



GENERAL SHOW RULES V8.0

SEE ALSO GENERAL SHOW RULES ADDENDUM V1.0

[*31 August 2018*]

REINING

(Judging as per current AQHA rule book)

Freestyle Reining

(As per NRHA)

Para-reining

(Graded and judged as per <http://www.worldparareining.org> requirements)

WESTERN PERFORMANCE

Trail

Western Pleasure

Western Horsemanship

Western Riding

Ranch Riding

Showmanship at Halter

(Judging as per current AQHA rule book)

WESTERN DRESSAGE

Western Dressage

(Judging as per www.westerndressageassociation.org rule book)

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AMENDMENTS TO VERSION 7

1. Added Section 6.4, LOUD INSTRUCTIONS (same intent as SANESA)
2. Revised Section 9, JUDGES (be more flexible)

AMENDMENTS TO VERSION 7a

1. Added General Statement
2. Amended items under 9.2 and 9.3 (80% pass rate, plus/minus 1 point difference accuracy).
3. Item 9.8.8, added “The above conditions in this item are waived...”

GENERAL STATEMENT

It is the intention of Reining and Western Performance Horse South Africa (RWPHSA) to provide the administrative and technical guidelines necessary, contained within this GENERAL SHOW RULES document, to allow the successful practice of this sport discipline to take place on a sustainable basis.

The provisions and benefits contained within this document, apply to ALL who are paid-up members of RWPHSA, with renewal due from January to December each year and the competition year running from September to end August each year.

The fees are reviewed annually and at present are –

R100,- for all officials and judges (trainee, junior or official). If a rider, only the rider fee applies.

R250,- for all junior riders (18 and under)

R500,- for all adult riders

R50,- per horse

Training shows are provided for the “Ride and Try” riders and are not part of official RWPHSA qualifiers.

In other words, they can take place on the same day, but take place separately or consecutively.

The reason is to maintain the riding standards in an official show for the benefit of spectators.

SAEF insurance does NOT cover “Ride and Try” riders. (**Note:** Use “Development” instead of “Ride and Try”)

Any riders that take part in an Official Qualifier Show are considered to be “members” and need to pay the “day membership” fee (R350,-) as agreed to by the RWPHSA Board.

It is important to adhere to the financial aspects of this sport discipline, to allow for the proper funding of all activities within RWPHSA. These aspects are –

- a. Return of show results within 3 days and not later than 7 days of a show to the RWPHSA secretary at admin@reining.co.za
- b. The RWPHSA secretary verifies the returns and submits the returns to the RWPHSA treasurer, who will issue an invoice within 3 days of receipt of the returns. A proof of payment should be submitted on payment.
- c. The affected club is expected to submit a payment of the RWPHSA levies (R25 per entry) to the RWPHSA Bank Account not later than 7 days after receipt of the invoice. That gives a response time of approximately two weeks maximum.
- d. The judge’s costs are to be paid within 3 days and not later than 7 days after the official show.

SAEF membership is required for rider insurance purposes at official RWPHSA shows approved by SAEF.

Failure to pay SAEF membership fees result in competitors riding at their own risk.

In other words, emergency medical care is the liability of the riders and/or responsible persons.

The current fees for SAEF are –

Free – for judges and officials who are not riders

R430 – for FEI adults, R400 for non-FEI adults

R330 – for FEI youth, R300 for non-FEI youth

R160 - for new horse passports

It is accepted that all participants are aware of and have accepted the conditions contained in this GENERAL SHOW document, before entries are placed in any official RWPHSA show.

1. ROSETTES

1st place	---	Blue	2nd place	---	Red	3rd place	---	Yellow
4th place	---	White	5th place	---	Pink	6th place	---	Green
7th place	---	Purple	8th place	---	Brown	9th place	---	Dark grey
10th place	---	Light Blue						

Champion --- Purple Reserve Champion --- Purple and White

2. GRADING

- i. The grading level will be as per horse's grading level. Rider may choose to start in either novice, intermediate or open, if competing for the first time. A Novice rider purchasing a graded horse may choose to downgrade the horse to compete. Imported trained horses can start in either intermediate or open depending on the rider level.
- ii. It is advised that the grading is displayed on the entry forms in order to ensure that the riders are aware of the requirements.

The different grades will be as follows:

2.1 NOVICE

- 2.1.1 Walk and Jog ONLY, except for the second reining pattern which shall be in a lope.
- 2.1.2 Snaffle bits / bosals only (as per equipment rules), without leverage.
- 2.1.3 One or two hands (must finish as started).
- 2.1.4 No spurs will be allowed for short stirrup and youth riders.
- 2.1.5 English tack is allowed, no nosebands will be permitted.
- 2.1.6 The reining pattern will be ridden as written, except in a jog.
- 2.1.7 Minimal body control required, backup included in patterns, only required to open gate

2.2 INTERMEDIATE

- 2.2.1 Walk, jog and lope required
- 2.2.2 Snaffle bit, bosals and curb bits (as per AQHA equipment rules); one hand must be used when using a curb bit.
- 2.2.3 Spurs allowed
- 2.2.4 Western saddles / Trail saddles allowed
- 2.2.5 Simple changes will be allowed (where changes are requested)
- 2.2.5 Minimal body control required, backup included, side passes may be requested. Required to open and close gate.

2.3 OPEN

- 2.3.1 Walk, jog and lope required
- 2.3.2 All legal western curb bits permitted (as per AQHA equipment rules), one hand only.
- 2.3.3 Spurs allowed
- 2.3.4 Western tack only (western saddle with horn)
- 2.3.5 Advanced western manoeuvres

3. RIDER DIVISIONS

3.1 SHORT STIRRUP

- 3.1.1 11 years old and under
- 3.1.2 Lead rein riders can be included
- 3.1.3 Can be combined in youth division, if lack of entries
- 3.1.4 All riders must have hard hats (competition approved) on at all times
- 3.1.5 No stallions allowed (including cryptorchid and monorchid)
- 3.1.6 If lead line attached, must be attached to halter, not to the bit.

3.2 YOUTH

- 3.2.1 18 years old and under
- 3.2.2 Can be combined with short stirrup, if lack of entries
- 3.2.3 All riders must have hard hats (competition approved) on at all times
- 3.2.4 No stallions allowed (including cryptorchid and monorchid)

3.3 ADULT

- 3.3.1 19 years old and older
- 3.3.2 Hard hats optional
- 3.3.3 Stallions may be ridden (must have yellow tag on bridle)

Birthday in the show season

At 18, you may elect at the beginning of the show year which division you would like to ride but you have to stay in that division.

4. ATTIRE

- 4.1 Appropriate western attire is required, which includes pants (slacks, trousers, jeans, etc.) long sleeves and collar (band, stand up, waist coat, etc.) western hat and cowboy boots.
- 4.2 Special exception because of religious reasons or physical handicap must be requested by filing a written request to RWPHSA and written approval obtained prior to participation.
- 4.3 Fastened and well fitted hard hats / helmets are mandatory at all times when on board a horse for all riders 18 years old and under (competition approved).
- 4.4 Hard hats / helmets are optional, but encouraged for all adult riders.
- 4.5 All handlers in lead line classes should be dressed in appropriate attire and closed shoes.
- 4.6 Spurs and chaps are optional.

5. GENERAL SHOW CONDITIONS

- 5.1 All entry forms must accurately and truthfully identify horses, owner and rider when the information is asked for from the exhibitor. Any misrepresentation or false statement on the entry form shall constitute unsportsmanlike conduct and will subject owner and/or exhibitor to disciplinary action.
- 5.2 A horse and rider are required to be registered with RWPHSA Club, RWPHSA and SAEF.
- 5.3 All horses must have a correct exhibitor number displayed.
- 5.4 The show schedule must be available to exhibitors at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the first horse entering the arena.
- 5.5 Patterns must be posted a minimum of one hour before the start of the first class
- 5.6 If an entry is made after the show schedule is posted, it is the decision of the show management as to whether that entry runs first or last. It must be consistent for all entries in that class (except in the case of an exhibitor with multiple horses)
- 5.7 Failure to display correct exhibitor number will result in the rider receiving a 0 score.
- 5.8 Any contestant withdrawing from a show after entering shall forfeit any fees and all go-round money which may be credited to him at the time of his withdrawal; except that in case of incapacitating sickness or injury to himself or his horse, or serious illness or death in the contestant's family, all prize monies won by him to that point shall be paid.
- 5.9 If an entrant misses his/her turn as determined by the show schedule, he/she will be disqualified from that round (except for cases where unusual and truly unavoidable circumstances exist). Each case will be judged on its own merit by the Show Manager.
- 5.10 Substitution of riders will not be permitted except by agreement of the show management and RWPHSA representative in case of injury or other extenuating circumstances.
- 5.11 A rider may not show more than three (3) horses in an RWPHSA class. If a rider rides more than one horse, there should be a spread of five (5) horses between his/her runs. If less than 5 horses in the class, maximum spread will be given.
- 5.12 All horses must be ridden astride.
- 5.13 It is mandatory for all riders to use appropriate tack and western attire while showing for level class; this would include a long sleeve shirt, western hat or safety helmet, boots, western saddle (for open), and western bridle (for open). (Freestyle reining being exempt based on conditions.) Failure to use appropriate attire will result in a score of 0.
- 5.14 The Affiliate, Show Committee and all participants, spectators and others, acknowledge that because these rules have been established on the basis of experience and fairness to all who are interested in the betterment of reining horse competition, the RWPHSA assumes no liability for any injuries, damages or claims of whatever nature from any Affiliate, Show Committee, participant or spectator arising out of performance conducted under the RWPHSA General Rules and Requirements.
- 5.15 Any person or entity in violation of RWPHSA and SAEF rules may be subject to, but not limited to, fines, forfeitures, exclusion from High Point standings, probation, and/or disciplinary procedures.

- 5.16 At all shows where there is an official videographer / photographer, exhibitors by entering are giving permission to RWPHSA to use any and all video /photos for educational / advertising purposes. Permission must also be obtained from the show's management.
- 5.17 The exhibitor is responsible for errors made on their entry forms. A horse entered in the wrong class may be transferred to its correct class after the judging program has been printed.
- 5.18 No horse may be shown before its 3-year-old year in RWPHSA events.
- 5.19 The following rule applies to all riders – exception in 5.20. A horse may be entered only once per class. In the instance where classes are run concurrent, a rider may show three horses per class and a horse may only be shown once.
- 5.20 The following rule only applies to Short Stirrup Novice, Youth Novice and Adult Novice - A horse may be entered up to three times with different riders per class.

6. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

6.1 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

6.1.1 Unsportsmanlike conduct or any other form of misconduct that is irresponsible, illegal, indecent, profane, intimidating, threatening or abusive is prohibited.

6.1.2 **This provision applies to:**

- i. Members, non-members, exhibitors, trainers, owners, owner representatives, spectators and all other persons on the show grounds of an approved event; and
- ii. Members on the show grounds of an event held in conjunction with an approved event; and
- iii. Members on the show grounds of an event during which an approved class is held regardless of whether the conduct is associated with or occurs during an approved class.

6.1.3 Show management may immediately expel individuals exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct from show grounds and shall file a written report with RWPHSA concerning the conduct in question.

6.2 INHUMANE TREATMENT

6.2.1 Inhumane treatment of any horse (whether registered with RWPHSA or not) or any other animal on show grounds is strictly prohibited. Treatment of any horse will be considered inhumane if a person, educated or experienced in accepted equine training techniques, would perceive the conduct of an individual to be inhumane.

6.2.2 **Inhumane treatment includes, but is not limited to:**

- i. Placing an object in a horse's mouth so as to cause undue discomfort or distress;
- ii. Leaving a bit in a horse's mouth for extended periods of time so as to cause undue discomfort or distress;
- iii. Tying a horse up or around in a stall in the manner as to cause undue discomfort or distress;
- iv. Tying or fastening any foreign object onto a horse, halter, bridle and/or saddle in order to de-sensitize the horse;
- v. Use of training techniques or methods such as poling or striking a horse's legs with objects;
- vi. Excessive spurring or whipping;

- vii. Excessive jerking of reins;
- viii. Excessive fencing;
- ix. Excessive spinning (defined as more than eight (8) consecutive turns
- x. Use of prohibited equipment, including, but not limited to, saw tooth bits, hock hobbles, tack collars or tack hackamores;
- xi. Use of any item or appliance that restricts movement or circulation of the tail;
- xii. Exhibiting a horse which appears to be sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired; or
- xiii. Intentional or negligent treatment which results in any bleeding.

6.2.3 This prohibition against inhumane treatment applies to RWPHSA members and non-members. Members may be held responsible for the actions of their trainers, agents, representatives and/or employees. For violation of this rule, an individual may be disciplined, suspended, fined, denied RWPHSA privileges, disqualified, expelled from show grounds and/or expelled from RWPHSA.

6.3 INHIBITING COMPETITION

6.3.1 Any form of conduct that inhibits competition at RWPHSA approved events is expressly prohibited.

6.3.2 This offense includes not only the person suggesting the prohibited conduct, but all who participate in the scheme or plan.

6.3.3 **Such conduct includes, but is not limited to:**

- i. Padding classes by entering a horse(s) not otherwise qualified for the competition to fill a class, to increase points.
- ii. Encouraging a potential competitor to refrain from entering the class.

6.3.4 For violation of this rule, a member may be disciplined, suspended, fined and/or expelled from RWPHSA and a non-member may be denied RWPHSA privileges. Furthermore, violation of this rule shall be grounds for RWPHSA to disqualify the horse(s) entered by the persons that participate in the scheme or plan prohibited by this rule.

6.3.5 To assist RWPHSA in the promotion of true competition, any person approached by another to cooperate in a scheme or plan to inhibit competition shall immediately report the matter to show management and then to RWPHSA in writing within 10 days, failing which, the person approached may be subject to disciplinary action by the Executive Committee, the same as the person or persons suggesting the scheme or plan.

6.4 LOUD INSTRUCTIONS

6.4.1 It is the duty of the Show Manager at an official RWPHSA qualifier show to ensure that there is no interference or assistance from any source that would affect a competitor, either negatively or positively, in an approved class. This would apply whether the class is from a RWPHSA or co-hosted event. This would also include the perception by parents, supporters and trainers, that a competitor was being unduly influenced and assisted by professional advice given from outside of the area of the approved class.

Such interference would include, but is not limited to, the following –

- a. Specific shouted instructions to a competitor or student in an approved class.
This is different to shouts of encouragement from a person or spectators, which is a normal response to manoeuvres which are well executed.
- b. Specific shouted instructions to a student or pending competitor, in an area which is close to the

arena in which a current approved class is in progress, thus potentially affecting the outcome of a class result, due to distracting noise.

- c. Unkind and unflattering remarks about a competitor or his/her coach/trainer/parent/supporter before, during or after any class or training session which is part of the official show event for the day/s. This would have to be part of an official complaint, with at least two witnesses, before any serious action can be taken.

6.4.2 This provision applies to:

- i. Members, non-members, exhibitors, trainers, owners, owner representatives, spectators and all other persons on the show grounds of an approved event; and
- ii. Members on the show grounds of an event held in conjunction with an approved event; and
- iv. Members on the show grounds of an event during which an approved class is held regardless of whether the conduct is associated with or occurs during an approved class.

6.4.3 Show management may immediately expel individuals exhibiting socially unacceptable conduct from show grounds and shall file a written report with RWPHSA concerning the conduct in question.

7. LAMENESS

7.1 The judge shall check for lameness of all horses brought into any class. The judge has the authority to excuse any horse from the class, due to lameness, at any time while being judged. This is essential regardless of whether or not the competition indicates it is necessary. Obvious lameness shall be cause for disqualification.

Obvious lameness is:

- i. Consistently observable at a trot / walk under all circumstances;
- ii. Marked nodding, hitching or shortened stride;
- iii. Minimal weight-bearing in motion and/or at rest and inability to move.

8. SHOW OFFICIALS

8.1 GENERAL

- 8.1.1 A show official is defined as any person performing the duties of a Show Manager, Steward (Gate Marshall), Ring Steward (Scribe), Show Secretary, Announcer, Groundsman
- 8.1.2 Designation as an approved Official is a privilege not a right, bestowed by the RWPHSA committee. The privilege shall be open to individuals whose experience and expertise, as well as personal character, merits the honour. An individual's conduct as a member, exhibitor and official and his/her ability must be exemplary. The conduct will be subject to continuous review. Any misconduct on the part of the Official at any event such as drinking while on duty, the use of abusive language, or any other action unbecoming to one in his/her position either on the grounds or elsewhere during the duration of the show will make him/her subject to a complete and impartial hearing on the cause of the complaint before the appropriate committee or body.
- 8.1.3 An Official who undertakes the obligation to officiate at a sanctioned event is responsible to fulfil that commitment. Should he/she be unable to officiate for any reason, he/she is required to arrange for a suitable replacement.

- 8.1.4 Officials are also required to notify the Office of said change, failure to do so for any reason may result in immediate suspension from officiating. If an emergency should arise that requires the official to leave the grounds he/she should appoint a qualified substitute to fulfil the duties in his/her absence.
- 8.1.5 An official should clearly understand that he/she has no authority in connection with the judging of a competition but should be consulted when interpretation of rules are in question. He/she should immediately report to the appropriate officials any violations of the rules which might impact the show.
- 8.1.6 An official shall not be an exhibitor at any approved event or combination of events at which he/she is a member of the officiating team.

8.2 SHOW STEWARD (Gate Marshall)

- 8.2.1 Stewards should remain available to judges, exhibitors and management at all times to clarify the application of RWPHSA rules and investigate any situation where the rules are not upheld.
- 8.2.2 Stewards are to be available to consult with show management and judges concerning rules, but do not have the authority to override decisions made by show management or judges.
- 8.2.3 Stewards need to check that a horse is entered correctly with show management prior to the start of an approved class.
- 8.2.4 Protect the interests of the exhibitors, judges and show management.
- 8.2.5 The Steward must represent all contestants with the show management and judge(s) and will be the sole liaison with said management or judge(s).
- 8.2.6 To immediately investigate and act upon any alleged rule violation.
- 8.2.7 To immediately report to the show management any misrepresentation or substitution of entry.
- 8.2.8 To verify that rules are followed when changes to the draw are allowed by show management or judges.
- 8.2.9 To make routine inspections of the arena and stable areas and to ensure that these areas are maintained in a safe manner for the horses, exhibitors and spectators.
- 8.2.10 To ensure that the Protest Forms are available for RWPHSA members during the entire competition.
- 8.2.11 To ensure that the Show Steward's contact information is made available to spectators during the competition.
- 8.2.12 The Show Steward must report if he/she observes any horse being abused or if there are actions by the contestant detrimental to the best interest of the RWPHSA; loud profane language, drunkenness or being under the influence of intoxicants; any unsportsmanlike conduct toward judges, show management or other exhibitors; or any other infraction of RWPHSA rules.
- 8.2.13 Report to the RWPHSA details of accidents and/or injuries relating to both humans and horses on the official Accident/Injury Report Form provided by the RWPHSA. In the event of a fatality the RWPHSA should be notified as soon as possible no later than the next RWPHSA business day.
- 8.2.14 Stewards must report to management any rider who shows without an exhibitor number or uses the incorrect exhibitor number.
- 8.2.15 If more than twelve (12) hours per day of stewarding will be required, show management should consider multiple Show Stewards

8.3 SHOW MANAGER

- 8.3.1 Be the person in charge of the show, but preferably not serve as show secretary or ring steward at a show for which they are manager.
- 8.3.2 Any reputable person appointed by RWPHSA may act in the capacity of show manager.

- 8.3.3 Have authority to enforce all rules referring to the show and he/she may excuse any horse or exhibitor from the show prior to or during the judging.
- 8.3.4 Have jurisdiction over preparing and mailing all entry forms, show schedules and programmes and shall enforce the arrival and departure times as advertised.
- 8.3.5 Be present on the show grounds for the duration of the show. In the event an emergency arises and the show manager is unable to fulfil his/her duties, an acting manager should be appointed.
- 8.3.6 At all times extend every effort to satisfy the comfort of the horses, exhibitors, spectators and officials and will be held responsible for maintaining clean and orderly conditions throughout the show.
- 8.3.7 The show manager shall also be responsible for ensuring humane treatment of horses is adhered to on show grounds through policing of stalling areas and practice pens at various times throughout the show.
- 8.3.8 Receive written or verbal complaints from exhibitors, trainers, owners, show participants and other members of incidents of cruel, abusive or inhumane treatment of horses on show grounds or any other complaints or incidents of rule violations and shall forward such to RWPHSA.
- 8.3.9 Upon a report or discovery of inhumane treatment, immediately investigate the incident and make every effort to obtain the concurrence of any approved judge on the grounds or authorized personnel, if available. Any verbal or written warning performed by the show manager at a show for inhumane treatment is to be reported in writing to RWPHSA. If an incident is later reported to RWPHSA and knowledge is gained that the show manager was present but did not report the incident, this could jeopardize their ability to manage an approved show in the future.
- 8.3.10 Have the right to establish ground rules with reference to the amount of time an exhibitor is allowed to begin his performance, dependent on the facilities and conditions.
- 8.3.11 Determine if an elimination is necessary, in the interest of successful implementation of the approved show, the number of go-rounds to be held and the number of horses to be shown at each performance and to reasonably limit entries when necessitated by time and/or physical constraints of show premises when applied fairly and uniformly by a procedure in which all qualified entries are included in a random draw.
- 8.3.12 Any approved show which fails to pay for services rendered by third parties in connection with the holding of the approved shows (i.e. judges' fees, cattle charges, facilities, insurance or drug testing fees, etc.) or pay premium monies to exhibitors can be denied RWPHSA approval for present and future shows.
- 8.3.13 Shall ensure that the levy for hosting the Qualifier is paid and proof thereof accompanies the results when submitted by the show secretary within the specified period.
- 8.3.14 Show manager and/or show secretary and sponsoring organization and/or its representatives can be denied privileges of RWPHSA and suspended from membership if they fail to conduct their duties.
- 8.3.15 One-day/one-judge shows may not run more than 12 consecutive hours from the scheduled starting time to the conclusion of the show, including all breaks.
- 8.3.16 It is mandatory that show management issue each horse only one saddle number regardless of the number of classes entered or the number of exhibitors showing that horse.
- 8.3.17 If show management desires to conduct its own inspection, drug or surgical alteration testing, it must obtain written authorization from RWPHSA and instructions as to procedures and qualified veterinarians. At a RWPHSA approved show, only provincial associations or representatives of show management, acting pursuant to RWPHSA rules, may request specimens of urine, saliva, blood or other substance for drug testing, or require payment of drug testing fees as a condition for entry. Drug testing fees charged by an approved show are subject to prior approval by RWPHSA. The show manager shall forward to RWPHSA complete information, in writing, concerning a forbidden drug case or refusal to allow testing.

8.4 SHOW SECRETARY

- 8.4.1 Any reputable person appointed by the Show Manager capable through ability and experience and is familiar with RWPHSA rules may act in the capacity of show secretary.

- 8.4.2 The show secretary should preferably hold the position of show manager or ring steward at a show at which he/she serves as show secretary.
- 8.4.3 It is the show secretary's responsibility to accurately maintain and record both entries and show results, including verifying exhibitor and horse eligibility.
- 8.4.4 Show Management will be fined for late show results being received by the RWPHSA office. (Within 10 days)
- 8.4.5 To keep a set of results on file for at least one year from the show.
- 8.4.6 Cash payments made to the show secretary during the show must be entered into cash book and must be forwarded to RWPHSA.
- 8.4.7 Only horses registered with RWPHSA and SAEF as specified in rules are eligible to compete in approved shows.
- 8.4.8 Entries shall be made in the name of the recorded owner.
- 8.4.9 Any horse entered in an RWPHSA approved show must be listed under its complete registered name and number, or Appendix or New Appendix name with the designation of Appendix or New Appendix following its name to be eligible for RWPHSA points.

8.5 RING STEWARD (Scribe)

- 8.5.1 Any reputable person appointed by the Show Manager may act in the capacity of ring steward. He/she is capable through ability or experience and is familiar with RWPHSA rules. Appropriate western attire is required which includes pants (slacks, trousers, jeans, etc.), long-sleeve shirt with collar (band, stand up, waist coat, etc.) and cowboy boots. Western hat is optional.
- 8.5.2 The ring steward may not hold the position of show manager or show secretary at a show at which he/she serves as a ring steward.
- 8.5.3 Relieve the judge of unnecessary details, assemble the class promptly, keep the judging program on schedule, eliminate long delays between classes and control the conduct of the horses and exhibitors in the ring.
- 8.5.4 Notify the judge when all horses are present for each class and call his attention to those horses that are absent.
- 8.5.5 Assist the judge, not advise him/her and shall refrain from discussing, or seeming to discuss, the horses or the exhibitors with the judge.
- 8.5.6 Not take part, or seem to take part, in any of the judging.
- 8.5.7 When not actively engaged in his/her duties, place himself/herself in such a position so as not to interfere with the judging.
- 8.5.8 Not allow exhibitors to crowd up in the ring or arena and, at all times, endeavour to keep the possibilities of an accident at a minimum.
- 8.5.9 Have charge of the activity in the ring or the arena. He/she should act as a mediator between the judge and the exhibitor. The judge should request the ring steward to move and place horses as he/she advises. When the ring or arena size is small and the class entries are large, he/she should survey the situation and take every precaution to keep the horses moving until the judge is ready for them to be judged.
- 8.5.10 May be requested by the judge to ask an exhibitor to remove his or her horse for the safety of other horses or spectators. May be requested by the judge to remove unsportsmanlike exhibitors from the arena.
- 8.5.11 Be familiar with the procedure of sifting, when the classes are large and the judge requests that he/she line them up for the first sift, the second sift, and so on, until the judge has his/her class ready.

- 8.5.12 Line up the class winners the same in every class. The public has a right to know how the various horses are placed.

8.6 GROUNDSMAN

- 8.6.1 Any reputable person appointed by the Show Manager may act in the capacity of Groundsman. He/she is capable through ability or experience and is familiar with RWPHSA rules.
- 8.6.2 A Groundsman takes care of the building of the set courses of the day.

9. JUDGES

9.1 TRAINEE JUDGES

- 9.1.1 Any RWPHSA member who has performed scribing duties in at least four RWPHSA Qualifier shows, including the National Show, is eligible to become a Trainee Judge, based on at least two favourable reports by the qualified judge/s at those qualifiers. The report will have a standard format, which includes accuracy and general behaviour. The approval is given by the RWPHSA board.
- 9.1.2 All trainee judges will be required to do co-judging in at least four RWPHSA Qualifier Shows, with a qualified RWPHSA judge, before being eligible to become a Junior Judge by the RWPHSA board. The criteria is not a pass/fail scenario, but is an indication of whether the candidate has developed, or can develop, an insight into the decisions that are typically taken by a qualified judge to award plus or minus points in any particular class being judged.
- 9.1.3 The approval to become a Junior Judge may be withdrawn at any time, at the discretion of the RWPHSA board. All decisions are final and are reviewed after each six-month period.

9.2 JUNIOR JUDGES

- 9.2.1 All junior judges will be required to do the RWPHSA qualification program to become a qualified RWPHSA judge. The judge qualification program will consist of the following elements –
- a. **KNOWLEDGE**
- Only AQHA and RWPHSA Open Rule Book sessions are done, which requires 20 random questions to be answered in a set time, with a pass rate of 80%, or 16 out of 20 questions answered correctly, either verbal or written.
- There will be three of these sessions, requiring an overall pass rate of 80%.
- These can be combined with any qualifier show, with an examiner and moderator or witness present at any session.
- The RWPHSA board will review the questions and answers and make a final decision on the results, in the interests of fairness and transparency for all concerned.
- b. **SKILL**
- These consist of practical judging sessions, either by judging suitable videos, or co-judging actual RWPHSA qualifiers or training shows. There will be three of these sessions.
- A standard report is submitted to the RWPHSA board after each session, for each candidate, which serves as a record of training. There is no pass/fail criteria.

c. EXPERIENCE

These consist of practical co-judging sessions in official RWPHSA qualifiers only. There will be three of these sessions. The junior judge/s with their scribe/s are sufficiently separated from the official judge and scribe, to allow independent evaluation of the score results, preferably after all the riders have ridden in a class. A standard report is submitted to the RWPHSA board after each session, for each candidate, which serves as a record of judging ability. There is a plus or minus 1 point difference allowed, or accuracy rate, for any session, which needs to be repeated in at least two consecutive judging sessions.

d. INSIGHT

This will consist of a practical planning and management training session, which gives insight into the running of RWPHSA qualifier shows only.

A standard report is submitted to the RWPHSA board by the Show Manager, for each candidate, which serves as a record of Show Management knowledge and insight. There is no pass/fail criteria.

- 9.2.2 Junior judges will be allowed to judge training shows, after successfully passing one KNOWLEDGE session and one EXPERIENCE session.
- 9.2.3 Junior judges will be allowed to judge qualifiers, after successfully passing two KNOWLEDGE sessions and two EXPERIENCE sessions, if the show is judged concurrently by two junior judges (double judged). The results from both judges will be averaged to obtain the official show results). Junior judges should not be allowed to judge 2 consecutive qualifiers in this manner.
- 9.2.4 Junior judges will NOT be allowed to judge qualifiers by themselves, until approved by the RWPHSA Board.

9.3 JUDGE - RESTRICTED LEVEL

- 9.3.1 Judges at this level will be considered CARDED judges.
- 9.3.2 The judges within this category are restricted to judging South African affiliated shows only.
- 9.3.3 Only qualified after completing full criteria as a junior judge (three KNOWLEDGE and three EXPERIENCE sessions), at the required accuracy. Final approval is given by the RWPHSA Board.
- 9.3.4 Must undergo regular assessment: every 2 years.
- 9.3.5 Must attend one judging seminar per year to retain his/her judge's card.
- 9.3.6 Must judge in at least two Qualifier shows in a year, to retain his/her judge's card.

9.4 JUDGE – INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

- 9.4.1 All approved RWPHSA judges must have current NRHA, AQHA or APHA or FEI judge's cards.

9.5 JUDGING PRIVILEGES

- 9.5.1 Designation as an approved judge is a privilege, not a right, according to procedures formulated by the Judges Committee. This privilege shall be open to individuals whose equine experience and expertise, as well as personal character, merits the honour. An individual's conduct as a member, exhibitor, and judge, and his or her ability must be exemplary. An individual's conduct will be subject to continuous board review.

9.6 APPROVAL AND TESTING

- 9.6.1 The applicant must be at least eighteen (18) years of age for a YOUTH JUDGE and twenty-five (25) for a JUDGE. The age restriction may be waived in exceptional circumstances.

9.7 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

- 9.7.1 A judge who has received disciplinary action and suspension of any kind may regain his/her judging privileges once reapplying in writing to RWPHSA who will, in conjunction with the Judges Committee make the decision
- 9.7.2 Reinstatement of judging privileges will be at the discretion of RWPHSA.

9.8 GUIDELINES

- 9.8.1 Judges are not to judge over 12 hours per day, including breaks.
- 9.8.2 The judges will be paid a standard Judges fee of R600 per day, as well as traveling expenses at current AA rates and supplied with food and refreshments during this period. Should accommodation be needed this is to be provided by the hosting Body and Judge.
- 9.8.3 A judge shall not be an exhibitor at any RWPHSA approved event or combinations of events at which he or she is the officiating judge or member of the officiating team. Volunteer RWPHSA judges utilized for equipment inspection are excluded.
- 9.8.4 Judges must always act in the best interest of the RWPHSA avoiding any circumstances, which create a conflict of interest while officiating at any RWPHSA approved event. Conflicts of interest are subject to review by the Judges Committee. In the event it is determined that a judge has acted in an official capacity with a conflict of interest, the judge may be removed from the RWPHSA Judges list and may be subject to further disciplinary action for unsportsmanlike conduct.
- 9.8.5 Judges shall keep in mind that while judging they are representing RWPHSA. It is required that judges dress appropriately i.e. western attire so as to favourably represent their position while Judging.
- 9.8.6 The judge is not permitted to consume any alcoholic drink while judging.
- 9.8.7 The scribe/ring steward may not assist with scoring obstacles i.e. in trail class.
- 9.8.8 It is recommended that a judge shall not appear on the show grounds more than one hour prior to the scheduled start of the show unless as directed or requested by show management. Judges shall not visit with owners, trainers, exhibitors or agents before or during an RWPHSA approved event. The judges shall talk only with representatives of show management, beyond the exchange of normal greetings, until the entire show or contest is completed. The above conditions in this item are waived where the circumstances are such that it is unavoidable from a practical or financial consideration to do so. All judges are aware of this limitation, and we trust in their integrity to adhere to the intentions of this condition in fairness to all concerned.
- 9.8.9 A judge (or judges) must present in writing any grievance within ten (10) days of the incident that he/she may have against contestants or shows to an Official Officer, Director, or duly elected or appointed contestant's representative of the RWPHSA at the time of the grievance. The judge is not required to post the R100 grievance fee. His/her case will be reviewed by the appropriate committee and dealt with in accordance with the disciplinary procedures section of the handbook. If any of the above-named officials witness a grievance against a judge, he or she must report this immediately to the RWPHSA office. Said report must be in writing and must be accompanied by the R100 protest fee. Any grievance concerning a judge's conduct must be filed within ten (10) days of having gained knowledge of the incident. All grievances will be dealt with in accordance with the disciplinary procedure of the Judges handbook.
- 9.8.10 A judge shall conduct himself/herself in a manner fitting and proper to one afforded the honour of officiating at any RWPHSA approved or sponsored event. Any misconduct on the part of the judge at any RWPHSA contest such as drinking immediately prior to or during the contest, the use of abusive language, or any other action unbecoming to one in his/her position either on the grounds or elsewhere during the duration of the show will make him/her subject to a complete and impartial hearing on the cause of the complaint before the appropriate committee.
- 9.8.11 A judge who undertakes the obligation to officiate at an RWPHSA sanctioned event is responsible to fulfil that commitment. Should he/she be unable to officiate for any reason, he/she is required to notify the RWPHSA office of said change. Failure to do so, for any reason, will result in immediate suspension of judging privileges.

The Judge may:

- 9.8.12 Order any person or horse from the competition for poor conduct.

- 9.8.13 At his/her discretion, refuse entry into the arena or remove an entry from the class for improper attire and/or equipment.
- 9.8.14 Not ask an exhibitor to change horses with another exhibitor.
- 9.8.15 Not re-judge a class once it has been judged.

Judges responsibility

- 9.8.16 To allow exhibitors in individually worked classes who incur a penalty of 0 to complete the pattern as long as they stay within reasonable confines of the described pattern or course, stay within a reasonable working time allowed for the pattern or course and avoid excessive schooling abuse.

In the performance classes

- 9.8.17 Shall not call contestants off rail at any gait other than a walk, where the horses are worked on the rail.
- 9.8.18 May at his or /her discretion penalize the horse, anytime the horse is ridden with a hackamore and has open, raw or bleeding sores that come in contact with the hackamore ,or if the horse appears sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired.
- 9.8.19 The judge must disqualify a horse anytime the mouth is bleeding
- 9.8.20 The judge must disqualify a horse anytime the horse's sides are bleeding from excessive spur use in or out of the arena.
- 9.8.21 Must inspect a horse at least in one class per show by examining sides, front and rear for signs of abuse or excessive training.

10. SHOW RESULTS

10.1 GENERAL

- 10.1.1 The manager and/or secretary will submit official documents (show results, original judge's score sheets, membership applications and other RWPHSA documents) to the RWPHSA office within three (3) working days after the last day of the show as required by the rules herein. (admin@reining.co.za)
- 10.1.2 Show manager and /or secretary will also maintain a copy of show results and maintain the official show entry forms for a period of at least twelve (12) months.
- 10.1.3 Failure to submit results to the RWPHSA office within seven (7) days following the completion of the RWPHSA show may jeopardize future RWPHSA approval as determined by the RWPHSA Executive Committee. Any results not received will not be recognized by the RWPHSA office.
- 10.1.4 Judge's score sheets must be made available for supervised inspection. Score sheets can be emailed to the competitors on request. Original judge's score sheets must remain in the custody of the show secretary for supervision, control and safekeeping until they are returned to the RWPHSA office with the show results.
- 10.1.5 All reining will be complete and the posted scores will be considered official thirty minutes following the last horse of the day. In cases where a class is run in sections over multiple days, each day's scores will be official thirty minutes after the last run of each section. Scores must be posted or made available to exhibitors as soon as possible. Score corrections may not be made at any time after the judge has left the grounds.
- 10.1.6 Show Results must record all riders and horses shown, including scratches, zeros and no scores in the proper placing and properly labelled.
- 10.1.7 Pay-out to current recorded rider, agent, or owner must be made within 7 days following the completion of the RWPHSA Show.
- 10.1.8 Proof of payment of the necessary levies to RWPHSA to be sent with original score sheets and results within 7 (seven) days of last day of the show.

11. APPROVAL

NOTE:

THIS VERSION OF THE RULES FOR REINING, WESTERN PERFORMANCE AND SHOWMANSHIP AT HALTER COMPETITION HAS BEEN APPROVED BY –

REINING AND WESTERN HORSE PERFORMANCE SOUTH AFRICA BOARD:

PRESIDENT: JAAP HEESTERBEEK

VICE-PRESIDENT: GREG GARLAND

TREASURER: DAVID BEARD

JUDGE'S PORTFOLIO: NEIL DOUGALL

JUDGE'S TRAINING LIAISON: WILLIAM BONDESIO

JUDGE'S TRAINING MEMBERS: ELIZE KING
BONNITA BONDESIO
ERICA HOMAN

DATE: 31st AUGUST 2018

AND SUPERCEDES ANY VERSION OF THESE RULES PRIOR TO THIS DATE.