

AQHA Rule Changes

The following rule changes will come into effect 1st August 2021.

That in accordance with Rule 70, of the current Rule Book, as a supplementary rule: Rule 74

Definition of "exemplary conduct" - Something exemplary is so good that it is an example for others to follow and thus worth imitating, therefore Judges must conduct themselves in a manner deemed by the Board of Directors to be appropriate."

- 82.5 English Attire – for Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation and Hunter Hack
- Delete 82.5 a) and replace with:
 - A Rider must wear the following:
 - Hunt Coat
 - Breeches or Jodphurs
 - High English boots or elastic sided paddock boots, with or without gaiters
 - A shirt with a collar and a minimum of a short sleeves
- Delete 82.5 d) in its entirety and change 82.5 e) to d)
- Insert new rule 82.6
 - 82.6 English Attire for:
 - Endurance – AERA RULES
 - Dressage, Hack, Eventing, Show Jumping – EA RULES
 - Show Hunter, Hack – SHCA RULES
- Delete 42d) in entirety and replace with “No points will be awarded by the AQHA for any show, run by an AQHA Affiliate or Non-Affiliate, that is run on the same dates as an AQHA State Show in the State where the State Show is held.”

Additional Information for Members

State Shows

Affiliates running State Shows are permitted an exemption not to hold AmQHA classes for the 2021 / 2022 Show season.

Western Dressage

Western Dressage Australia will still be recognised as the approved performance body in Australia for Western Dressage. AQHA State shows and National Show will be recognised by WD-AUS upon application from the relevant Affiliate, or AQHA. A payment of \$50 to be submitted. Officiating Judge to be WD-AUS recognised and that non-sanctioned tests (Introductory & Basic Levels) only to be run. Any Other AQHA Affiliates who wish to hold Affiliated Western Dressage events are required to have an approved Western Dressage Affiliate run the event on their behalf or become a Western Dressage Affiliate.

Versatility Ranch

A Versatility Ranch show can be granted show approval on the same day as an AQHA Affiliate approved “A” or “AA” show that is within the 150km distance from each other, if mutually agreeable by both parties. An AQHA Affiliate has preference if no agreement between the two parties.

Novice Horse classes (new event as at 1st August 2021)

a) For the following recognised AQHA classes in an All Age Horse division only:

Trail, Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Riding, Reining and Ranch Riding

b) To be run as a standalone class

c) Equipment and Attire as per AQHA current Rules

d) At Affiliate shows offering Novice Horse classes, and Aged classes, horses eligible may only enter in Novice Horse or Aged class, not both (excluding Futurity's, Maturity's & Feature Events)

e) Novice class points will not be counted towards AQHA Annual National and State High Point Awards

f) Eligibility: Any horse that has not gained 20 or more points in any of the disciplines in a) above

g) All placings in Novice Horse classes, and aged horse classes, will receive points as per AQHA Rulebook and go towards their 20 point total in any discipline.

h) Ineligible: Once a horse has received their 20 points in any discipline, eg. Trail, the horse is no longer eligible for Novice Horse in that discipline and must cease immediately from showing Novice Horse classes in that discipline.

i) Application for AQHA Novice Horse permit must be completed and recognised by the office before the horse is eligible to compete.