbers warrant.
- C. No Show Chairman, nor any member of his/her immediate family, shall compete in a show at which they are participating in an official capacity, nor shall any horse owned by any of the above be exhibited or shown at this show
- D. SSHBEA recommends the following personnel be employed/ obtained to ensure a successful show: Ring Clerks; Farrier (Optional); Law Enforcement Personnel; Announcer; First Aid Personnel; Ringmaster; Organist; and Gate Attendants
- E. Show Officials may reserve the right to refuse the entry of an exhibitor who has demonstrated unsportsmanlike behavior at a show or has conducted himself/herself in a manner which brings discredit to the show, its management, officials or employees.
1. This is provided the exhibitor so excluded shall have the right to be heard on the issue by the Show Committee before the refusal of entry is made. (This is in addition to entries of persons on suspension or barred by the SSHBEA.)
 2. The decision of the Show Committee shall be reviewed by the SSHBEA Board and its decision shall be final.

XXXVII. Duties of Show/Sale Secretary

- A. The Secretary shall apply annually to the SSHBEA for dates for the show/sale. In case of a conflict, the SSHBEA shall arbitrate and make a decision.
- B. To allow time for affiliation approval, application should be made not less than 15 days prior to desired date.
- C. The SSHBEA may withhold assignment of a date for an affiliated show/sale if the show/sale has indebtedness recognized by the SSHBEA.
- D. The Secretary must furnish a copy of the class sheet/program to the SSHBEA immediately upon publication. (It is suggested that extra copies be forwarded to the SSHBEA due to many inquiries received for copies of prize lists, etc.)
- E. Copies also must be forwarded to the DQP and/or the Judge(s). (It is a good idea to forward copies to any Show Officials (in order to confirm dates, etc.)
- F. The Secretary of each affiliated show/sale shall have a copy of the current SSHBEA Rule Book available for reference at all times during the show/sale.
- G. The Secretary shall provide a back number/sale tag for each entry, which shall be worn on the exhibitor's back/horse's hip. The number must always stay with the horse. Back numbers must be legible and of an appropriate size that should be clearly visible to the Judge at all times when exhibitor is in competition.
- H. The Secretary shall provide appropriate identification badges for Judges and DQPs. (These will be provided by the SSHBEA office upon request).
- I. The Secretary shall furnish the Judge in each class a Card corresponding exactly with the specifications as shown on the class sheet/prize list, or amended if in conflict with the Rule Book. (The SSHBEA office upon request will provide Cards).
- J. The Secretary should furnish the DQP before and during the show/sale: Class/sale sheets on each class/sale to be inspected and a copy of prize list and/or program.
- K. The Secretary shall be responsible for all matters in connection with entries
- L. The Secretary shall insure that no entry shall compete (at a show) until or unless said exhibitor or his/her representative has signed an entry form.

- M. The Secretary must forward to the SSHBEA class entry/sale information postmarked within fifteen (15) days after the show/sale, indicating the winners, post or other added entries, scratches and corrections in all classes, or if a sale, all entries.
- N. The Secretary must also forward to the SSHBEA a list of Show Officials who officiated the show/sale.
- O. The Secretary shall notify the SSHBEA of any retirement ceremony held at his/her show.
- P. The Secretary shall, at the earliest possible moment, notify interested exhibitors if a class does not fill and is canceled.
- Q. The Secretary shall report in writing to the SSHBEA any act on the part of any person deemed prejudicial to the best interests of the SSHBEA. Matters to be reported include removal by an Exhibitor of his/her horses from the show/sale grounds, and withdrawal from the show/sale after it has commenced, without permission.

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