

2014 APHA Convention Report
Fort Worth, Texas
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The 2014 Convention this year was a new and exciting meeting. Not only was this the first time of having workshop and convention in one but there was a record of directors present at the meetings. Even with there being more days, we still found ourselves rushing through the days, with still not enough time for our committee meetings.

With more than 30 rule change proposals up for discussion and vote, the APHA Board of Directors passed 28 new rules at the 2014 APHA Convention on February 24 in Irving, Texas. Approximately 115 national directors are elected by their fellow APHA members to serve two-year terms and provide a voice for their respective areas' members.

New Classes

Among the actions was the creation of several APHA-approved events: 2-Year-Old Longe Line, Timed Team Roping; Ranch Horse Pleasure; Competitive Trail Horse; and Youth and Amateur Limited Working Ranch Horse. Changes were also made to the class eligibility criteria for Novice Amateur and Novice Youth Working Ranch Horse and Novice Youth and Novice Amateur Working Cow Horse.

The directors also approved early implementation of several of those changes; rules affecting the following go into effect April 1, 2014:

- Ranch Horse Pleasure
- Youth and Amateur Limited Working Ranch Horse
- Novice Amateur and Novice Youth Working Ranch Horse
- Novice Youth and Novice Amateur Working Cow Horse

Points earned in Youth and Amateur Limited Working Cow Horse will also count toward all APHA Youth and Amateur awards as of April 1. The remaining three classes—2-Year-Old Longe Line, Timed Team Roping and Competitive Trail Horse—go into effect January 1, 2015.

Directors also passed an immediate measure that permits Amateur Walk-Trot Division classes to be held at the 2014 APHA World Championship Show.

Leases

Two rules governing the leasing of horses for APHA-approved competitions were also passed by the directors. Beginning January 1, 2015, show lease certificates will be issued annually to individual Amateur or Youth members who file a show lease form with APHA; the lessee's immediate family members are also allowed to exhibit the horse. The lessee must be responsible for all expenses relating to the horse. All leases expire on December 31, unless terminated before that date, and must be renewed annually. An annual performance lease fee will be set by the Executive Committee.

Added Recognition

Creation of several new awards were also approved by the directors. Beginning January 1, 2015, Novice Youth will be eligible to earn Superior and Zone Champion awards; Youth Walk-Trot points will count toward Registers of Merit and Superiors and zone awards; and Amateur Walk-Trot exhibitors will have a Top 10 year-end award category and zone awards.

Defeated Proposals

Two rule change proposals were defeated because they had already been addressed by the Judges Task Force's modifications to the 2013–2014 *Official APHA Rule Book*. SC-270 permits the use of Western or English bits in roping, speed events, team penning and ranch sorting; SC-290.B.5 changes measurements of the barrel racing pattern to standardize and simplify course set-up.

Rule change proposal Control AM-300—which would prohibit cross-entering of showmanship events by Amateur Walk-Trot cardholders—generated much discussion among the directors, but they ultimately defeated the proposal.

Passed Proposals

- **Control SC-075:** APHA agrees to accept suspension rulings pertaining to cruel or inhumane treatment of horses from other recognized equine-related associations and state racing commissions
- **Control SC-160:** Permits show management to announce names of horses, owners and/or exhibitors prior to judging being completed in a class
- **Control SC-160-3:** Requires horse owners to be current APHA members in order for their horses to show in APHA-approved classes
- **Control SC-193:** Creates a 2-Year-Old Longe Line class; if the horse is ridden at an event where APHA-approved classes are held, he will no longer be eligible to be shown in 2-Year-Old Longe Line for the rest of the year
- **Control SC-276:** Revises ranch sorting rules to make them consistent with industry standard
- **Control SC-284:** Creates a timed team roping class
- **Control SC-285:** Eliminates the use of a head loop in judged heeling in the Open division, unless there are five or fewer entries
- **Control SC-285-1:** Permits heelers age 60 or older and adult women of any age to tie on
- **Control SC-302:** Creates a Ranch Horse Pleasure class
- **Control SC-312:** Creates a Competitive Trail Horse special event
- **Control SC-325:** Requires all approved shows to select grand and reserve champions in each sex division for Solid Paint-Bred halter classes
- **Control AM-020-1 and YP-015-1:** Permits Amateur and Youth exhibitors to show leased horses and be eligible for all points and awards
- **Control AM-145:** Creates an Amateur and Youth Limited Working Ranch Horse class
- **Control AM-205-3:** Permits renewed eligibility for Novice Amateur status for exhibitors who have not earned 10 or more APHA performance points or revalued performance points in other associations in the 10 years prior to their re-application.
- **Control AM-255:** Changes class eligibility criteria for Novice Amateur and Novice Youth Working Ranch Horse

- **Control AM-300-2:** Creates Amateur Walk-Trot Top 10 and zone year-end awards
- **Control AM-300-3:** Revises ownership requirements for Amateur Walk-Trot exhibitors
- **Control YP-110:** Allows Youth Walk-Trot points to count toward ROM, Superior and zone awards only.
- **Control YP-152:** Permits Limited Youth and Limited Amateur Working Cow Horse points to count for all APHA Youth and Amateur awards
- **Control YP-205:** Denies Novice Youth eligibility to Youth who have received remuneration for training horses or those who have solicited for training
- **Control YP-220:** Permits Novice Youth points to be eligible for Novice Youth awards
- **Control YP-221:** Creates a Novice Youth Superior Award
- **Control YP-224:** Creates a Novice Youth Zone Award
- **Control YP-245:** Permits Novice Youth exhibitors to show horses of any age in a snaffle bit or a hackamore in Zones 12–14
- **Control YP-250:** Modifies the cow work portion of the Novice Youth and Novice Amateur Working Cow Horse classes to boxing only instead of going down the fence.
- **Control RA-000:** Revises registration requirements for Solid Paint-Bred horses participating in stakes races
- **Control RA-060:** Outlines year-end award rules for horses that advance from the Solid Paint-Bred Registry to the Regular Registry during the current year.

Distinguished Service Award:

Our state neighbor and Regional Club, Nevada Paint Horse Club is the home of Sharon Avery. Sharon Avery of Fallon, Nevada, was presented with the 2013 Distinguished Service Award at the APHA Convention in honor of her outstanding participation and support of the Paint Horse breed on the local, regional and national levels. It was such a great time and fun having Sharon representing Nevada at the convention this year, we are so looking forward to seeing her every year. Congratulations Sharon!

New Executive Committee member:

At the 2014 APHA Convention, the Board of Directors, hailing from around the country, voted Mike Short to the APHA Executive Committee as the Sixth Committee Member. Mike is from Edmond, Oklahoma, Mike has served as a National Director since 1995. He has been a member and leader of the Oklahoma Paint Horse Club, Empire State Paint Horse Club, Gulf Coast Paint Horse Club and Texas Paint Horse Club.

Executive Committee

- **President:** Mary Parrott, Ruston, Louisiana
- **President-Elect:** Ron Shelly, Georgetown, Texas
- **Vice President:** Susie Shaw, Parsons, Tennessee
- **Senior Committee Member:** George Ready, Hernando, Mississippi
- **Fifth Committee Member:** Dr. Craig Wood, Owenton, Kentucky
- **Sixth Committee Member:** Mike Short, Edmond, Oklahoma
- **Immediate Past President:** Gregg Reisinger, Eldora, Iowa

Task Forces

Two APHA task forces—appointed at the 2013 APHA Workshop to study several issues of association importance—presented their reports to members at the 2014 APHA Convention February 23 in Irving, Texas.

The Performance Licensing Task Force was originally developed to recapture cattle-event Paint Horses whose registration papers had been lost or subjected to unrecorded transfers that render them ineligible for current registration.

Following thorough discussion and input from APHA members, the Performance Licensing Task Force voted to not bring the proposal forward to the rule change process.

A three-person APHA Governance Task Force—consisting of Mary Parrott, Craig Wood and Mike Short—also presented their findings.

Governance is how the association manages its policies, rules and affairs—the bylaws and general rules in the *Official APHA Rule Book*. Executive Committee member Craig Wood encouraged members to look specifically at governance regarding the APHA board of directors, Executive Committee selection, regional clubs, and committees and their structure. Additional clarification in those areas will allow the association to be more agile and efficient in its actions, allowing it to outperform competitors.

“Speed and continuous improvement is what will keep us ahead of our competition,” Craig said. “We have the technology and the ability—we just have to define the governance and processes that will allow us to get there.”

Craig encourages members to subject potential ideas to the “yes test.” If the answer is yes to each of the following four questions, send the recommendation to the task force.

- Does it allow APHA to work more quickly and efficiently?
- Does it add value to APHA?
- Will it give APHA a competitive advantage?
- Does it remove something that prevents us from achieving greatness?

All suggestions need to be submitted by March 31—the task force will review all suggestions and create a rule change proposal by August 1 for discussion or vote at the 2015 APHA Convention.

Long Range Planning:

This was a very good meeting, with a lot of discussion about SPB, Breeders Trust, and adopting new Animal Welfare, and Governance. Travis Titlow had an Animal Welfare document that he presented and was voted to send it to the EC for consideration. Kevin Smith presented a plan of the Breeders Trust and Don Beard presented a plan for the SPB. Mary Anne Black and Megan Brown was asked to present ideas for the governance for the Director Nominations and positions. Before we knew what was happening, our time was up for another year. There is a plan to meeting during the year to keep our minds sharp and ideas flowing.

Ombudsman Committee:

Unfortunately the committee meeting were set for the same time. So I was unable to attend the Ombudsman Meeting. We meet every month in preparations for a problem that can be helped with the Ombudsman committee.

Task Force for the Licensing Committee:

The committee had several meeting during the year. It was decided the licensing of horses would not be brought to the APHA Board of Directors for a vote. It was defeated in Committee.

During the year, I have served on the Directors Nominating Committee, Ombudsman Committee, Licensing Task Force and Long Range Planning Committee.

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Long Range Planning Committee 2014
Ombudsman Committee 2014
Licensing Task Force 2014
Director Nominating Committee 2013

CC.
IPHC, Lyle Wonderlich
TVPHC, Shawn Charters
EIPHC, Leslie Watkins
SRPHC, Shannon O'Dell