

I recently attended the 2014 APHA combined Workshop/Convention in Ft Worth ,Tx.It was encouraging to see so much renewed enthusiasm,and so many new faces,particularly those who have been instrumental in the industry as trainers,but never part of the process.The format still needs some tweaking to realize the full potential of our time while there,but it is a period of growth,and to be expected.Friday was host to the Game Plan seminar,which was incredibly educational,and ran well after the posted time.It was presented by APHA Director of Judges David Dellin,as well as David Denniston,Tim Finkenbinder and Rob Meneely. We covered the most common horse show events from the judges perspectives,and whether you were a newly carded Walk/Trot Amateur,or a multiple World Champion trainer,you came away with a new awareness for what happens when you are standing in the middle.Saturday played host to two different seminars;Putting on a good horse show,and Equine Legal issues,each of which were put on twice as to allow all those interested to attend both.Motivational speaker Dr Rick Rigsby kept us all on an emotional rollercoaster during his 'Making an impact' speech,so much so that I bought his book 'lessons from a 3 rd grade dropout'.Saturday night was the welcome reception,hosted by the Andersen Bean boot company,which was quite pleasant despite me not winning a free pair of boots.Finally Sunday got down to brass tacks,with Committee meetings; I sat in on the Professional Horsemans meeting,of which I am a member,as well as Show and Contest,and Youth Committee,of which I am a Director.We discussed all the rule changes we were going to be voting on the next day,and considering the passion over some of these,I think these meetings will be moved to the Saturday next time so we have more time to discuss them prior to voting.Monday was 'crunch day',where we had so many important rule changes to vote on,and people rushing to catch flights.So,to summarise,we passed a number of rules that will go into effect Jan 2015;we also passed a number of rules that become effective almost immediately ,on April 1,2014,so here goes-

Starting Jan 1,2015

Amateurs and Youth can lease an APHA registered horse,as opposed to 'owning ' them ,to exhibit for APHA points.

Novice Youth and Youth Walk/Trot will qualify for awards not previously available;Superiors,Zone awards [ and ROMs for W/T]

2 yr old longeline

Timed event Roping

Competitive Trail Horse

Starting Apr 1,2014

Ranch Horse Pleasure

Working Cow Horse rule changes

and the big one-Amateur Walk/Trot at the fall 2014 World Show.

APHA is looking to implement a Regional Championship show ,much like the Quarter Horse Regional shows,with initial primary guidelines being non World Ch or Res exhibiting,and regional participants only.The BPRIP Barrel Racing program is generating significant membership and opportunities,with 232 enrolled.Breed Integrity has added a PSSM test to their disease panel,which is available as a member service, along with HYPP and HERDA.The Breeders Trust continues to decline since its inception 20 years ago,with payouts down to \$8 and change,so there needs to be new incentives and changes to the program to generate new interest and involvement.Breed integrity brought the overwhelming statistic that of the 30% of APHA registered horses who are Solid Paint Bred, 80-90%never show.The 2014 Youth Worlds will award a High Point Saddle and Scholarship for the Cattle/Speed/Reining/Ranch Horse winner,sponsored by Earnest Wilson.Long Range Planning also discussed the restructuring of EC term limits,and allowing the SPB to participate in non APHA point earning futurities.Finally,for those that have not yet received them,APHA came out with a 2014

Supplement to the Rulebook;it has many changes in it ,most drawing APHA rules into line with NSBA,AQHA,or other specialty associations.Halter is more defined,as are HUS and WP;scoring has been suggested to follow the AQHA 100 on the homework events,instead of the traditional 20.Trail obstacles have increased,and some penalties have been changed or specified in the eqs/shship.I strongly suggest any APHA member exhibiting a horse to read this addition to our 2013 Rulebook.

If you have any questions or concerns,please do not hesitate to contact me at (604) 807-3699

Respectfully,Jodie Moore  
APHA 2014 alternate Director