

2019 NRHA RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS

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APPENDIX: Letter for proposal 63-01-19

SECTION 1: Proposed Changes

COMPETITION TOPICS

30-01-19 – Youth Non Pro

Intent of Proposal: *Stop the conversations and potential exclusion of youth from non pro status – especially if they are children of horse trainers. The declaration forces a trainer’s child to answer ‘yes’ to the non pro declaration about living on a reining horse farm and CAN be inferred to be receiving remuneration. This also stops the videoing and photography of youth as people may be trying to document remuneration (which tends to cross a line into photography of minors). For apprenticeship youth – we need to require they give up youth and non pro statuses. This likely only applies for 16-18 year olds. Submitted by Beth Himes.*

Proposed change: Youth members are automatically eligible for Non Pro status. They no longer need to complete non pro declarations.

{Staff Note: The following language also would need alteration if this proposal is approved. Suggestions are tracked below.}

Page 30, General Rules and Regulations. A. Membership.

(1)(a) Memberships:

Membership Categories:

Youth: Refer to Youth Show Rules and Regulations for youth membership

Conditions. **Youth members are automatically eligible for Non Pro status.**

Youth Non Pro: For Youth members only. A member must submit a Non Pro Declaration and pay a one-time fee with membership application and dues. If a Youth Non Pro membership has lapsed for more than one calendar year, the applicant will be required to re-file a Non Pro Declaration, including the fee.

Page 7, Youth Show Rules and Regulations. A. Membership and Show Conditions.

(2) Youth membership entitles a youth to show in any NRHA class for which they are eligible, **including Non Pro classes.** ~~To show in an NRHA Non Pro class, they must obtain an NRHA Youth Non Pro card.~~ Youth may not show in Rookie Professional.

{Strike all “Youth Non Pro” membership references in the *Handbook* (ex. bottom of page 71 in Lease section, “Lessors with Non Pro, Youth, ~~Youth Non Pro~~ or Associate....”).}

31-01-19 – Non Pro Conditions

Intent of Proposal: *This rule change has been recommended by the Non Pro Committee. There are four primary reasons for the suggested changes to the rule:*

- (1) *The structure of the previous rule was poor and jumbled as the result of many minor changes/tweaks throughout the years. As such, the rule needed restructuring.*
- (2) *The Non Pro Committee wanted to add clear definitions of the words “remuneration,” “training,” “giving instruction on the showing or training of a performance horse,” and “performance horse.”*
- (3) *The Non Pro Committee wanted to clarify that spouses do not receive “remuneration” indirectly simply by being married to a NRHA Professional.*
- (4) *The Non Pro Committee wanted to clarify that in the NRHA camaraderie and sportsmanship by and between fellow Non Pros is acceptable and encouraged.*

Submitted by Non Pro Committee.

Page 31, Show Rules and Regulations. B. Non Pro Membership Conditions.

(1) Eligibility:

a) A Non Pro is defined as a person who:

(1) At the time of the member’s Non Pro application and Declaration, has not won more than \$200,000 (two hundred thousand dollars) in Open reining competition (Categories 1, 2 and 6); and

(2) In the three years preceding the date of application and who has not received direct (money) or indirect (goods or services) remuneration for the following activities (“Prohibited Activities”):

(i) Training or showing astride in any equine discipline; ;

(ii) Giving instruction on the showing or training of a performance horse (Reining, Cutting, Cow Horse); ; or

(iii) Sponsorships or endorsements unless approved by the Executive Committee due to celebrity status gained outside the reining industry.

(b) Definitions:

(1) “Remuneration” is defined as the receipt of:

i. Money, pay, or financial gain for work completed; or

ii. Goods, services, or discounts in return for work completed.

(2) “Training” is the mounted preparation of a horse with the intent to improve the horse’s performance in any equine discipline.

(3) “Giving instruction on the showing or training of a performance horse” means providing coaching or lessons with the intent to improve the rider’s ability to show or train a performance horse.

i. NRHA does not consider occasional and irregular encouragement or collaboration among Non Pros to be “giving instruction” so long as the same is not done for remuneration. Such sportsmanship among Non Pros is encouraged by NRHA.

(4) “Performance horse” includes horses that engage in the western stock sports, including but not limited to, reining, reined cow horse, cutting, roping, ranch riding, ranch versatility, etc.

(c) NRHA does not consider an NRHA Professional's spouse or family members to be ineligible for Non Pro status unless they themselves receive remuneration for the Prohibited Activities. Those individuals can show as Non Pros so long as they meet the requirements.

~~(b)~~ **(d) An ineligible person may. A person who is ineligible to** obtain Non Pro status **may become eligible** by meeting all Non Pro requirements for a period of three (3) years (**"Ineligible Time Period"**). ~~(4)~~ During the **Ineligible Time Period**, the member may ~~show only~~ **only show** in NRHA Open competition.

~~(2)~~ **(e) After the Ineligible Time Period and** obtaining Non Pro status, the member is eligible for any classes based on his/her current eligibility.

~~(e)~~ **(f) Non Pro Relinquishment:** A Non Pro who gives up his/her Non Pro status to become an NRHA Professional member must complete and submit the Non Pro Relinquishment form within 30 days of becoming an NRHA Professional or a professional trainer. When the form is received, NRHA may back out the applicable previous earnings. The Non Pro earnings in any category/class will not be utilized in determining current eligibility, with the exception of the Category 2 or 6 Level 1 Open and Rookie Professional class.

37-01-19 – Category 2 Non Pro Conditions

Intent of Proposal: To promote evenly paired levels of competition across all divisions of the NRHA. To promote a feasible advancement of worthy Non Pros into the Open classes. To grow the Non Pro membership in the NRHA by maintaining reasonable and, not seemingly insurmountable, barriers to success. Submitted by Dylan Pond.

Page 37, Show Rules and Regulations. D. Categories of Competition and Class Eligibility.

Add language:

Any Non Pro that has an NRHA life time earnings of over \$1,000,000 may show a maximum of two horses per class in Non Pro Category 2 events. Any Non Pro that has NRHA lifetime earnings of over \$1,500,000 may show a maximum of one horse per class in Non Pro Category 2 events. A Non Pro may always be eligible to show one horse per class in Non Pro Category 2 events regardless of earnings as long as he/she adheres to other Non Pro requirements set forth in the NRHA Non Pro Membership Conditions. A Prime Time eligible Non Pro may show a maximum of three horses per class in Non Pro category 2 events regardless of lifetime money earned.

{Staff Note: If approved, suggest adding this language to page 37, Show Rules and Regulations. D. Categories of Competition and Class Eligibility. Category 2. This could be added as the second paragraph under the Category 2 heading. This could be considered as an Eligibility Policy change.}

37-02-19 – Category change for Prime Time Open

Intent of Proposal: Moving Prime Time Open to Category 1 will align it with other ancillary classes it is most often run with concurrently; they frequently run together and will be grouped in the same category. Those earnings then would be included in Category 1 for eligibility. This would provide a cleaner option; to be able to exclude all Category 5 earnings from Category 1 eligibility calculations. Today three out of eight classes must be excluded from Category 5 earnings making it difficult for the rider to know where he/she stands. As it is today, Prime Time Open would not be a world title class. Submitted by Staff.

Page 37, Show Rules and Regulations. D. Categories of Competition and Class Eligibility.

CATEGORY 1

(NRHA Approved Ancillary classes; World Champion and Top Ten awards to apply, **excluding Prime Time Open**. Requires a NRHA Professionals, Non Pro, Youth or Youth Non Pro membership in order to show.) Refer to the current policy set forth by the Board regarding Eligibility. For members giving up Non Pro cards please refer to the Non Pro Conditions.

{Move Prime Time Open from Category 5 (shown below from page 40) to this Category 1 chart on page 37.}

Prime Time Open For persons 50 and older as of January 1 of the current year. Can run concurrent with the Category 1 Open, Intermediate Open, Limited Open or Rookie Professional class. Money won will not count toward World Champion awards. Money won will be used to determine eligibility for Rookie class only.

41-01-19 – Prime Time Non Pro age

Intent of Proposal: To allow for a more competitive division as there is a tremendous difference in reaction time, reflex and application of riding skills as we age' Entries for these classes will increase and would allow the elimination of the sparsely used Masters Class. Submitted by William Bradley.

Page 41, Show Rules and Regulations. D. Categories of Eligibility. Category 6.

Prime Time Non Pro For persons ~~60~~ 50 and older as of January 1 of the current year.
Can run concurrent with the Category 1 Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro or Limited Non Pro.

{Change all other references to Prime Time age.}

{Staff note: If approved, may need to review Masters age definition on page 40.

63-01-19 – World Title system

Intent of Proposal: To change Top Ten and World Championship to a point system versus a monetary system. (See Appendix A for a letter from the author.) Submitted by Jennifer Hoyt.

Page 63, Show Rules and Regulations. Q. Year-End Awards.

- (1) For horse and rider ~~earnings~~ **points** to count toward NRHA year-end Top Ten awards, owners and riders must comply with all requirements and be current NRHA members in good standing...
{Item continues - No changes.}
- (2) The NRHA competition/award year is the same as the calendar year: January 1–December 31. However, the ~~earnings~~ **points** begin accruing on the day the membership is officially received in the NRHA office through the end of the award year. ~~Earnings~~ **Points** are not counted retroactively.
- (3) In order for ~~earnings~~ **points** to be recorded, a minimum of three (3) horses must be shown in each class.
- (4) A Top Ten record will be kept for each of the following classes:
{No change to list of classes}
A Lawson trophy will be awarded ... {Item continues}. Year-end awards for the Top Ten standings will be titled: NRHA World Champion for the highest ~~money~~ **point** earners and highest Youth point earners; NRHA Reserve World Champion for the second-highest ~~money~~ **point** earners and second-highest Youth point earners; and NRHA Top Ten for the 3rd–10th top ~~money~~ **point** earners and Youth point earners.
- (5) ~~Earnings~~ **Points** are awarded on a “one horse/one rider” combination in the... {Item continues - No changes}
- (6) ~~Earnings~~ **Points** are awarded to the horse in the ... {Item continues - No changes}
- (7) NRHA World Champions and Reserve World Champions and Top Ten (3rd–10th) placing horses must have earned ~~money~~ **points** in at least seven (7)... {Item continues - No changes}

EVENT MANAGEMENT TOPICS

47-01-19 – Event requirements for chair judges

***Intent of Proposal:** Since classes with \$2,000 in added money are now required to award a Lawson trophy, this change provides an option for show management— one that can help save on overall expenses; if they offer less than \$5,000 in added money, they could hire one less judge. This option was discussed at the board and committee level, so it is being presented for formal consideration. Submitted by Staff.*

Page 47, Show Rules and Regulations. G. Event Approval.

(7) ~~A single judge may be used for NRHA approved classes that do not qualify for a Lawson Trophy.~~ At least two (2) chair judges must be used in all NRHA approved classes with ~~\$5,000~~ ~~2,000~~ –\$9,999 in added money. At least three (3) chair judges are recommended, but a minimum of two (2) chair judges are required, for all NRHA approved classes with \$10,000–\$49,999 in added money. Five (5) chair judges are recommended, but a minimum of three (3) chair judges are required, for all NRHA approved classes with \$50,000 or more in added money.

47-02-19 – Show officials requirement

***Intent of Proposal:** Small affiliate shows have difficulty filling positions with knowledgeable and qualified volunteers and cannot afford to hire these positions. Limiting the small shows to a secretary and MGR/REP can be accomplished without putting extra pressure on the affiliate for expertise and/or finances. Submitted by Darlyne Woodward.*

Page 47, Show Rules and Regulations. G. Event Approval.

(8) Event Classifications.

All events except A, AA - events must have a Show Secretary and a Show Manager / ~~and~~ Show Representative and they must be two ~~three~~ different individuals unless noted otherwise. **B and C events must have a Show Secretary and a Show Manager/Show representative (two individuals).** The Show Secretary of Show Manager must be certified by NRHA...

55-01-19 – Ancillary added money and entry fees

Intent of Proposal: Removing the added money and entry fee restrictions will allow affiliate and show management groups to structure their shows in a manner which best suits their exhibitors and sponsors while allowing all earnings to count toward NRHA awards and earnings. This removes restrictions put on show management that inhibits their ability to drive entries and to accept sponsor money for previously capped classes. Show management now can allocate added money in a way they feel will drive entries in their area - which in turn gives them a better chance at being successful and financially stable in the long-run. Submitted by Staff.

Page 55, H. Ancillary Show Conditions.

(4) Added Money: Ancillary shows must have a minimum of \$500 in added money. **Class entry fees cannot exceed 10% of the added money or \$50 in a jackpot.**

CLASS MAX.	ADDED MONEY	MAX. ENTRY FEE
Limited Open	\$500	10% of added money or \$50 jackpot
Rookie Professional	\$500	10% of added money or \$50 jackpot
Limited Non Pro	\$500	10% of added money or \$50 jackpot
Rookie 2	\$200	\$20
Rookie 1	Jackpot	\$20
Youth Classes	\$100	\$10

{No changes to (a), (b) or (c).}

(d) Prime Time Non Pro added money may not exceed the added money in the Intermediate Non Pro class, with a maximum of \$1,000.

(e) Rookie Level 1 and Level 2 entry fees may not exceed that of the Limited Non Pro.

(f) Rookie Level 1 entry fees may not exceed that of the Rookie Level 2.

56-01-19 – Ancillary show judge’s fees (Related to 56-02-19)

Intent of Proposal: To prevent excessive fee charges when classes are run concurrently. When classes are run concurrently, the exhibitor is being judged once and the score applied to all classes entered. Submitted by Karen Montgomery.

Page 56, Show Rules and Regulations. H. Ancillary Show Conditions.

(5) Judge's fees may not exceed the entry fee. **Only one judge's fee may be charged to classes entered that are run concurrently. Where classes are to be run concurrently, the judge's fee of the highest class entered will apply.**

56-02-19 – Ancillary and Jackpot show judge’s fees (Related to 56-01-19)

Intent of Proposal: To provide consistency for members attending NRHA events. Submitted by the Affiliate Committee.

Page 56, Show Rules and Regulations. H. Ancillary Show Conditions.

{Insert a new 6. Renumber subsequent.}

(6) When classes are run concurrently only one (1) judge’s fee may be charged.

Page 58, Show Rules and Regulations. J. Jackpot Affiliate Show Conditions.

{Insert a new 7. Renumber subsequent.}

(7) When classes are run concurrently only one (1) judge’s fee may be charged.

56-03-19 – Add 4-year-old aged event

Intent of Proposal: Need to add aged event for 4-year-olds only. Present day owners and trainers enter their horses with more intelligence and strategic reasons than ever before. The change in entry numbers dropping over the last few years is proof. So what can we do to improve our entry numbers? To increase entry numbers and benefit horse welfare, we need to restructure our age requirements. 3-year olds flourish in our futurities, so that age group should stay the same. The age group that is at the mercy of owners or trainers is our 4-year olds. Only a select few are good enough to compete with 5- and 6-year olds. Many are left on the shelf their entire 4-year-old year or are pushed and tried to be able to compete with the older horses. 4-year-olds need their own division which could be called the FOURturitys. This could take up the gap for 4-year-olds early in the spring or for 4-year-olds that weren't ready for their previous year's futurities. Our derby horses then would be 5-, 6-, and 7-year-olds. That gives our horses a five-year eligibility spot in aged events. This rule change will also be good for selling 3-year-olds after their futurity year. No longer will we have blue light fire sales immediately following the NRHA Futurity. This rule gives 4-year-olds a place to compete. Throughout 2017, I have talked to both the "rich and famous" as well as the "poor and unknown." I did not receive one negative comment about this proposal. The NCHA has had 4-year-old events for a long time with great success. There has also been successful 4-year-old events in Vegas. It's time we give 4-year-olds their just spot in the NRHA. Submitted by John Dergo.

{Staff Note: No specific additions or changes were submitted. The following could be considered as an option.}

Page 56, Show Rules and Regulations. I: Aged Show and Closed Aged Show Conditions.

(1) Aged shows are restricted by the horse's age only. Closed Aged shows are restricted by the horse's age and some other provision (ie. Foal enrollment program, breeders incentive, etc.). **The following age divisions shall be recognized.**

- (a) Futurity – For horses age three.**
- (b) Fourturity – For horses age four.**
- (c) Derby – For horses age five, six or seven.**
- (d) Maturity – For horses age eight and older.**

{No changes to remainder of rule.}

59-01-19 – Green Level entry fees

Intent of Proposal: NRHA Staff have received several calls regarding inequity in what is being offered to Green Reiner; Green entry fees that are higher than all combined fees to show in other classes. There, of course, also is a need for events to receive income that sustains the event and continues to provide opportunities for all levels of competition. We believe it is important to present this issue for consideration so we have provided two possible solutions. Please note that Rookie 2 and 2 have a \$20 maximum entry fee and the judge's fee may not exceed the entry fee. Submitted by Staff.

Page 59, Show Rules and Regulations. L. Green Level Conditions.

{Option 1 – Limit to jackpot only, no limit on entry fee}

- (1) Green Level shows cannot be restricted by any means other than the requirements set forth.
- (2) A Green Level show must be held in conjunction with an NRHA Ancillary show.
- (3) Any Green class from Category 10 can be held in a Green show.
- (4) Green Level shows ~~can~~ **must** be jackpot ~~only~~ and will award Green points.
- (5) Entry fees are to be determined by show management.
- (6) Show management cannot charge exhibitors a judge's fee.
- (7) Show management does not remit the 5% NRHA retainage fee.
- (8) Show management can retain any percentage of the entry fees.

...

{Option 2 – Jackpot is optional, set maximum entry fee}

- (1) Green Level shows cannot be restricted by any means other than the requirements set forth.
- (2) A Green Level show must be held in conjunction with an NRHA Ancillary show.
- (3) Any Green class from Category 10 can be held in a Green show.
- (4) Green Level shows can be jackpot only and will award Green points.
- (5) ~~Entry fees are to be determined by show management.~~ **Entry fees cannot exceed \$30.**
- (6) Show management cannot charge exhibitors a judge's fee.
- (7) Show management does not remit the 5% NRHA retainage fee.
- (8) Show management can retain any percentage of the entry fees.

...

61-01-19 – Show secretary deadline for submitting results to NRHA

Intent of Proposal: This proposal contains only one change: to begin requiring that complete show results be **received by** NRHA within 10 days of completion of the event. Ultimately, this will help NRHA to be able to publish show results to the membership sooner.

Some repetitive language has been removed (judges score cards, labeling, complete results, 10-day references, etc.). Other items have been organized to be less cumbersome, and easier to interpret. Submitted by Staff.

(Continued...)

Page 61, Show Rules and Regulations. P. Show Results.

(1) Show management is required to send official show documents (results, judge's score cards, membership applications, competition licenses, transfers, non pro declarations, fees, and other NRHA forms) **and complete show results to be received in** the NRHA office within ten (10) business days **following the completion of the NRHA event** ~~(postmarked) after the last show day~~ **or the event will be subject to late fines.** Show management will also maintain copies of the results, original judge's score cards if an electronic version is sent to NRHA and official show entry forms for at least twelve (12) months. Prior to sending the documents to the NRHA office, the original judge's score cards must remain in the show secretary's custody for supervision, control, and safekeeping.

(2) **All results must be properly labeled and meet the following requirements to be considered complete:**

(a) Ancillary, Breed Restricted, Affiliate, Entry Level Ride & Slide, Green ~~Level~~, and Para-Reining show results must record all riders and horses shown, including scratches, ~~zeros~~ **zeroes**, and no scores in the proper placing. ~~All results must be properly labeled.~~ Show results must include membership numbers for all riders and owners/co-owners, and competition license numbers for every horse, except when exempt.

(b) Aged Show results must record all money earners in the proper placing. Show results must include membership numbers for all riders and owners/co-owners, and competition license numbers for every horse. ~~Original judge's score cards must accompany show results. Only complete show results will be accepted, and they must be submitted within 10 days, as specified in (1), or the event will be subject to late fines.~~

(c) Category 10 **(Entry Level Ride & Slide and Green)** show results must record all money and/or point earners in the proper placing. Show results must include membership numbers for all riders. ~~Original judge's score cards must accompany show results. Only complete show results will be accepted, and they must be submitted within 10 days, as specified in (1), or the event will be subject to late fines.~~

{No changes to (3)}

(4) Shows failing to **submit** ~~postmark~~ complete show results and all related documents, including medications testing fees, **to be received in the NRHA office within** ~~by~~ ten (10) business days following the completion of an NRHA event will be assessed a \$100 penalty. ~~Submitting late show results may jeopardize future NRHA show approvals.~~ An additional \$500 penalty will be assessed if show results are **received** ~~postmarked~~ after twenty (20) business days. Corrections must be submitted to NRHA in a timely manner...

(5) Payout to current recorded rider, agent, owner, or responsible party must be made within forty-five (45) days following the completion of the NRHA event. ~~Failure to comply may jeopardize future NRHA show approvals.~~ For events that have been approved...

(6) Failure to comply **with the above listed requirements** may jeopardize future NRHA show approvals.

JUDGING TOPICS

36-01-19 – 4-year-olds ridden two-handed in more classes

Intent of Proposal: *I think this would be a step forward in horse- and show-business. First: I hear so often from people (in Europe) they don't show their 4yo at NRHA, because they would have only one entry in a snaffle/hackamore class for their 4yo and for a one handed class the horse is not experienced enough, because they couldn't or didn't want to begin with training so early. So, with this rule change, 4-year-old horses could be ridden in competition with more assistance from the rider and get the chance to be shown. Second: Young or not so experienced riders, same like assistant trainers would get the chance to show more classes to improve their show experience. Third: People would easier spend their money of show cost with the possibility of more classes to enter. Submitted by Rolf Peterka.*

On category 1, category 3, category 5 and category 7 it should be allowed for riders open/non pro eligible in limited or lower level and youth to ride a 4-year-old horse two-handed in a snaffle bit or hackamore. The influenced classes would be: Youth 13 and 18, Rookie Youth, Rookie L1, Rookie L2, Rookie Pro, Prime Time Rookie, Limited Open, Limited Non Pro, Novice Horse Open or Non Pro L1.

45-01-19 – Helmets in Para-Reining

Intent of Proposal: *To align with the rule change passed by board in 2017 where Para Reining will become a category 4 class and follow the rules of the association running concurrent. Submitted by Jennifer Hoyt.*

Page 45, F. General Show Conditions.

(15) It is mandatory for all riders to use appropriate western tack and western attire while showing; ... The use of an ASTM/SEI certified helmet is mandatory in all Para-Reining Classes and/or any time a Para Reining rider is mounted. **Except in the cases where the Para-Reining is a Category 4, then the Para-Reining class shall follow the rules of the World Para Reining or USA Para Reining.**

56-04-19 – Use of hands (Aged shows)

Intent of Proposal: To carry on the tradition of the western horse. This also will help protect the welfare of the horse. Submitted by Judges Committee.

Page 56, Show Rules and Regulations. I: Aged Show and Closed Aged Show Conditions.

- (1) Aged shows are restricted by the horse's age only. Closed Aged shows are restricted by the horse's age and some other provision (ie. Foal enrollment program, breeders incentive, etc).
- (2) NRHA Aged shows must offer a minimum of one (1) Level 4 Open or one (1) Level 4 Non Pro class.
- (3) Added Money:
 - (a) An Aged show must have a minimum of \$2,000 in added money.
 - (b) Level 2 Non Pro may not exceed the added money in the Level 4 Non Pro or Level 4 Non Pro in Category 2 or Category 6 classes.
- (4) It is recommended that show management submit complete Terms & Conditions with the show approval form.
{Insert new (5). Renumber subsequent.}

(5) Any category 2 or 6 aged show with less than \$5,000 added in total prize money may offer in their conditions a two-handed, any legal bridle option. In the case that the show has more than \$5,000 added, the conditions only may allow riders to compete one-handed in the bridle, or two-handed in the snaffle bit or hackamore.

Page 92, Rules for Judging. B. Scoring.

- (d) Only one hand may be used on the reins and the hand must not be changed, except in the Snaffle Bit, Freestyle, Green and Entry Level Ride & Slide classes which allow the use of two hands. Green and Entry Level Ride & Slide classes may use one or two hands at any time during the pattern. **Category 2 & 6 aged events may allow the use two hands if all requirements listed in I. Aged Show and Closed Aged Show Conditions are met.** Index finger only between split reins is permitted. Violation of this rule results in a penalty score of zero (0).
- (e) When a curb bit is used, a curb strap or curb chain is required, which must be at least 1/2" in width, lie flat against the jaw, and be free of barbs, wire, and/or twists.

59-02-19 – Reduced pattern requirements for Entry Level Ride & Slide

Intent of Proposal: Lower pattern requirements in Ride & Slide (require less than in Green). In general, this change gives show management the ability to offer beginner classes with an even simpler pattern (e.g. less spins) via the Ride & Slide 1 and 2. If an area has a large number of entry level riders, they could offer a Ride & Slide with a shorter pattern (like NRHA Pattern A or B). Then, they also could run a Green class - a step up in pattern but still with all of the allowances for two hands, simple lead changes, holding the saddle horn, etc. Submitted by Staff.

Page 59, Show Rules and Regulations. K. Entry Level Ride & Slide Show Conditions.

(8) May use relaxed patterns **including Pattern A and B**. A pattern diagram must **be** submitted with the show approval form. Show management is responsible for informing the judge of the relaxed pattern prior to horses being shown. The required maneuvers are at least: two (2) sliding stops; two (2) circles in each direction; ~~four (4)~~ **two (2)** spins to the left; and ~~four (4)~~ **two (2)** spins to the right.

59-03-19 – Simple lead changes for Entry Level Ride & Slide

Intent of Proposal: Allow simple lead changes – in any pattern – without penalty – in any Ride & Slide class. This makes it so Ride & Slide riders can do simple lead changes without penalty even if pattern calls for flying lead changes. This **ONLY** is true in Green classes today (and Ride & Slide Level 1 classes when a simple lead change is specified). If there is a need for Ride & Slide to be an even more novice-friendly competition level, simple lead changes should be allowed in both levels and at all times. Additionally, simple lead changes have been allowed in practice in Para-Reining, so this has been added as well. Submitted by Staff.

Page 59, Show Rules and Regulations. K. Entry Level Ride & Slide Show Conditions.

Add a last sentence to part (8) – shown above in 59-02-19: **Simple lead changes are allowed.**

Page 95, Rules for Judging. B. Scoring.

(9) The following will result in a two (2) point penalty:
(a) break of gait; Note: Simple lead changes are allowed in NRHA Green, **Ride & Slide and Para-Reining** classes, no break of gait penalty should be applied during the lead change. ~~NRHA Ride & Slide Level 1 classes may use altered patterns and if simple lead changes are specified, no break of gait penalty should be applied during the lead changes.~~

81-01-19 – Freestyle time limit

Intent of Proposal: To clarify the freestyle time limit, by eliminating wording about the introductions being included in the time allowed and adding wording that would allow show management to manage the length of introductions. Submitted by Guy Vernon.

Page 81. Freestyle Reining. A. General Rules.

(9) Time Limit. A maximum of four (4) minutes ~~including any introductions~~. The time limit will begin when the ~~horse enters the arena and will end when the music stops~~ music starts.

{Insert new (10) and renumber subsequent}

(10) Length of introductions will be at the discretion of the show staff.

85-01-19 – Judging privileges (membership requirement)

Intent of Proposal: *The line between Professional and Non Pro are blurry in our sport. This would help clarify that line. There is a big contradiction that a Non Pro can not take \$50 to give their opinion to a rider at their farm or the gate but they can get \$500 to give a professional opinion from the judge's chair. As a Non Pro myself, I pay a Professional to coach me. I wouldn't want anyone other than a professional training my horses. It is only proper that when I shell out the money for an entry fee and judges fee that I get the professional opinion for which I am paying. Submitted by Terry Travis.*

Page 85, Judges. A. Judging Privileges.

(1) Designation as an NRHA approved judge is a privilege, not a right, bestowed by the NRHA Board of Directors, according to procedures formulated by the Judges Committee. This privilege shall be open to **NRHA Professionals** ~~individuals~~ whose equine experience and expertise, as well as personal character, merits the honor.

88-01-19 – Judges' guidelines (unapproved events)

Intent of Proposal: *There are several countries who are required to be a part of and have their shows approved by their National Federation. This leads to the NF classes from having a large amount of added money and the NRHA classes having very little added, and allows the show to still use NRHA judges. It takes away from the NRHA's membership, costing those who are members more in the long run by giving the classes, those who host them and those who show in them the benefit of the NRHA Judging Program that NRHA members help fund. The intent of this rule change is to help prevent this, by requiring that the NF classes are restricted on their added money. Whoever uses the NRHA system should be an NRHA member. Submitted by Markus Schopfer.*

Page 88, Judges. D. Guidelines.

{Items (1) through (9) – No changes.}

(10) NRHA judges who judge unapproved reining classes will be subject to an Investigative Judge Review. The following exceptions exist where judge(s) may judge unapproved reining classes:

(a) classes that do not coincide with NRHA classes and therefore cannot be approved by NRHA

(b) beginner or green classes

(c) affiliate level classes that are held concurrent with NRHA approved classes and added money cannot exceed 10% of the added money of the NRHA approved class

(d) shows with less than \$500-added money

(e) breed association classes [Jr., Sr., Amateur, and Youth breed classes]

(f) National Federation ~~or FEI~~ events **only when run concurrently with NRHA classes and the added money does not exceed 10% of the added money in the NRHA approved classes that they are run concurrent with; and FEI events.**

(g) shows held by an NRHA breed association affiliate and/or affiliated discipline association

95-01-19 – Jog-in pattern

Intent of Proposal: To enhance NRHA's position on animal welfare. Submitted by Guy Vernon.

Page 95, Rules for Judging. B. Scoring.

- (9) The following will result in a two (2) point penalty:
(c) on ~~walk~~ **jog** in patterns, loping prior to reaching the center of the arena and/or failure to stop or walk before executing a lope departure;

Beginning page 101, Patterns. For patterns #2, #4, #5, #6, #8 and #13:

Horses ~~may walk or~~ **must** jog to the center of arena.

Page 140, Judges' Guide. Penalty Score Zero.

Section 4. The *NRHA Handbook* further specifies that the refusal... The *NRHA Handbook* further states that a penalty score of 0 will be applied if a horse jogs in excess of 1/2 of the circumference of a circle, or 1/2 the length of the arena. (See Figure #5. This does not apply **to jog in patterns pattern #11** which ~~is a jog in pattern and~~ requires a horse to jog the majority (over 1/2 the distance) of the way to the center.)...

Page 145, Maneuvers.

~~Walk-in~~ Jog-In

The ~~walk~~ **jog**-in brings the horse from the gate to the center of the arena to begin its pattern. The horse should appear relaxed and confident. Any action which may create the appearance of intimidation including starting and stopping, or checking is a fault which shall be marked down according to the severity in the first maneuver score.

{Staff Note: Suggest to consider an edit to the paragraph that follows and consider the differences in the intimidation sentence, highlighted below.}

Jog-in

Horses must jog the majority (over 1/2 the distance) of the way to the center. ~~The horse should appear relaxed and confident. Any action which may create the appearance of intimidation including~~ **walking, stopping or checking** is a fault which shall be marked down according to the severity in the first maneuver score. Failure to jog the majority of the way to the center will result in a 0 for failure to complete the pattern as written.

96-01-19 – Two-point reviews (Related to 96-02-19)

Intent of Proposal: *This change allows for judges to review 2-point penalties for break of gait, jogging more than two strides and freezes ups at all events. This would also give the judge the ability to add in the correct penalty for were the reviewed penalty took place. Since it would be allowed at all events, the specific references should be deleted from A and AA event guidelines to avoid confusion. Submitted by Judges Committee.*

Page 96, Rule for Judging. B. Scoring.

(17) Judges may not confer on any penalty or maneuver score prior to submitting a score. If a major penalty (a penalty which results in a no score, a zero (0), a two (2) point, or a five (5) point penalty) is unclear, a judge will submit his/her score and ask that the score be held, pending a conference or review of the official video at the next drag or as soon as practical. Should the judges determine via conference or video replay that a penalty was incurred, it should be applied. If, however, no penalty occurred, the score will be announced as originally submitted. No judge shall be required to change his/her score following a conference or video replay. Each judge's decision is an individual call and based on individual decision from a conference or video replay. The use of video equipment by the judges is only permissible if the judge has reason to believe that all entries have been videotaped. Refer to the Handbook's Event Classifications section to determine when judges are allowed to review 2-point penalties. **Judges will be allowed to review 2-point penalties for break of gait, jogging more than two (2) strides and freeze ups. Upon the review of a major penalty, if the major penalty is deemed to not have occurred, the judge has the ability to add the appropriate penalty**

Page 144, Judge's Guide.

REVIEWS

Section 1. If the judge is unsure as to whether a major penalty has occurred (i.e., no score, a 0 score, a 2- point penalty, or a 5-point penalty) the judge will submit his/her score... each judge's decision is an individual call. Refer to the Handbook's Event Classifications section to determine when judges are allowed to review 2-point penalties. **Judges will be allowed to review 2-point penalties for break of gait, jogging more than two (2) strides and freeze ups. Upon the review of a major penalty, if the major penalty is deemed to not have occurred, the judge has the ability to add the appropriate penalty**

Page 48, Show Rules and Regulations. G. Event Approval. (8) Event Classifications.

e) A Events:

{Items (A) – (C) – No changes.}

(D) Videographer required for all classes. **Judges will be allowed to review 2-point penalties for break of gait, jogging more than two (2) strides and freeze ups as long as one (1) judge has called the penalty 2.**

(f) AA Events:

{Items (A) – (D) – No changes.}

(E) Official videographer required for all classes. By entering, exhibitors are giving NRHA and the event's organizers permission to use their images for any and all educational and promotional purposes. **Judges will be allowed to review 2-point penalties for break of gait, jogging more than two (2) strides and freeze ups as long as one (1) judge has called the penalty 2.**

96-02-19 – Reviews (Related to 96-01-19)

Intent of Proposal: Rule on any situation which can seem inequitable to the competitor. Submitted by Pierre-Olivier Benetiere.

Page 96, Rules for Judging. B. Scoring.

(17) Judges may not confer on any penalty or maneuver score prior to submitting a score. If a major penalty (a penalty which results in a no score, a zero (0), **a one (1) point whenever there is a place in a Final for a Derby or a Futurity at stake**, a two (2) point, or a five (5) point penalty) is unclear, a judge will submit his/her score and ask that the score be held, pending a conference or review of the official video at the next drag or as soon as practical. Should the judges determine via conference or video replay that a penalty was incurred, it should be applied. If, however, no penalty occurred, the score will be announced as originally submitted...

{Staff Note: Suggest to consider additional changes will need to be made to page 144, Reviews. Section 1. if this is approved.}

103-01-19 – Correct lead after rollback

Intent of Proposal: If indeed the underlying purpose of the reining pattern is to demonstrate the horse's ability to perform the maneuvers necessary for working cattle, the rule as written fails to accomplish that purpose. When working a cow, the cowboy upon either stopping the cow or stopping in response to the cow's own stop, doesn't just rollback and then just take off loping in the other direction in some lead. Rather, he stops for an instant and finds the cow and then goes. Were he to just get stopped and then take off loping without hesitation, he risks blowing past that cow that might just be handing out a head fake, or has decided he's maybe just gonna sit there and wait to see what happens next. You need to write the rule so that the rider gets his horse stopped, spends the instant required to find that imaginary cow and then gets after that imaginary cow in the appropriate lead because that's the exact process when one is really working cattle. As written, you may not need the word "hesitate" at all, as the act of getting your horse correct in the departure might well be construed as appropriately honoring the process of finding that cow. Just saying'. Submitted by M. David Zorn.

Page 103, Patterns. Pattern 1

1. Run at speed to the far end of the arena past the end marker and do a left rollback—hesitate **and depart in the correct lead. Run at speed to the far end of the arena past the end marker and do a left rollback, and depart in the correct lead.**

Change directions for running every pattern in the rulebook.

{Staff Note: These other areas may need to be addressed: Rollback section on page 146, defining any penalties that would accompany this change and Figure #6 on page 168.}

140-01-19 – Holding the saddle horn penalty (Related to 140-02-19)

Intent of Proposal: To make provision for additional safety for riders. Submitted by William Bradley.

Page 140, 5 Point Penalties.

Section 1. There are ~~four~~ **five** situations that require a judge to apply a five (5) point penalty. These situations are: spurring in front of the cinch, use of either hand to instill fear or praise, ~~holding the saddle with either hand (except in the Freestyle Reining or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup class)~~ **holding the saddle with either hand (except in the Freestyle Reining or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup class)**, ~~touching the horse with the free hand (except in the Freestyle Reining, Entry Level or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup classes)~~, or blatant disobedience. Also included, is the act of a horse dropping to its knees or hocks that cannot be considered a fall since its shoulder and/or hip and/or underline did not touch the ground. The application of the spurring rule requires the judge to ensure that contact with the horse was made. The holding the saddle rule does not include incidental, brief contact (i.e., brushing the saddle with the free hand). Judges must allow riders to straighten reins at an appropriate place without incurring a holding the saddle or instilling praise penalty. Blatant disobedience includes kicking, biting, bucking, rearing and striking...

{Staff Note: Suggest to consider removing additional language in the above paragraph if this rule change is approved: *The holding the saddle rule does not include incidental, brief contact (i.e., brushing the saddle with the free hand). Judges must allow riders to straighten reins at an appropriate place without incurring an holding the saddle or instilling praise penalty.*}

140-02-19 – Holding the saddle horn penalty (Related to 140-01-19)

Intent of Proposal: I believe people over 70 (or younger- 65) should be able to touch/grab saddle horn or saddle without a penalty. We older or handicapped exhibitors want to show. We want no other considerations, not an extra point, or a separate purse or a reduced entry fee nor a pattern change. I believe this rule change would add entries to the futurity. I don't feel this is an unfair advantage over other contestants as we are judging the horse not the rider. Submitted by John Amabile.

Page 140, 5 Point Penalties.

{Staff Note: No specific additions or changes were submitted. The following could be considered as an option.}

Section 1. There are five situations that require a judge to apply a five (5) point penalty. These situations are: spurring in front of the cinch, use of either hand to instill fear or praise, holding the saddle with either hand (except in the Freestyle Reining or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup class; **or for persons 70 and older as of January 1 or the current year competing in any class**) touching the horse with the free hand (except in the Freestyle Reining, Entry Level or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup classes), or blatant disobedience...

145-01-19 – Judging protest

Intent of Proposal: Judges knowing they are accountable to members when penalties are not properly marked on judge's scoring sheets will be more accurate in judging horses. Submitted by James Blumer.

Page 145, Judges' Guide. Reviews.

{Section 1 through 3 – No changes.}

Section 4. Any NRHA member in good standing can protest an erroneous penalty not properly mark by judge on scoring sheet. Requirements would be as follows: A video recorded by official show videographer submitted by member to the Judges Committee for independent review plus a fee of \$200 payable to NRHA. NRHA reimburses the Judges Committee (judge(s) \$100) and retains the remaining \$100 unless the member is correct in that a penalty was incorrectly marked. If protest is correct the member is refunded the \$100 and the judge receives 1 point against the judge's name. Judges receiving 10 or more points in a calendar year are unable to judge shows higher than a B show. Willing to start on penalties of 1, 2, or greater to start judge accountably.

{Staff Note: Related material may need to be considered for consistency: NRHA Policy 17-02-41: Judging – Additional Policies. D. Judges Education and E. Evaluation (JEEP) Procedures and E. Investigation Judges Review (IRJ) Procedures.}

GENERAL TOPICS

07-01-19 – Rule change procedures

Intent of Proposal: *To give the Board the opportunity to respond and make needed changes more quickly in an effort to respond to member needs. This would be in terms of rules that do not impact competition, year-end awards, etc. Submitted by Mike Hancock.*

Page 7, General Rules and Regulations. A. Rule Change Procedures.

{Section 1 – No changes}

Section 2. Only the Board can vote on and pass a rule change. **The Board can make changes to General Rules and Regulations as deemed necessary.**

Section 3. Submission deadlines for rule change proposals **affecting competition and contained within Show Rules and Regulations, Youth Rules and Regulations, Show Stewards, Freestyle Reining, Judges, Rules for Judging, Patterns, Freestyle** will be published in the NRHA *Reiner* magazine (“*Reiner*”) and on the NRHA website. The Board must review all proposed rule changes **affecting competition** during at least two meetings prior to taking a Board vote. All **such** proposed rule changes must be published in the *Reiner* and posted on the NRHA website for membership review prior to a Board vote. The author may withdraw a rule change proposal at any time prior to the Board's first review. The Board may make recommendations to modify a proposal or send the proposed rule change to the appropriate committees for review. On the day of the official Board vote, the rule change will either be passed or defeated as written, passed or defeated as amended, or no action will be taken.

{Re-number subsequent.}

07-02-19 – Re-establishing an annulled affiliate

Intent of Proposal: *To clarify that if an affiliate is annulled, it requires Board approval to renew the affiliate's status as an official NRHA affiliate. Submitted by Staff.*

Page 7, General Rules and Regulations. B. Affiliate Compliance.

Renewing NRHA Affiliates shall submit... {paragraph continues}. If the application is still outstanding or Affiliate officers are not current members in good standing by March 1, Affiliate status will be annulled. ~~Annulment status will be published in the Reiner.~~ After March 1, an annulled Affiliate may apply for renewal by paying a \$50 re-instatement fee and submitting a completed affiliate renewal application representing officers who are current NRHA members in good standing. **Affiliate status will be re-established pending approval of the NRHA Board of Directors.**

35-01-19 – Horse naming requirements

Intent of Proposal: *To establish written expectations for horse names. The first sentence describes guidelines that are currently used. Items (a) through (h) help establish character limits, forbid vulgarity, set guidelines for the use of numbers, etc. These are comparable to other associations' policies, including AQHA, APHA, The Jockey Club, etc. for consistency and compatibility. If preferred, this could be approved as an NRHA policy versus a rule. Submitted by Staff.*

Page 35, Show Rules and Regulations. C. Competition Licensing.

{Item (1) - No changes.}

(2) Naming Requirements: A horse's registered breed name will be used as its NRHA competition name. Owners of unregistered horses may select a name, provided the name does not appear in the NRHA database prior to the application date. **Once an NRHA competition name has been recorded, the horse's name may only be changed if it has been changed with a breed registry, and it has not competed in an NRHA show or been listed as the sire or dam on an offspring's competition license or nomination. For grade horses, only the second condition applies. The following classes of names are not eligible for use:**

- (a) Names consisting of more than 25 letters (including letters, numbers and blank spaces); Arabic numbers are permitted;**
- (b) Names consisting entirely of initials such as C.O.D., F.O.B., etc.;**
- (c) Names ending in "filly," "colt," "stud," "mare," "stallion," or any similar horse-related term;**
- (d) Names consisting entirely of numbers. Numbers above thirty may be used if they are spelled out;**
- (e) Names that are suggestive or have a vulgar or obscene meaning; names considered in poor taste; or names that may be offensive to religious, political or ethnic groups; and**
- (h) Names that appear to be designed to harass, humiliate or disparage a specific individual, group of individuals or entity.**

SECTION 2: Proposed changes to clarify, improve usability, or items that serve to better define current practice

COMPETITION TOPICS

59-04-19 – Move the “Green Point Scale”

***Intent of Proposal:** To update the Handbook to reflect the Green Point Scale (currently found in the Eligibility Policy) approved by the Board in 2017 when Green Reiner eligibility points were increased. With the new point scale moving into a third year in 2019, it also may be good to reconsider the points required to win Green Reiner Rewards. It is currently 50 points to win a jacket and 100 points to win a buckle. Submitted by Staff.*

Page 59, Show Rules and Regulations. L. Green Level Show Conditions.

- (11) Green Reiner points will be awarded according to the NRHA ~~Youth~~ **Green Point** Scale.
- (a) Number of horses to be used for computation shall be those horses actually competing; excluding the number of horses entered but scratched from competition. There shall not be a cap placed on the number of points able to be earned in any one class.**
- (b) Neither a no score nor a 0 are eligible to receive points in an NRHA Green Reiner class; however, this does not alter the scale of points for placing.**
- (c) For example: If 20 horses compete in Green Reiner 1, 1st will receive 20 points, 2nd will receive 19 points, 3rd will receive 18 points, etc.**

{Staff Note: In materials describing the Green Reiner Rewards Program, an explanation will be added that all Green points count toward earning these awards, regardless of the level in which they are earned.

JUDGING TOPICS

91-01-19 – Tie-Breaker

***Intent of Proposal:** To match language on page 60-61 (Show Rules and Regulations. O. Ties). Submitted by Staff.*

Page 91, Rules for Judging. B. Scoring. 2.

- (2) TIES All ties for 1st place will be worked off if the tied exhibitors agree to participate in a run-off. Tied exhibitors have the alternate option of agreeing not to run-off and to be named co-champions but must determine the winner of the awards by a **mutually agreed upon tie-breaker such as a** flip of a coin. If they do not agree, the exhibitor(s)...

{No changes to second and third paragraph}

If a tie occurs after the run-off, the entrants will be named co-champions; will evenly split the prize money from their placings, but must determine the winner of the awards by a **mutually agreed upon tie-breaker such as a** flip of a coin.

92-01-19 – Standard western bit (one point of pull)

Intent of Proposal: To better define a standard western bit. Submitted by Judges Committee.

Page 92, Rules for Judging. B. Scoring. (3) Equipment.

(c) References to a bit means the use of a curb bit that has a solid or broken mouthpiece, has shanks and acts with leverage. All curb bits must be free of mechanical device and should be considered a standard western bit. A standard western bit includes:

{No changes to 1. – 4.}

5. A standard western bit has only one point of pull.

92-02-19 – Rein hand (use of fingers)

Intent of Proposal: To better explain what is and what is not allowed in terms of fingers between the reins. Submitted by Judges Committee.

Page 92, Rules for Judging. B. Scoring. (3) Equipment.

(d) Only one hand may be used on the reins and the hand must not be changed, except in the Snaffle Bit, Freestyle, Green and Entry Level Ride & Slide classes which allow the use of two hands. Green and Entry Level Ride & Slide classes may use one or two hands at any time during the pattern. Index/first finger only, or no fingers, between split reins is permitted at any time. Violation of this rule results in a penalty score of zero (0).

Page 138. Judge's Guide.

PENALTY SCORE ZERO

Section 1. The *NRHA Handbook* specifies certain situations in which a horse will receive a score of 0 regardless of its execution of the pattern... The *NRHA Handbook* prohibits the use of more than the index/first finger between the reins, the changing of hands on the reins, or use of two hands on the reins; however, it specifically outlines situations in which the rider's free hand may be used to untangle excess rein. (See "Rules for Judging" B.(5)). The *NRHA Handbook* also permits the rider to use his/her free hand to hold a romal in the normal fashion; the definition of which is contained hereunder: Exceptions occur in the Snaffle Bit & Hackamore, Freestyle, Youth 10 & Under, NRHA Green and Ride & Slide and Para-Reining classes. See rules for each class.

93-01-19 – Use of hands (mane)

Intent of Proposal: *This is to clarify the rider's ability to untangle or straighten the horse's mane during the pattern. Submitted by the Judges Committee.*

Page 93, Rules for Judging.

B. Scoring.

{No changes to (1) through (4).}

(5) Excess rein may be straightened anytime during the pattern, provided the rider's free hand remains behind the rein hand. Any attempt to alter tension or length of the reins from bridle to the rein hand is to be considered use of two hands a penalty score of zero will be applied. In addition, should the judge determine the free hand is being used to instill fear or praise, a penalty five will be applied, and a reduction in the maneuver score... A rider must be allowed to untangle **or straighten** the horse's mane **at any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during a pattern.**

Page 138, Judges' Guide.

{No changes to Section 1.}

Section 2. When using a romal, the rider's hand shall be around the reins with the wrist kept straight and relaxed, the thumb on top and the hand closed around the reins; no fingers between the reins are allowed... Consistent with NRHA rules regarding split reins, a rider using a romal may untangle excess rein (romal) anytime during the pattern, provided the rider's free hand remains behind the rein hand. **A rider must be allowed to untangle or straighten the horse's mane at any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during a pattern.**

Page 140, Judges' Guide. 5 Point Penalties.

Section 1.

*Note: A rider is allowed to **untangle or** straighten the latigo or horse's mane without incurring a 5 (five)-point penalty any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during the pattern.

93-02-19 – Closed Reins in Ride & Slide and Para-Reining

Intent of Proposal: *This practice is currently allowed. This proposal updates this item in the Handbook to reflect that. Submitted by Staff.*

Page 93, Rules for Judging. B. Scoring.

(4) The following will result in no score:

(1) closed reins are not allowed except as standard romal reins and mecates on snaffle bits and bosals in classes where the use of two hands is allowed and in the Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup, **Para-Reining, and Ride & Slide classes** ~~class~~ where closed reins are allowed.

93-03-19 – Belly wraps/bands

Intent of Proposal: *In 2017, the NRHA Executive Committee made a clarification to Rules for Judging. B.(4)(b) and (i) concerning belly bands and belly wraps. This type of equipment, or other materials wrapped around the belly, can cover abuse prior to and during exhibition, and can give an unfair advantage. Therefore, the use of this type of equipment should result in a no score.*

In Judges and Stewards training, it will be communicated that the use of belly bands is not acceptable for warm up, schooling or show purposes. Submitted by the Judges and Stewards Committees.

Page 93, Rules for Judging. B. Scoring.

(4) The following will result in no score:

{Insert a new (h) and renumber subsequent}

(h) use of belly bands, belly wraps, or other materials wrapped around the belly.

GENERAL TOPICS

07-03-19 – Affiliate Compliance

Intent of Proposal: *This change relates back to 12-month membership that will begin in 2019 thus causing memberships to expire at different times, not all on 12/31 as in the past. This proposal is not a change of practice, but only a change in wording to come into line with varying expiration dates; officers still need to be an NRHA member during their terms. Submitted by Staff.*

Page 7, General Rules and Regulations. B. Affiliate Compliance.

Renewing NRHA Affiliates shall submit Affiliate dues and a complete and correct annual renewal application listing officers who must be NRHA members **in good standing for the current year by January 31.**

SECTION 3: Moving items from policy or resolution to the Handbook (or vice versa)

JUDGING TOPICS

86-01-19 – Judges' guidelines

Intent of Proposal: *The existing Judges Guidelines have become dated due to the growth of events, classes and the industry as a whole. The Judges Committee would like to move the guidelines to policy and present updates to the Board to be approved in the near future. Submitted by the Judges Committee.*

Propose to move Guidelines on page 86-88 (Judges. D. Guidelines.) to an NRHA policy.

97-01-19 – Add Para-Reining Allowances from Policy to Handbook

Intent of Proposal: *To move the current policy on allowances into the Handbook so it is more readily accessible to members and judges, especially when attending a show. Submitted by Staff.*

Page 97, Rules for Judging. B. Scoring.

(24) Para-Reining Allowances

1. Riders are allowed to choose the size and speed of the circles when it is not specified in the pattern. Excessive speed will result in a maneuver deduction.
2. Riders are allowed to hold the saddle without penalty.
3. Closed reins may be used and include but are not limited to romal, roping, crossed, knotted or taped reins.
4. Riders are allowed to ride with one or two hands at any time during the class.
5. Riders are allowed to use the general provisions included in the list below. Provisions outside of the list below will be handled at the discretion of show management.
 - a. Specialty braces and/or belts
 - b. Audio communication equipment
 - c. Trainer/handler present in the arena
 - d. Boot adaptations
 - e. Rein hand holds
 - f. Rubber bands
 - g. Saddle blocks
 - h. Wedges and/or cushions
 - i. Safety stirrups
 - j. Seat savers
 - k. Whips
6. Exemption from dismounting during the pre- and post-check as long as an assistant is present with a halter and lead rope to aide in the pre-check/post-check areas.
7. Exhibitors may use any style bit. The judge stands as the final decision and may deem a bit inhumane and unfit for use in competition.

(Continued...)

{Add any Para-Reining to any other references about the use of two hands. Two examples are listed here. }

Page 92, Rules for Judging. B. Scoring. (3) Equipment.

(d) Only one hand may be used on the reins and the hand must not be changed, except in the Snaffle Bit, Freestyle, Green, and Entry Level Ride & Slide **and Para-Reining** classes which allow the use of two hands. Green, and Entry Level Ride & Slide **and Para-Reining** classes may use one or two hands at any time during the pattern...

Page 138. Judge's Guide.

PENALTY SCORE ZERO

Section 1. The *NRHA Handbook* specifies certain situations in which a horse will receive a score of 0 regardless of its execution of the pattern... The *NRHA Handbook* prohibits the use of more than the index finger between the reins, the changing of hands on the reins, or use of two hands on the reins;... Exceptions occur in the Snaffle Bit & Hackamore, Freestyle, Youth 10 & Under, NRHA Green and Ride **& Slide and Para-Reining** classes. See rules for each class.

GENERAL TOPICS

07-04-19 – Move fines to policy

***Intent of Proposal:** To move all fines to the NRHA Fees Policy. Removing the dollar amounts for all fines and/ or fees from the Handbook and putting them into the NRHA Fees Policy will be much more convenient for the membership to locate and will allow them to have better information on various fees and fines. In addition, this allows for fees to be adjusted by the Board of Directors any time it is needed (vs. the current practice of requiring these fees go through the rule change proposal process which is very time-consuming). Upon approval of this rule change, all mentioned fees will be added to the existing NRHA Fees Policy. Submitted by Staff.*

Page 7-8, General Rules and Regulations. B. Affiliate Compliance.

Renewing NRHA Affiliates... {paragraph continues}. After March 1, an annulled Affiliate may apply for renewal by paying a \$50 re-instatement fee and submitting a completed affiliate renewal application representing officers who are current NRHA members in good standing.

Page 9, General Rules and Regulations. D. Disciplinary Procedures. Section 4.

(3) (f) ~~\$250~~ **Protest** Filing Fee

Page 10, General Rules and Regulations. D. Disciplinary Procedures. Section 4.

(4) Protest and Complaint Filings for which ~~\$250~~ **protest** filing fee is waived:

(Continued...)

Page 10, General Rules and Regulations. D. Disciplinary Procedures. Section 4.

(5) One half of the **protest** filing fee ~~(\$125)~~ will be refunded in the event sanctions issued by the Hearing Body.

Page 11, General Rules and Regulations. D. Disciplinary Procedures. Section 6. Hearing Body.

(9) The decision and... {paragraph continues}. However, any aggrieved party to any protest may appeal its decision upon the notification and payment of a ~~\$500~~ **the appeal** fee to the NRHA within ten (10) days (postmark) of the Hearing Body's announcement.

Page 16, General Rules and Regulations. F. Causes for Disciplinary Action (Protest of Complaint Not Required). Section 8. Reinstatement Guidelines.

(2) A suspended member must pay the ~~\$100~~ **reinstatement** fee, in addition to regular membership application fees, to reinstate membership.

Page 22, General Rules and Regulations. G. Animal Welfare and Medications Provisions Applicable to All NRHA Events. Section 5. Management Procedures (B).

(b) Show management must forward... {paragraph continues}. ~~Shows failing to postmark the sum by ten business days following the completion of an NRHA event will be assessed a penalty of \$100. An additional penalty of \$500 will be assessed if postmarked after twenty business days.~~

Page 36, Show Rules and Regulations. C. Competition Licensing.

(7) If a horse is shown without correct ownership on the competition license, the show secretary ~~will be fined \$10~~ and the rider will be fined ~~\$25~~. A second offense may result in disqualification, forfeiture, and an **additional \$200** fine.

Page 36, Show Rules and Regulations. D. Categories of Competition and Class Eligibility.

{First paragraph – No change}

It is the owner' and rider's responsibility... {paragraph continues}. Any rider competing in a class or division for which he/she is ineligible (or his/her horse is ineligible) will be fined \$25 for the first offense. After receiving notice, any second offense may result in an **additional \$200** fine.

Page 44, Show Rules and Regulations. F. General Show Conditions.

(2) All exhibitors and owners/co-owners... {paragraph continues}. If a horse is shown without current NRHA membership for the owner/co-owner and/or rider, and it is required, the show will be fined ~~\$10 per offense~~ and the horse will be disqualified and forfeited from the class.

Page 45, Show Rules and Regulations. F. General Show Conditions.

(7) All horses must display the correct exhibitor number. Failure to display the number, or displaying the wrong exhibitor number, will result in the rider receiving a **\$25** fine per offense **to be collected by show management**.

{Staff Note: In practice, this is difficult for NRHA to be aware of and to enforce and we very rarely, if ever, fines for this. However, we believe show management may want the option to help keep order at their events}

Page 45, Show Rules and Regulations. F. General Show Conditions.

~~(12) Up to date ownership information is required on the horse's competition license. If a show secretary reports an incorrect owner on show results he/she will be fined \$10. A noncompliant rider will be fined \$25. A second offense may result in disqualification and a \$200 fine.~~

(Continued...)

Page 46, Show Rules and Regulations. G. Event Approval.

(3) {See paragraph following chart} Any changes made to... Any event approval form received in the NRHA office after the required deadline, or a form that is not completed in full, may be subject to a ~~\$100~~ late fee.

Page 48, Show Rules and Regulations. G. Event Approval. (8). Event Classifications.

(e) A Events:

(C) Judges not to judge over 12 hours per day, actual judging, including breaks. ~~If a judge judges over the 12-hour limit, the event may be fined \$500 for the first hour and \$100 for each additional hour over. The Show Representative/Steward(s) will be required to report this to NRHA. Fines that are incurred due to conditions that are unforeseen may be waived following an appeal to the Executive Committee.~~

{Staff Note: In practice, this is difficult for NRHA to be aware of and to enforce and we very rarely, if ever, fines for this. However, judges often address overtime when negotiating their contracts.}
{Renumber subsequent}

Page 48, Show Rules and Regulations. G. Event Approval. (8). Event Classifications. (9) Event Cancellation Policies.

(e) Failure to follow procedures may result in a ~~\$250~~ fine and may jeopardize future show approvals.

08-01-19 – Move part of IAP rules to resolution

***Intent of Proposal:** Strengthening affiliates is a core strategy of the NRHA Strategic Plan. This change would give the Board more flexibility to address current needs and to adapt the benefits for affiliates to support this strategy. Should a change in benefits be agreed upon and approved, the change could be made mid-year per a majority vote of the Board. Submitted by Staff.*

Page 8, General Rules and Regulations.

C. INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATE PROGRAM

Designation as an NRHA National Association Affiliate (“NAA”) is a privilege, not a right, bestowed by the Board, according to procedures formulated by the Executive Committee.

{Section 1. and 2. – No changes.}

Section 3. In support of the International Affiliate Program, NRHA will agree to the following:

(a) Recognize the NAA as the organization to govern and lead the sport of Reining on a national level within that country.

(b) ~~Rebate to the NAA \$20 for each member in that country who is also an NRHA member (General, Non Pro or Professionals) in good standing.~~ **Provide support to NAAs, as approved by the NRHA Board of Directors and published in the International Affiliate Program policy.**

(Continued...)

~~(c) Rebate to the National Affiliate fifty percent (50%) of NRHA's show fees for every show that is NRHA approved and held either inside that country's geographic borders, or run under the auspices of that NAA.~~

{Renumber subsequent}

Items (b) and (c) from rule above will be added to a new policy, the International Affiliate Program Policy:

In support of the International Affiliate Program, NRHA will agree to provide the following support to NAAs that have been approved to benefit from the IAP Program:

(a) Rebate to the NAA \$20 for each member in that country who is also an NRHA member (General, Non Pro or Professionals) in good standing. Provide support as approved by the NRHA Board of Directors. **The rebate amounts for each membership are \$20 for annual, \$45 for 3-year, \$60 for lifetime.**

(b) Rebate to the National Affiliate fifty percent (50%) of NRHA's show fees for every show that is NRHA approved and held either inside that country's geographic borders, or run under the auspices of that NAA.