



REVISED
RULES AND REGULATIONS
of
WEST ALABAMA HORSEMAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

I. ORGANIZATION

- 1) This organization shall be called the WEST ALABAMA HORSEMAN ASSOCIATION, INC. also known as and hereinafter referred to as WAHA.
- 2) Election of officers: The President shall be elected in September each year and shall take over the office at that time to represent WAHA at the State meeting held in October. The Vice-President, Secretary, Point Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected and installed at the January/February meeting, the first meeting of the new year.
- 3) The West Alabama Horseman Association, Inc. will be governed by the following officers:
 - a) PRESIDENT – The President shall be elected from the WAHA Directors and shall serve in office for a term of one year. The President will vote only in the event of a tie. At the end of his/her term as President, he/she will return the following year as an honorary Director of WAHA so that the Association may benefit from his/her experience. The President's scope of authority shall be (1) to call meetings of WAHA and conduct same to discuss and vote upon WAHA business; (2) to oversee the proper management of all approved horse shows conducted by member clubs; (3) to make any and all decisions not requiring a membership vote or approval by the WAHA Directors; (4) to call emergency meetings at approved shows if and when a protest or reason should arise; (5) to represent WAHA as State Show Representative at the Alabama Open Horseman Association Meetings.
 - b) VICE-PRESIDENT – The Vice-President shall be elected from among the active WAHA Directors and shall serve in office for a one-year term. The Vice-President shall aid and advise the President in the completion of his/her duties and serve as acting President where it is impossible or impractical for the President to do so. In the event the President is not able to complete his/her term, the Vice-President shall assume the office of President and a new Vice-President shall be elected from the WAHA Directors.

- c) SECRETARY – The Secretary shall be elected from among the WAHA Directors and shall serve a one-year term. The Secretary's duties will include: (1) to record all WAHA meetings and report minutes of the same; (2) to aid the other officers in Association correspondence and events.
 - d) POINT SECRETARY – The Point Secretary shall be elected from among the WAHA Directors and serve a one-year term. The Point Secretary shall record with accuracy all points accumulated by each member of the Association. Additionally, the Point Secretary will check that each Association member is qualified to show in each of the classes they sign up for at the AOHA State Show.
 - e) ASSISTANT POINT SECRETARY – Double check points for accuracy, most importantly for determining year end awards, and to assist Point Secretary when requested to do so by the Point Secretary.
 - f) TREASURER – The Treasurer shall be elected from among the WAHA Directors and shall serve for a one-year term. The Treasurer's duties shall be (1) to record and keep current records of all sources of income and expenditures and to report same and to report on the net financial position of the Association at every WAHA meeting; (2) to verify the accuracy of any monies given to him/her for deposit; (3) to verify the accuracy and amount of any bill or invoice given to him/her for payment; (4) to allow complete examination of all records by any officer or director at anytime.
- 4) Impeachment proceedings must be commenced by a motion of one of the WAHA Directors. The matter is then taken before the WAHA Directors to be handled and decided upon on whether or not to take a vote. It is mandatory the ALL Directors or APPROVED Alternates be present before a vote can be taken, and impeachment can only be done by a MAJORITY VOTE.
 - 5) Annual dues of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each club shall be paid to the Association at the October meeting. Also at the October meeting, the annual AOHA dues shall be equally divided by the number of clubs (new and old). The amount due shall then be paid directly to the WAHA treasury. [Note: New club's initiation fees already cover their first year share of the AOHA dues.] AOHA dues must be paid at the October meeting each year, and are considered late in November of each year. All dues from any club must be paid in full before that club can draw for show dates.
 - 6) The application of any non-charter club wishing to join WAHA shall be voted on at any regular WAHA meeting. Upon acceptance by a simple majority vote, said club shall deposit a non-refundable one hundred dollars (\$100.00) initiation fee which shall cover the first year's dues and a share of AOHA dues and all late fees.
 - 7) Each club shall elect 2 Association Directors. The Directors are eligible to have 2 votes at WAHA meetings. The voting Directors and their alternates are elected by their respective clubs as each club see fit. Directors and Alternates shall serve minimum one-year terms. Except for designated alternates, no proxy or absentee voting shall be allowed. Whichever club the president is elected from shall be allowed to elect another Director so that the club will still have 2 votes at WAHA meetings.

- 8) WAHA Directors attending AOHA meetings will be reimbursed for gas, expenses and overnight lodging (when necessary) from WAHA's treasury. Anticipated overnight expenses must be approved by the Directors in advance of departure for the AOHA meeting. Receipts shall be presented to the Treasurer for reimbursement.

II. SHOW SCHEDULING

- 9) Each year, at the September meeting, WAHA sanctioned point shows will be scheduled by a drawing for dates. Point shows may be added to the calendar after this date only by a majority vote.
- 10) Each club in the Association must put on at least one horse show each WAHA show season. However, a club has the option to choose to have two shows during the year.
- 11) WAHA itself will hold shows during the regular show season. The number of shows and the location of these shows will be voted on by WAHA Directors. All proceeds from these shows will be used to fund year-end high point awards. Each club will work a designated portion of such shows.
- 12) WAHA clubs shall not hold shows or lease their arenas for horse shows on dates already set aside by the Association for WAHA point shows unless approved by the WAHA Directors. The clubs can have horse activities and lease their arenas for horse activities if the activity is over two hours before the start of said WAHA show.
- 13) In the event of inclement weather during a show, the responsibility for discontinuing the show will rest with the club concerned. If the show is rescheduled, classes will pick up where left off.
- 14) In the event a show is called-off because of weather, no gate money will be refunded. Entry fees will be refunded the day of the show only.
- 15) When a show is rained out, the affected club should reschedule its show for the first available open date subject to approval by the WAHA Directors.
- 16) An entry fee will be refunded only up to, but not including, the time of the performance of the class immediately prior to the exhibitor's paid class. In the case of the show management's refusal to allow entry into a class or in the case of evident sickness or injury to a horse, as determined by the show management, entry fees will be refunded anytime during the show.

III. SHOW POINTS

- 17) No points will be counted to any exhibitor until he/she is a paid member of an association club and his/her name has been registered with the WAHA Point Secretary. It is the responsibility of each club secretary to keep the association point secretary up to date on its membership.
- 18) WAHA points shall be awarded on a one-horse-one-rider combination for each individual class award.

- 19) In order to be eligible to qualify for the State Show, an exhibitor and horse must show in his/her classes in at least eight (8) of the approved scheduled Association shows through August 31st of each year.
- 20) High point awards for approved classes will be awarded by WAHA to the exhibitor and horse with the most points in that class at the end of the WAHA Show Season, on or about August 31st of each year. To earn these awards, the exhibitor and horse must show in eight (8) WAHA approved shows. In case of a tie, the award will be awarded to the exhibitor and horse that have shown in the most shows. Then if an additional tie occurs the number of first places will be the tiebreaker. Any further ties will be broken by vote of the WAHA Directors.
- 21) All point tallies begin September 1st, or the first weekend after the AOHA State Show. AOHA qualifying point tallies end August 20th. WAHA high point tallies end with the last approved show on or about August 31st. In order to be judged, each exhibitor must show his/her horse on the rail in some manner. If exhibitor pulls his/her horse to the center of the ring, he/she will only be awarded one point for participation. If an exhibitor is disqualified for any reason in a class, one point will be awarded to the exhibitor for that class. Points will be awarded as follows:

- 5 points for 1st place
- 4 points for 2nd place
- 3 points for 3rd place
- 2 points for 4th place
- 1 point for 5th place
- 1 point for exhibiting in the class

Example:

Exhibitor places 1st in his/her class he/she will be awarded 5 points for placing 1st and 1 point for exhibiting in the class. His/her points earned for this placing will be 6 points.

- 22) After each WAHA sanctioned show, the club secretary will mail the entry forms and class results, according to postmark, no later than seven days after the show to the Association Point Secretary; or, if the Association Point Secretary is present at a show, the club secretary may give the entry forms and class results to him/her at that time. The entry forms must be marked. No one is to separate entry forms except show management and any changes made to entry forms shall be initialed by show management.
- 23) The entry form must be completed in full to ensure that points are properly awarded. Failure to complete the form may result in the loss of points for the class entered. No record of points will be kept on non-members.

IV. JUDGES

- 24) Judges must be approved by the WAHA Directors.
- 25) No Judge shall officiate at more than one WAHA show each year unless approved by the WAHA Directors.
- 26) No WAHA member shall judge within the Association. However, if the Judge is 30 minutes late or does not show up, the club may select a Judge from within the Association.

- 27) No one is allowed to talk to the Judge during the show unless spoken to by the Judge. WAHA President and each Club President are exempt from this rule. If a meeting with the Judge is necessary, a ring steward or WAHA officer must be present with the person after they have finished showing for the night.

V. GENERAL SHOW RULES

- 28) A current one year negative Coggins test on each horse is required for entry onto the show grounds at all WAHA shows. Any club in violation of this rule will be fined one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- 29) No Alcoholic beverages will be allowed on show grounds during Association Shows.
- 30) The age of an individual on January 1st of a show year shall be considered that person's age throughout the year [for example: a child who is 12 years of age on January 1st, but celebrates his/her 13 birthday July 4th, will be considered a 12-year old for the entire season].
- 31) If any show participant is disorderly, or verbally or physically abusive to the Judge or to any other person, the President of the Club sponsoring the show shall call a meeting of the WAHA Directors, immediately, to discuss and determine whether or not the offending party is any longer an acceptable exhibitor within the Association. At the time of the incident, the ringmaster has the authority to eject said person from the ring. If a member club does not want to act in the best interest of the Association, the directors can, by a 2/3 majority vote place said club on suspension for a period of one year from the date of suspension. Any members in good standing of said club may join another club in the Association with the approval of WAHA directors.
- 32) If a person is in violation of Rule # 31, that person will not be allowed to join any WAHA Club for one year. Renewal of membership after expulsion for violation of Rule #31 must be requested through the WAHA Directors prior to joining any WAHA club.
- 33) Anyone wishing to lodge any sort of formal protest shall deposit twenty five dollars (\$25.00) with the appropriate official [Club officer, WAHA Director] before the end of the show. The person lodging the protest shall forfeit the deposit if the protest fails to be upheld by the WAHA Directors present at the time the protest is made.
- 34) Any individual who writes a bad check must pay, in cash, the amount of the check written and any bank fees associated with the bad check to the club in which it is due. Also, the individual will not be allowed to show until the debt is paid. President who holds the show is to first tell the President of the club the member is in to resolve the issue. If the issue is still not resolved the name of the individual will be distributed to other club Presidents so they will not accept a check from the person.
- 35) American Quarter Horse Association Rules and Racking Horse Breeders' Association Rules shall apply where applicable, except where otherwise specified. Special exceptions to AQHA and The Racking Horse Breeder's Association Rules can only be made by WAHA Directors on hand at the show.

- 36) The show sheet must include, but is not limited to, ALL classes set up at the beginning of the year as WAHA High-Point Classes.
- 37) Once the show programs are published, no changes may be made except to correct any typographical errors. Any addition of classes must be made to the end of the program.
- 38) Entry fees are five dollars (\$5.00) per WAHA Point Classes at all WAHA sanctioned shows.
- 39) Admission gate fees are two dollars (\$2.00) per person. Children age 6 years and under will be admitted free of charge at all WAHA sanctioned shows.
- 40) Ribbons will be given to designated 17 Years and Under classes at the WAHA Association Shows. Ribbons will be given at club horse shows at the club's discretion.
- 41) In classes other than timed events, no horse will be allowed to enter the arena after the arena gate has been closed and judging of the class begins.
- 42) Exhibitors 17 years and under will not be allowed to show a stallion.
- 43) In all classes, exhibitors will wear appropriate attire suited for that class. Failure to have the appropriate attire, including a back number, will result in disqualification. Exception to the attire rule being timed event classes as per AOHA rules.
- 44) Any pleasure class with 16 or more entries shall be split. No more than 15 horses may compete in the arena at one time.
- 45) A rider will be given a two-minute gate call to get his horse into the arena with the exception of a tack change that has been notified to the ringmaster prior to the class.
- 46) There will not be any hardship clause under any circumstances.
- 47) If the horse is lame it should be lead into the arena and the exhibitor should approach the ringmaster and ask to be excused in order to receive one point for exhibiting in the class. Otherwise, a lame horse is to be disqualified.
- 48) A horse should only be lead in if the horse and rider combination is hurt and cannot show. Once a horse and rider combination leads in a class you will lead the horse into the remainder of the classes it is entered in the rest of the night. Leading your horse into a class will result in one point being awarded for exhibiting in that class.
- 49) Any Club member or exhibitor failing to work at your work assignment at any WAHA point show will result in loss of points for that show and loss of state eligibility.

- 50) Based on the financial status of the Association, changes may be made to the following year end awards by vote of the WAHA Officers and Directors:
- 9" X 12" Plaque for Class High-Point Winners
 - 8" X 10" Plaque for Class Reserve High-Point Winners
 - Class High-Point and Reserve Winners may choose to receive cash awards in lieu of plaques. This choice will be for all cash or all plaques, not a combination thereof.
 - 6 Division Buckles (Halter, Pony, Gaited, Timed, Western, English)
 - 1 All-Around Buckle (All points accumulated on a one horse/one rider combination)
 - Participation Awards for children 12 years and under
- 51) In reference to Rule # 50, the following are the WAHA approved point classes by division:

Halter Division	Western Division
Weanling Halter (Horses Only)	Walk-Trot - Open - Western (Horses Only)
One Year & under Western Halter (Horses Only)	Walk-Trot - 12 & under (Horses Only) **
Two Year & under Western Halter (Horses Only)	Walk-Trot - 13-17 (Horses Only) **
Three Year & over Western Halter (Horses Only)	Youth Western Pleasure - 17 & under (Horses Only)
Stallions Western Halter (Horses Only)	Ladies Western Pleasure - 18 & over (Horses Only)
Geldings Western Halter (Horses Only)	Men's Western Pleasure - 18 & over (Horses Only)
Mares/Fillies Western Halter (Horses Only)	Two Year Old Snaffle Bit (Horses Only)
Youth Halter - 17 & under (Horses Only)	Jr. Horse Western Pleasure (Horse 5 yr & under) (Horses Only)
Gaited Halter (Horses Only)	Sr. Horse Western Pleasure (Horse 6 yr & over) (Horses Only)
Showmanship at Halter - 17 & under	Color Horse Western Pleasure (Horses Only)
	Western Pleasure - Open (Horses Only)
Gaited Division	English Division
Youth Western Gaited Flat Shod - 17 & under (Horses Only)	Walk-Trot - 12 & under (Horses Only) **
Youth Racking - 17 & under (Horses Only)	Walk-Trot - 13-17 (Horses Only) **
Western Gaited Flat Shod - 18 & over (Horses Only)	English Walk-Trot - Open (Horses Only)
Racking Flat Shod - Open (Horses Only)	Youth English Pleasure - 17 & under (Horses Only)
Ladies Racking - 18 & over (Horses Only)	Sr. English Pleasure - 18 & over (Horses Only)
Men's Racking (Horses Only)	Huntseat Pleasure (Horses Only)
Style Racking (Horses Only)	
Racking - Open (Horses Only)	Timed Division
Speed Racking - Open (Horses Only)	Youth Barrels - 12 & under - (Horses Only)
Trail Pleasure Racking - Keg Shod (Horses Only)	Youth Barrels - 13-17 (Horses Only)
Pony Division	Ladies Barrels - 18 & over (Horses Only)
Pony Halter - 49" & under - 12 & under	Men's Barrels - 18 & over (Horses Only)
Pony Halter - 49+ to 54" - 12 & under	Barrels Open
Pony Walk-Trot - 54" & under - 12 & under	Cloverleaf Barrels
Pony Pleasure	Arena Race - 12 & under - (Horses Only)
Pony Barrels - 49" & under - 12 & under	Arena Race - 13-17 (Horses Only)
Pony Barrels - 49+ to 54" - 12 & under	Arena Race - 18 & over (Horses Only)
Pony Arena Race - 54" & under - 12 & under	Open Arena Race
Pony Pole Bending - 54" & under - 12 & under	Youth Pole Bending - 12 & under - (Horses Only)
	Youth Pole Bending - 13-17 (Horses Only)
	Sr. Pole Bending - 18 & over (Horses Only)
	Pole Bending Open
	Youth Stakes Race - 12 & under (Horses Only)
	Youth Stakes Race - 13-17 (Horses Only)
	Stakes Race - 18 & over (Horses Only)

* Costume Leadline - child 8 & under led by 15 & over is also an approved point class.

** A competitor must write on the entry form, when they sign up, which division their points should be applied to; Western or English.

VI. RULES APPLYING TO LEADLINE CLASSES

52. Rider must be 8 years old and under. The person leading the horse or pony must be 15 years or older.
53. No child shall be tied in the saddle.
54. Only one child per horse or pony will be allowed.
55. Honorary awards will be awarded to all no-placing exhibitors.

VII. RULES APPLYING TO PONY CLASSES

56. A pony is defined as measuring 54 inches and under and must be measured at time of registration.
57. In pony pleasure classes, ponies will be required to back.
58. Exhibitors will be 12 years and under.
59. No ponies shall be allowed in any classes other than specified pony classes, with the exception of Showmanship at Halter, where horses are worked individually when specified pony classes are not offered. In the event there is not a pony class offered for an exhibitor who wishes to show his/her pony in a particular class with horses, then horses will be in the center while ponies work, then ponies in the center while horses work.