

2025 BYLAWS RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS up for vote at 2025 Annual Meeting

Section 10-D page B-19

#2505

Submitted by Ailene Tarap

The Treasurer shall cause to be submitted to the Board of Directors, at the first regular meeting of the Board after the Annual Meeting of the Board, a detailed budget of the proposed and anticipated expenditures for the ~~current~~ **following** calendar year of the Association for their approval. Upon approval of the budget, or its modification, it shall become binding upon the Officers of the Association and shall not be exceeded in each item set forth by more than ten (10) percent without prior approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Originator Justification: At the first regular meeting of the Board after the Annual Meeting of the Board is in the current year, so the budget needs to be for the subsequent year.

No office impact statement

Article 1X, Officers Section 10-C

page B-18/19

#2506

Submitted by Ailene Tarap

The Treasurer shall cause to be kept complete books of account and shall issue an itemized statement and report at the Annual Meeting and such interim reports as may be ordered by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer will also provide the Finance Committee members and Board of Directors with a ~~monthly~~ **quarterly** financial report which includes a balance sheet and profit/loss statement.

No office impact statement.

Article XVI Amendment of Rules

page B-23

#2507

Submitted by Mary Lou Elder

A) Requirement of prior notice:

1. Anyone submitting an AMHA Rule Change Proposal must be a current AMHA

member in good standing for the proposal to be forwarded on to the proper committee. AMHA Staff may submit Rule Change Proposals. To be eligible for consideration by a standing committee a rule change proposal or amendment must be presented to the AMHA office, in writing and signed by the originator ~~within 30 days after~~ **prior to** the adjournment of the AMHA Annual Meeting. All proposed Show Rule amendments must be presented with five (5) original co-signatures of AMHA members in good standing. When presented ~~at the~~ **prior to the close of the** annual meeting the proposals ~~can~~ be presented to the appropriate committee for discussion **at that time**. All proposed amendments will be reviewed by staff, executive director (if applies), **and appropriate committees** ~~then passed on with an impact statement to the appropriate committee(s)~~ for evaluation. **The staff will do an impact statement and send to the appropriate committee prior to April 1.** The affected committees will then evaluate the **Staff impact statements**. ~~proposed changes~~. The changes will be made in appropriate legal terms. The committees cannot change the intent of the rule as it was received from its original source. **Any changes must be approved by the originator. If the committee votes it down the committee must notify the originator and if the originator gets 2/3 of the current Board Members Signatures to** the change will then be presented for consideration on the agenda of the appropriate committee at the mid-year Board of Directors Meeting. If the rule change proposal is adopted by the committee it will then be voted on and approved by a majority of the Board of Directors. (Refer to the AMHA Rule Change Flow Chart for specific time limits)

Office Impact Statement

- 1) *This change to the Bylaws presents several challenges for the AMHA office, making it*

extremely difficult to validate and properly submit the rule-change proposals to the respective committees:

- 2) Providing the rule change proposals to the committees before the conclusion of the Annual Meeting does not allow the office sufficient time to verify signatures and membership or to properly log them into the rule change proposals log. The goal should be to streamline the process rather than complicate it. It is much easier for the office to gather all the rule change proposals, issue impact statements, and send them to the committee at once, rather than some at the Annual Meeting and others later.*
- 3) Sending them to the committees before impact statements can be made may waste committee time as they review a rule change proposal that the Association cannot feasibly implement.*
- 4) Currently, the committees have roughly 75 days from the March 1st deadline (office to provide them to the committees with impact statements) to the mid-year BOD meeting to review and make recommendations or request changes. This would give them 6 months, which seems too long.*
- 5) "The changes will be made in appropriate legal terms." What does that mean? Who is responsible for executing it and determining that the terms are "legal"?*
- 6) If the rule change proposals are given to the committee before the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, it means that the previous year's committee is making the decisions. Committee members (Bylaws, Rules & Regs, some Show Rules, and some LOC) terms expire at the end of the Annual Meeting, and a new committee takes over. This new committee should be the one to work on rule-change proposals for the following year.*
- 7) April 1st is not a suitable deadline for the AMHA office. As it stands, the committees are slow to submit their decisions to the AMHA office, which must prepare the rule change proposals for the mid-year BOD meeting, currently scheduled for May.*

Article XIX Amendment of Bylaws

page B-24/25 #2508

Submitted by Mary Lou Elder

(A) Requirement of prior notice Page

Anyone submitting an AMHA Bylaw Change Proposal must be a current AMHA member in good standing for the proposal to be forwarded on to the Bylaws Committee. All proposed Bylaw changes must be presented with ten (10) co-signatures of AMHA members in good standing or have been submitted and recommended by the Bylaws Committee. AMHA staff may present proposed

changes to the Bylaws Committee without (10) co- signatures. To be eligible for consideration by the Bylaws Committee, a proposal or amendment must be presented to the AMHA office in writing and signed by the originator ~~within 30 days after~~ **prior to** the adjournment of the AMHA Annual Convention. **The proposals received at the meeting can be presented to the Bylaws committee at that time for review.** All proposed amendments shall be reviewed by staff, executive director (if applies) and then passed on with an impact statement to the Bylaws Committee **prior to April 1.** The Committee will ~~then~~ review the proposed changes **and the Staff impact statement** and word them in the appropriate legal terms. The Committee cannot change the intent of the Bylaw as it was received from its original source. Only the submitter may make changes to the original proposal prior to or at the mid-year Bylaws Committee meeting. All Bylaw proposals or amendments to be considered for approval at the AMHA Annual Meeting must be published in their finished form on the AMHA website or official correspondence no less than sixty (60) days prior to the AMHA Annual meeting. The amendment will then be placed on the agenda at the proceeding Annual Meeting.

Office Impact Statement

- 1) *This change to the Bylaws presents several challenges for the AMHA office, making it extremely difficult to validate and properly submit the rule change proposals to the respective committees:*
- 2) *Providing the rule change proposals to the committees before the conclusion of the Annual Meeting does not allow the office sufficient time to verify signatures and membership or to properly log them into the rule change proposals log. The goal should be to streamline the process rather than complicate it. It is much easier for the office to gather all the rule change proposals, issue impact statements, and send them to the committee at once, rather than some at the Annual Meeting and others later.*
- 3) *Suggest replacing the word “proceeding” in the last sentence with “upcoming” for clarity.*

- 4) *Sending them to the committees before impact statements can be made may waste committee time as they review a rule change proposal that the Association cannot feasibly implement.*
- 5) *Currently, the committees have roughly 75 days from the March 1st deadline (office to provide them to the committees with impact statements) to the mid-year BOD meeting to review and make recommendations or request changes. This would give them 6 months, which seems too long.*
- 6) *“The changes will be made in appropriate legal terms.” What does that mean? Who is responsible for executing it and determining that the terms are “legal”?*
- 7) *If the rule change proposals are given to the committee before the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, it means that the previous year’s committee is making the decisions. Committee members (Bylaws, Rules & Regs, some Show Rules, and some LOC) terms expire at the end of the Annual Meeting, and a new committee takes over. This new committee should be the one to work on rule-change proposals for the following year.*
- 8) *April 1st is not a suitable deadline for the AMHA office; the current March 1st deadline gives the committees more time. The committees can be slow to submit their decisions to the AMHA office, which must prepare the rule change proposals for the mid-year BOD meeting, currently scheduled for May.*

Article VII – Directors, Section 2-B page B-12

#2509

Submitted by Bylaws Committee

B) Condition of Office

~~Any Director who does not attend a minimum of fifty (50) percent of the regular and special Board of Director’s meetings (including conference calls) from Annual Meeting to Annual Meeting or a Director who fails to maintain their membership in good standing shall be subject to removal from office by a majority vote of the Board of Directors (Amended 02-03, effective 01-04~~

1. Throughout his/her tenure, a Director must:

- a. **Remain an AMHA member in good standing**
- b. **Attend a minimum of fifty (50) percent of the regular and special Board of Director’s meetings (including virtual and/or Zoom calls)**

from Annual Meeting to Annual meeting.

- c. Adhere to AMHA rules and regulations pertaining to membership conduct, the social media policy and the Board of Director's Job Description.**
 - d. Conduct themselves in an exemplary manner such as to favorably reflect on the Board of Directors and AMHA.**
 - e. Maintain strict confidentiality regarding information discussed in closed session.**
 - f. Refraining from conduct that is detrimental to the interest of AMHA, it's programs, policies, objectives and harmonious relationship of its members.**
- 2. A Director's conduct is subject to continual review, and a Director's service on the Board of Directors may be terminated by a 2/3 majority vote of the Board of Directors for any violation of the above. If the Director's service on the Board of Directors is terminated by the Board of Directors, or if a resignation in lieu of such termination is accepted, such Director shall be ineligible to be nominated to serve as a Director for a minimum of three (3) years from the date of their termination or resignation.**

No office impact statement

2025 RULES & REGS RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS up for vote at 2025 Annual Meeting

174 Publication

page R-14

#2503

Submitted by Harry Elder

Delete ~~Miniature Horse World~~ from line 4 & 5 and replace with **“the AMHA website and all official correspondence.”**

No office impact statement

162 Hearing Procedure

page R-11

#2511

Submitted by Harry Elder

2nd sentence after “appear in person” Add **via Virtual Meeting.....**

No office impact statement

170 Right To Take Disciplinary Action

page R-12

#2512

Submitted by Harry Elder

Delete ~~Published in Miniature Horse World~~ from 1st, 2nd, & 3rd offense, replace with **Publish on the AMHA website**

No office impact statement

2025 SHOW RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS up for vote at 2025 Annual Meeting:

GR-000 SHOWRULES COMMITTEE Page S-3 #2514

Submitted by Mary Lou Elder

Delete entire paragraph and insert the following:

The Show Rules Committee shall consist of eleven (11) Regular members. At each Annual Meeting, the three longest tenured members will rotate off the committee. In the case of more than three members with the same tenure, the Show Rules Committee will vote to determine the members who will rotate off. Three replacements will be elected from the General Membership. The members who rotate off the committee will be eligible to run for the committee again. After the annual meeting the committee will then vote for their committee chair.

All committee members must participate in person or by electronic means as long as all members can hear each other simultaneously at the Show Rules Committee meeting held at the Annual Convention, mid-year Board Meeting and the World Championship Show (with the exception of extreme excused absence) in order to be eligible for the committee the next year. Failure to participate in the three meetings will result in dismissal. If a vacancy arises the committee will fill the vacancy by appointment at the discretion of the committee.

Originator Justification: This is the only committee that does not have a term limit in effect. All officers, BOD and the LOC have that provision. This rule is similar to the LOC Rule (LO-42) Page L-10 in the rulebook. This is a way to keep the continuity of the committee year to year the same way LOC has done successfully.

NOTES from Show Rules Committee: *The committee did not recommend this. It was voted down unanimously. The Originator has enough BOD signatures to send this to the membership for vote. This rule was previously amended on -11-24 effective date 1-25.*

No office impact statement

Submitted by Show Rules

Change

Replace:

~~Owner must request this card prior to measurement at the earlier show by completing a Permanent Measurement Card request form to the AMHA office~~

With: Owner must print the permanent height card application form from the AMHA website, fill out owner information and follow all directions on form.

No office impact statement

Submitted by Show Rules

Housekeeping

~~Drug testing on a random basis will be mandatory at all the AMHA World Championship Shows~~ **Drug testing will be done in accordance with WS-035C and WS-036-C and may be required at other shows.**

Note: We had this rule in 2 different places and this makes the rule the same in both places.

No office impact statement

Submitted by Show Rules

Change

G. Conduct by an exhibitor, trainer, owner, or immediate family member of an unsportsmanlike, abusive, or detrimental nature will not be tolerated by the show management, including but not limited to threatening, abusive, or intimidating conduct, physical, verbal or written, toward any individual or show official. Any

person(s) guilty of such conduct should be reported immediately to management ~~by the judge, steward, or show committee member.~~ The show management **may** suspend the offender for the duration of that show. Any person accused of such unseemly behavior may appeal his/her case to the Board of Directors, which shall render a decision. ~~If found guilty, such a person may be barred from future participation in AMHA show activity. The Board's decision will be published in the official AMHA publication.~~

No office impact statement

GR-050

Page **S-22**

#2518

Submitted by Show Rules

Addition:

GR-050 PROTESTS

A. All Protests Shall be handled accordingly to the following:

1. All Protests Must be made by an owner/agent of a horse entered in the show and owner must be present or have an agent present at the show.

ADD:

An Owner/Agent, or an owner/agent's family member, may not protest their own horse. All Protests must come from another exhibitor that will be showing within the same division.

No office impact statement

GR-050 clarifications

Page **S-24**

#2519

Submitted by Show Rules

~~Change clarifications to~~ Clarifications

ADD:

1. There is only 1 measurement allowed on Protest.

Renumber the other clarification to 2.

Note: We probably won't need this if SRCP #2544 passes.

No office impact statement

CL-016

Page **S-29**

#2520

Submitted by Debbie Meek

Addition

BONES, LEGS AND HOOVES - Flat, strong bones, smooth joints and proper angulations form a leg that is attractive and functional. The hooves are proportionate to overall conformation.

ADD: Legs are structurally straight and parallel when viewed from the front and back with hooves pointing directly ahead.

CL-040

Page **S-48**

#2521

Submitted by Donna Terry

Change:

The exhibitor must wear colors (cap and jacket to match patterned after racing silks. ~~No sequins or glitter~~)

No office impact statement

Submitted by Show Rules –

Change

Golden classes (exhibitor 60 years or older **by Jan 1st of the current show year**)
(~~For classes 1 & 2 see CL-080 for Showmanship Rules~~)

No office impact statement

Submitted by LOC

Replace the whole section with the below:

CL-080 SHOWMANSHIP

1. Showmanship classes are judged on the exhibitor's ability to show their horse and execute the posted pattern with precision and smoothness. Only the handler is judged. Judges will use one of the following patterns. Showmanship 7 & under and COOL classes are only to use pattern 1. The judge may discuss the selected pattern prior to class. The exhibitor will show to the presiding steward or judge. The selected pattern must be posted two (2) hours before the start of the class.

2. Appearance of exhibitor: Clothes and person neat and clean. Attire - hat, boots and long-sleeved shirts/blouses or jacket are required. Lack of required attire is cause for disqualification.

3. Appearance of horse: Conformation not to be a factor. Horse to be well-groomed and conditioned. Horse may be shown in full coat.

4. Equipment: Horse to be shown in a western style halter that is clean and in good condition. Chain under chin is allowed. Chain over nose is cause for disqualification.

5. Ring Procedure: All exhibitors may enter the ring and then work individually or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually. Enter ring leading

animal at an alert walk. Walk on animal's left side, holding lead shank in right hand near halter. The remaining portion of the lead is held neatly and safely in left hand. Animal should lead readily at a walk. Exhibitor should perform the showmanship pattern as directed by the judge or ring steward. Do not stop showing until the exhibitor has exited the ring.

6. Presentation: The following Quarter System will be used whereby imaginary lines bisect the horse into four equal parts as seen in the illustration (Note: the quadrants are numbered I, II, III, and IV for ease of identification). One line runs across the horse just behind the withers. The other imaginary line runs from head to tail. The exhibitor should lead the horse straight to the judge so the judge can evaluate the horse's front leg movement. Once the horse is safely located in front of the judge, the horse should be squarely set up for inspection and the exhibitor then locates in the proper position in quadrant IV. As the judge moves to quadrant I the exhibitor should stay in quadrant IV. When the judge moves on to quadrant II the exhibitor then moves to the proper position in quadrant I. When the judge moves to quadrant III the exhibitor moves back to quadrant IV. As the judge moves to quadrant IV, the exhibitor once more moves to quadrant I. The exhibitor should never stop in the unsafe location directly in front of the horse. When the judge returns to his position in front of the horse, the exhibitor should await instructions from the judge.

****Illustration depicted here****

8. Scoring Of The Showmanship Exhibitor

- a. Each contestant is scored between 0 - infinity points and automatically begins the run with a score of 70 points. Scale: -3 Extremely Poor, -2 Very Poor, -1 Poor, 0 Correct, +1 Good, +2 Very Good, +3 Excellent.
- b. Form and Effectiveness: Excellent (5) Very Good (4) Good (3) Average (0-2)

c. Penalties

1. Three (3) points: Break of gait at a walk or trot up to 2 strides; Over or under turning up to 1/8 turn; after presentation. Ticking or hitting the cone; Sliding a pivot foot; lifting a pivot foot during a pivot and replacing it in the same place; Lifting a foot in a set-up and replacing in the same place after presentation.

2. Five (5) Points: Not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 10 feet (3 meters) of the designated location; Break of gait at a walk or trot for more than 2 strides; Splitting the cone between the horse and the exhibitor; Horse stepping out or moving the hind-end significantly during a pivot or turn; Horse stepping out of set-up after presentation; Horse resting foot or hip in presentation; Over or under turning 1/8 to 1/4 turn.

3. Ten (10) Points: Exhibitor is not in the required position during inspection; Exhibitor touching the horse or kicking or pointing their feet at the horse's feet during the set-up; Standing directly in front of the horse; Loss of lead shank, holding chain, two hands on shank; Blatant disobedience (biting, kicking, rearing, or pawing) horse continually circling the exhibitor.

d. Disqualifications

1. The chain portion of the lead cannot be placed in the horse's mouth or over the horse's nose.

2. Failure to wear proper attire.

No office impact statement

Submitted by Youth Committee

Change:

Youth or COOL driving classes requiring an accompanying person for safety, (adult for all youth classes,) requires that the accompanying person remain in the cart at all times until the exhibitor leaves the arena. A separate header will be required for all youth drivers with an accompanying adult. ~~The accompanying adult will not assist the driver verbally or physically.~~

It is optional for 7 & Under and COOL exhibitors to have a Mentor accompany the youth in the cart. Accompanying Mentor is not to assist or interfere with the physical driving of the horse. The touching of the driver by hand will constitute assistance. The accompanying adult's **Mentor's** hands must remain on the seat, on the cart, or in their own lap. Any physical assistance will result in automatic disqualification of that entry. **Verbally Mentoring is reserved for emergency situations in a subdued tone of voice as not to distract other youth. Verbally Mentoring is to be penalized but severity is up to the judges based on the situation.**

No office impact statement

ADD under Clarification 1

Any Golden Age AOTE exhibitor may have their horse(s) clipped by a non-family amateur, however, this horse can only be shown by the Golden Age AOTE. No other family member can show this horse during the calendar year that the horse was clipped by a non-family member unless the horse is opted out of AOTE.

Rational: There are some AOTE exhibitors who have no family to help them get their horse(s) clipped.

No office impact statement

Submitted by Show Rules MEASUREMENT OF HORSES

A. Once show officials have followed the rules for measuring the horse (GR-020) and the horse has been measured, the measurement becomes the official height for that show and is not protest able **after 7:30 am the day of its first class.** ~~once the horse enters the ring.~~ The height of the horse will be posted ~~three (3) hours prior~~ **the night before the horse enters** the ring. If any horse is shown where measurement ~~was~~ not posted (unless through show management error) in accordance with the above, its height can be protested up to one hour after its class is completed. If a protest is filed, the procedures for protest as outlined in GR-050 must be followed.

No office impact statement

Submitted by Show Rules

Housekeeping

Delete:

~~B. If a horse shows in two (2) different height classes during the World qualifying period and at the World Championship Show the horse measures in the taller height class, the horse must have the required number of points of the taller height class to be able to compete at the World Championship Show. Points may be accumulated and combined in all height classes throughout the World qualifying period to qualify for the higher height class, but may not be used to qualify for a lower~~

~~height class than the class in which the points were earned.~~

~~(Amended 07-02, effective 01-03)~~

~~(Amended 02-07, effective 01-08)~~

Rational: We no longer use points. This should have come out of the rule book when we took points out.

No office impact statement

GR-030-A-1

Page **S-15**

#2536

Submitted by Office Addition

ADD:

- A. 1. Any reputable person may act in the capacity of the show manager or chairperson. The Show manager or Chairperson must be a current AMHA member. Stock shows and Fair Shows are exempt from this requirement**

WS-030-B

Page **S-04**

#2537

Submitted by AMHA Staff Addition

- B. The Show Manager has the right to combine classes if entries warrant.**

Re-letter the rest.

CL-037-B-5

Page **S-44**

#2541

Submitted by Martha Duchnowski Change

- B. Equipment & Harness:**

- 5. Breeching or Thimbles are is-required for all vehicles without brakes.**

No office impact statement

Submitted by Martha Duchnowski – Change and addition

~~3. Trot-On~~ **Strong Trot:** Clear but not excessive increase in pace and lengthening of stride while remaining well balanced and showing appropriate lateral flexion on turns. Excessive speed will be penalized.

ADD:

4. Slow Trot: While it is going forward freely, it is slower and more collected than the working trot. Horse should indicate a willingness to be driven on the bit while still maintaining a steady cadence

Renumber accordingly.

Rationale: 3. To prevent confusion with the Trot -on in Roadster classes

4. For reinsmanship and/or working classes.

No office impact statement

Submitted by Martha Duchnowski Addition

ADD:

60. Amateur Carriage Driving Pleasure

No office impact statement

Submitted by Show Rules - Addition

2. The horse shall be remeasured **with a single measurement** by a show official other than the show official that measured all animals at the show, and in the presence of the original measurer and at least two (2) other show officials

No office impact statement