



NOVEMBER 2017

Hi Affiliate Committee Members,

My name is John Steel and I am your new Affiliate Director. This newsletter contains information that the AQHA staff and Directors are often asked by our Affiliates.

If you have any information that you would like to pass onto another AQHA Affiliate or are having problems with certain aspects of running your show, please contact me by email to aqhadir8@aqha.com.au and I will get back to you as soon as possible and I will also share the information or problems that you may have with other Affiliates who might come across the same problems but your Affiliate's name will not be disclosed.

1. What classes are mandatory at "A" and "AA" approved shows & programs?

Rule 46.2 on page 49

Mandatory Halter classes – the six classes listed under 46.2 a) and if you decide to run 3 classes within each sex division, read the last paragraph of this rule and it gives you options depending on the time of year.

Mandatory Performance classes (remember showmanship is a performance class)

You must choose a minimum of 3 classes from each of the Groups listed below. That means if you want to run 3, 4 or 5 etc etc from each Group you can, but you only have to run 3 from each group.

Eg: depending on the type of riders in your area you may have Youth Showmanship, Youth Western Pleasure, Youth Horsemanship, Youth Ranch Riding and Youth AQHA Sporting.

You may decide to run an English style "A" show only and have Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter and Dressage, plus the mandatory halter classes.

You may decide to run an "A" show with only Reining, Ranch Riding, Trail, AQHA Sporting, Western Riding, plus the mandatory halter Classes.

You do need to make sure you read up on the age divisions in Youth, Amateur and Open classes so that whatever classes you pick to run that you are running the correct divisions.

You really need to take a look at the area you live in to gain the maximum number of horses and competitors to your show.

The above also applies to "AA" shows with the difference being that there are 9 mandatory halter classes and a minimum of 5 performance classes from each Group.

- ### 2. APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL
- if you feel that the application form for approval could be simplified, or does not have enough info on it, send us an email and we will consider your suggestions.
- ### 3. WHO CAN COMPETE AT YOUR SHOW:
- your show must be open to QH owners and competitors who are members in good standing with the AQHA.

Any person at your show that is not an AQHA financial member or a financial member of your Affiliate, MUST be charged an Event Fee. The amount of the fee to charge is up to the affiliate, but please make sure you get them to fill out a Day Event Form and keep it in your files.

4. JUDGES

Could all Affiliates, once you have found your Judge for your show, make sure that you send them a Judging contract and a copy of your show program and give them the date you wish to receive any patterns by so that you can put them up on your website and in your newsletters. Also let the Judge know what trail gear you have so that they don't use obstacles you don't have.

It is better for the competitor if the patterns can be posted between 14 to 7 days prior to the show. AQHA rule does state 1 hour before class but it would be great if you could post them earlier as some people have a problem remembering the patterns and patterns are not set to catch people out.

5. TRAIL OBSTACLES

Did you know that you don't have to have a bridge in the trail?

You only have to use 6 obstacles, just make sure that 3 of them are from the mandatory listing and 3 others from the optional list. If you wish to use more you can but make sure they are not on the UNACCEPTABLE Obstacle list.

6. ENTRY FEES

Must be charged uniformly for all competitors in the class.

7. The recent AQHA Board of Directors decision re the Appaloosa Association of Australia and the Appaloosa & Spotted Pony Association. These associations are not recognised by the AQHA with respect to showing at AQHA Approved Shows.

This means that horses only registered with these associations are restricted to showing in beginner/improver performance classes and only in halter classes that are offered as for "Any Other Breeds". These halter classes are not specifically for any particular breed but are for any other horse registry that western style horses might also be registered with. Eg Palomino, Buckskin, Pinto or any other Registry for Appaloosa type Horses.

Thanks for reading my newsletter,

John Steel
Deputy President
Affiliate Convenor