

**THE**

**AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION U.K.**

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Updated 2002

These are the operating rules of the AQHA UK, which will be revised in line with AQHA, DEFRA and EEC directives from time to time.

The AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION United Kingdom (AQHA UK) is governed by Memorandum and Articles of Association, and all AQHA UK members are subject to them. The Rules and Regulations of the AQHA UK set forth herein are issued in accordance with Paragraph 38 of the Articles of Association. In the event of any conflict between these Rules and Regulations and the Memorandum and Articles of Association, then the Memorandum and Articles of Association shall take precedence.

Purebred Quarter Horses and AQHA Appendix Horses are governed in the first instance by the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA). Where reference is made to AQHA or AQHA Rules, this refers to the current annual issue of the Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations of the American Quarter Horse Association.

Copies of the AQHA UK Articles of Association and the AQHA Handbook are available from the AQHA UK Administration Office.

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## GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

### Council of Management

1. Members of Council shall be aged at least 18 years, and any member proposing a nominee for Council shall be aged at least 18yrs.
2. Election to Council shall take place by postal ballot where there are more candidates nominated than places vacant. Voting slips not returned to the correct address by the stated date, or not filled in according to instruction, shall be declared null and void.
3. Council Officers shall be elected from among Council members annually at a meeting accompanying or immediately following the Annual General Meeting.

### Sub Divisions

4. The Association may from time to time sanction the setting up of sub-divisions as self-financing groups to run specific performance activities and to work in harmony with the Association for the promotion of the Quarter Horse. The Association requires :-
  - (i) that such sub-divisions submit their working rules to the Association for approval in the first instance;
  - (ii) that a liaison officer is appointed by the sub-divisions to report to the Council;
  - (iii) that minutes of all sub-divisions meetings be filed with the Association;
  - (iv) that annual accounts be filed with the Association as required by the Charities Commission;

### Membership

5. Members of the Association shall be admitted, retained or expelled in accordance with the AQHA UK Articles of Association and such other rules and regulations as the AQHA UK Council may from time to time adopt.
6. Membership may be obtained in the name of an individual(s), partnership, or body corporate.
7. The application for membership should indicate clearly the name in which the membership is to be recorded.
8. The name of a female member may be changed in the membership records of the Association to reflect her current marital status free of charge upon request of the member.
9. General privileges and responsibilities of members and non-members are as follows :-
  - (i) While in good standing, all members shall have equal rights, interests, and responsibilities with respect the Association and its property; shall obey and be bound by all by-laws, rules and regulations of the Association and decisions or actions of the Council; shall have the right to vote by personal attendance at membership meetings and by proxy in a poll; and shall have the right to hold office and committee assignments, except as otherwise limited.

- (ii) In regard to individuals who are non-members, but own Quarter Horses, file registration applications and other documents with the Association, or participate in Association approved events, by such actions and in regard to such transactions, do thereby agree to be bound by all by-laws, rules and regulations of the Association and decisions and actions of the Council.

#### **Annual Membership**

10. Annual Membership subscription is £35.00

#### **Family Membership**

11. Family membership of £60.00 applies to two adults who live at the same address. Full Annual membership status applies to each member but only one mail shot will be sent per household.

#### **Youth Membership**

12. Applicants aged 18 years or under may join as a youth member of AQHA UK. The current fee is £20.00, which allows the right to compete and join in all AQHA UK Youth events and activities. In addition he/she has all privileges of a full member of the AQHA UK **EXCEPT** to vote; to hold office; to nominate any person onto the AQHA UK Council.

#### **Life Membership**

13. Life Memberships are no longer available

#### **Honorary Membership**

14. The Association may from time to time award an honorary membership. This membership shall not have voting privileges.

#### **Obligations**

15. No person shall refuse on reasonable request to assist the Association; its officers; committees or agents in locating, identifying and inspecting or to answer promptly and truthfully any inquiry concerning a horse or an ancestor thereof in his ownership or control, which has been registered or for which application to register has been made. Violation of this rule may be grounds for disciplinary action.
16. No person shall refuse an Association request for the return of a registration certificate, either before, after, or pending hearing to determine eligibility for continued registration or participation privilege in Association-approved events.

Any member may be suspended and denied privileges of the Association and any non-member may be denied the privileges of the Association for failure to pay when due any obligation owing to the Association - Provided, however, that fifteen days before action by the Secretary, written notice of the account due to such member or non-member. Any suspension and denial of privileges under this section shall terminate upon full payment of the obligation due.

17. No person shall represent, by advertisement, claim or otherwise, that a horse owned by him and registered with the Association has earned or is entitled to any official Association designation or honours prior to actual recording of such designation or honour in the records of the Association. Violation of this rule may be grounds for disciplinary action.

18. A member or non-member shall not conspire with another person or persons to violate intentionally the rules of the Association or to knowingly contribute or co-operate with another person or persons, either by affirmative action or inaction, to violate the rules of the Association. Violation of this rule shall subject such member or non-member to disciplinary action, whether or not such member or non-member has actually signed reports filed with the Association asserted to be true and correct.
19. No person shall advertise, or enter in any Association approved event or competition, any animal registered with the Association by a name other than that by which it is registered with the Association.
20. No certificate of registration issued by the Association shall be altered without the approval of the Registration Secretary.

### **Disciplinary Procedure**

21. Any member may be disciplined, suspended or expelled from the Association and any member or non-member may be denied any or all the privileges of the Association, or any false registration certificate may be cancelled, whenever it shall have been established by satisfactory evidence that such member or non-member has violated any pertinent rule of the Association.
22. Rules pertaining to prohibition of forbidden drugs provide for absolute responsibility for a horse's condition by an exhibitor or participant, whether or not he was actually instrumental in, or had actual knowledge of, the administration of such drug, thereby making the exhibitor or participant eligible for possible disciplinary action upon proof of the presence of such drug by laboratory analysis. This rule of procedure for disciplinary action pertains to drug cases in regard to notice, hearing and effects of suspension or other sanctions, but burden of proof and presumptions as contained in said drug rules specially govern such drug cases.
23. Pending final hearing by the Council or such other appropriate committee the Secretary may, by giving written notice of his/her action.
  - (i) temporarily deny such member further Association privileges until the Council can hear the matter and take the appropriate disciplinary action; and
  - (ii) temporarily suspend the registration of the horse in question, and upon Association request, the owner shall return the registration certificate to the Secretary, pending final determination of its validity, the effect of which shall be to suspend participation privileges in Association approved events.
24. When a member is disciplined, suspended or expelled, or a non-member is denied membership privileges, or when a member or non-member is temporarily denied Association privileges by the Secretary pending hearing, the name and address of such member or non-member may be published in the AQHA UK newsletter or magazine.
25. On or after such time as any person has been suspended expelled or denied Association privileges, in addition to other rules and regulations or policy of the Association, the following restrictions shall apply, except where the Council shall decide otherwise:-
  - (a) That person shall not participate, and shall be ineligible to participate, in any Association approved event; nor shall such person be eligible to be on the judge's panel or hold any other Association accreditation; and no horse which is recorded in the name of such person or a spouse is eligible to participate in any event approved or recognised by the Association.

- (b) That person or spouse shall not register any horse with the Association, nor transfer registered horses into his or her name or that of a spouse; and no horse shall be registered which is either sired by a stallion or out of a mare owned by such person or spouse where the breeding date is shown to be on or subsequent to the date of disciplinary action.
  - (c) The Association shall not accept either the signature of such person, nor such person's spouse, on registration applications, breeder's certificates, or Stallion Breeding Reports evidencing breeding taking place on or after the date of such disciplinary action.
    - (i) Such signatures will be honoured, however, on transfer reports and bills of sale for the purpose of allowing such disciplined person or spouse to transfer horses recorded in his or her ownership at the time of the disciplinary action.
    - (ii) Written leases filed with the Association prior to the time of the disciplinary action and covering horses owned by the disciplined person or spouse shall remain valid and the signature of the lessee shall be accepted during the term of such lease, but for no renewal thereof.
  - (d) During the period of expulsion, suspension or denial of Association privileges, failure to comply with the restrictions and any other express conditions or restrictions of said disciplinary action may constitute grounds for further disciplinary action.
26. The decision and action of the Council shall be final and binding on all parties.

## RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REGISTRATION

### Stud Book

#### SECTION I (Purebred)

27. Both sire and dam of a horse to be registered must be Purebred Quarter Horses. If the horse is imported, sire and dam must be registered in the numbered registry of the AQHA.
28. An AQHA registration certificate must be obtained by complying with AQHA rules before a AQHA UK certificate/passport will be issued.
- (i) Any purebred horse refused registration by the AQHA on the grounds of excessive white markings or colouring, may be registered in Section II.
  - (ii) Any purebred horse refused registration by the AQHA on the grounds of age may be registered in Section II.

#### AQHA REGISTERED "APPENDIX "

29. (i) Any horse to be registered must be sired by a purebred Quarter Horse stallion registered AQHA, out of a Thoroughbred mare registered at Weatherbys (Thoroughbred Register) or any Thoroughbred registry recognised by the Jockey Club.
- (ii) Any horse to be registered must be out of a purebred Quarter Horse mare registered AQHA and sired by a Thoroughbred stallion registered at Weatherbys (Thoroughbred Register) or any Thoroughbred registry recognised by the Jockey Club.
- (iii) An AQHA registration certificate must be obtained by complying with AQHA rules before a AQHA UK certificate/passport will be issued

#### SECTION II (Partbred)

30. (i) Any horse to be registered must be sired by a purebred Quarter Horse stallion registered AQHA UK Section I and out of a partbred Quarter Horse mare registered AQHA UK Section II or III.
- (ii) Any horse to be registered must have one parent being a purebred registered Quarter Horse the other being a GSB Registered Thoroughbred when appendix registration is not applied for.
- (iii) Any horse to be registered may include a purebred Quarter Horse refused registration with AQHA on grounds of excessive white markings, colouring or age.

#### SECTION III (Partbred)

31. The horse to be registered must have either its sire or its dam a purebred Quarter Horse registered in Section I of the AQHA UK, or if imported with the AQHA only.

#### Eligibility

32. Progeny of stallions registered in Section II or Section III shall only be accepted for registration if their dam is a purebred mare registered in Section I.



## REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

DEFRA has decreed, that to comply with EEC Regulations, all foals born after 1/1/1998 and registered with a recognised breed society must be issued with a passport. A passport application form is available from the AQHA.UK office, if it has not already been issued by the Stallion owner at the time of covering. The diagram and written description must be completed along the guidelines of the BEVA standards. For registration in Section I and Appendix a copy of the front and back of the AQHA Registration Certificate must accompany the application.

33. Owners of imported horses (Section I & Appendix) are required to send a photocopy of the AQHA documents before they can be registered with AQHA UK.
  - (i) AQHA require that all purebred horses must be DNA typed as their means for parentage verification.
  - (ii) If a parent is unavailable for DNA typing for any reason, the foal will be ineligible for parentage verification with AQHA
34. For horses eligible for Section II & III the Association's form of application for registration must be completely filled in and signed by the stallion owner (or lessee) and by the breeder (owner or lessee of mare at time of service). It must be sent by the owner of the horse to be registered, to the AQHA UK Office together with all fees payable.
35. In Section II & III only, foals whose dam's name is listed on the Stallion Breeding Report of the stallion concerned, if it stands in Great Britain, are eligible for registration.

### Genetic Defects

36. The conditions listed below are considered undesirable traits or genetic defects and shall be indicated on the Registration Certificate once the condition is known.

**Parrot mouth** - either overshot or undershot.

**Cryptorchid** - meaning less than two visible testicles descended into the scrotum.

**Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis (HYPP)** - a muscular disease caused by a hereditary genetic defect that leads to uncontrolled muscle twitching or profound muscle weakness and in severe cases, may lead to collapse and/or death.

Further information may be obtained from AQHA UK office.

### Registration Fees

37. A registration fee of £15.00 pounds to members, or £45.00 pounds to non-members (which includes 1 year full membership of AQHA UK) shall be submitted with registration applications.

### Stallion Breeding Reports

38. Stallion Breeding Reports and Application for Registration forms are issued by the AQHA UK to registered stallions at the beginning of each season.
39. On or before 15 November each year, the owner or lessee of every AQHA UK licensed stallion shall return an individual Stallion Breeding Report for each stallion, showing the names and registration numbers of all mares covered by the stallion since the previous report. This report shall also indicate all breeding dates or dates of exposure. This report shall include all mares owned by the owner of the stallion as well as mares owned by other parties

### Artificial Insemination/Embryo transfer

40. The use of transported chilled and frozen semen/embryo transfer as a breeding alternative is allowed in accordance with AQHA Rules.

Any horse shown to be got by artificial insemination or embryo transfer or whose parent(s) are shown to be got by artificial insemination or embryo transfer is prohibited from racing in Great Britain under Jockey Club rules.

### Naming a Horse

41. Should a horse registered with the AQHA have the same name as a different horse already registered with the AQHA UK, the second user of the name shall be given the initials of the country of origin after the name and this shall form its AQHA UK name.

### Change of Name

42. Once a purebred/appendix horse is registered, its registered name can only be changed, according to AQHA rules. Partbred registration can be changed if the AQHA UK office is notified within three months of the date of registration that a double-registered horse has been given a different name by the other society, in which case the name will be altered to that name.

### Geldings

43. If a colt is gelded, the owner shall return the Registration Certificate to the Association Administration Office for amendment.

### Correction of Registration Certificate

44. The name of a female member may be changed on the Registration Certificate to reflect her current marital status free of charge upon request of the member.

### Duplicate Certificate

45. A duplicate certificate will be issued only in exceptional circumstances on the payment of £30.00 (thirty pounds). In order to obtain it, the owner must produce the remains of the original certificate or sufficient proof of loss, and also proof of identification of the horse. All details will be put before the Council for ratification before issue, and notification to the full membership of such issue shall be published in the Newsletter or Magazine. The issue of a duplicate certificate renders the original certificate null and void.

### Transfer of Ownership

46. Once a registered horse is sold, the seller is responsible for filling in the purchaser's name on the transfer form and sending it to the AQHA UK office together with the original passport transfer or registration document fully completed transfer form and relevant transfer fee of :-
- (i) **£10.00** for members, or
  - (ii) **£20.00** for non-members, not requiring annual membership or
  - (iii) **£40.00** which includes membership for 1 year.

The transfer document is only valid if signed by the Seller and the Buyer

**Leases**

47. If the sire and / or dam is leased, a photocopy of the original agreement must be filed with the AQHA UK.

**Disputes/Hardship Cases**

48. Any disputes with the AQHA UK over registration are to be settled by inspection, which will be arranged on the deposit of £25.00 with the AQHA UK by the complainant. This deposit will be refunded if the complaint is proved to be correct. Blood-typing may be required at the discretion of the Council, and shall be at the complainant's expense.
49. If a horse is eligible for registration in all respects except that the correct signatures cannot be obtained on the application forms, or the Stallion Breeding Report has not been submitted after Rule 16 has been put into effect, or for any other similar reason, the Council of the AQHA UK, having ascertained that the registration is correct in all respects and if satisfied that everything possible has been done to obtain the correct paperwork, may at their discretion and on payment of twice the normal registration fee agree to the horse being registered.
50. Upon determination that a horse is either ineligible for registration or eligible only upon fulfilment of certain conditions, the registration certificate may be cancelled or amended upon fulfilment of those conditions, and if cancelled the horse shall not participate in Association approved events, or if registration is conditional, it shall not participate in Association approved events until those conditions are fulfilled and the registration certificate is reinstated.
51. Any application for registration will be accepted at the discretion of the AQHA UK.

**AQHA UK - SHOW AND CONTEST****Rules and Regulations**

52. AQHA approved shows are run according to AQHA's Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations, and at other shows any classes and specifically designated as under AQHA rules shall be run accordingly.
53. The rules shall apply to all other classes and competitions run by AQHA UK.

**Trophies**

54. All owners and exhibitors shall be AQHA UK members and horses registered with the association if they wish to receive AQHA UK trophies and shall be responsible for their safety and return to AQHA UK.

**Prohibited Conduct**

55. No person shall cause to be administered internally or externally to a horse, either before or during a AQHA UK event, any medication; drug; mechanical device or artificial appliance which is of such character as could affect its performance or appearance at that event. Upon discovery of the administration of such drug; medication; mechanical device or artificial appliance, the Show Management shall immediately disqualify the horse and report the matter to the Association. Any action or substance administered internally or externally, whether drugs or otherwise, which may interfere with the testing procedure, or mask or screen the presence of such drug, is forbidden. See Rule 22.

**Registration Requirements**

56. All horses shall be registered with the AQHA UK if normally resident in the UK.
57. Horses shall be shown under their AQHA UK registered names.
58. Horses normally resident in other European countries may show under AQHA UK rules if fully registered with an AQHA recognised association, and if their owners are members of an AQHA recognised association.
59. Stallions are prohibited in Youth and Novice classes.
60. AQHA registered Appendix horses shall be shown as purebreds.