

## **The American Paint Horse February 2023 Convention Report**

APHA hosted its annual Convention on February 24-26, 2023, at the Hotel Drover, in Fort Worth, Texas. Only committees which had rule change proposals for consideration met during convention. All committees were invited to give a report, although committees meeting prior to convention were not required to give a report. Several committees chose not to report.

### **Long Range Planning Committee: February 15, 2023 Meeting:**

I was the chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee for 2022. My committee did not meet at convention, and no report was given. Over the course of the year, the Long-Range Planning Committee submitted 2 proposals for the Board of Directors consideration. Those proposals included leveraging social media platforms (Facebook & Instagram) to increase member participation and to provide a platform for members to connect and engage from our youngest members to our oldest members. No information has come from the BOD following this proposal. The second proposal submitted was one involving FFA and 4H National Council and/or regional level official meetings; to increase youth participation and collaborative opportunities with outside agency. No information has come from the BOD following this proposal. These proposals were related to priority work given to the committee.

The Long-Range Planning Committee had 2 priorities tabled in 2022, which were moved to a task force for additional work. Those priorities included increasing IEA at regional APHA events and examining the Amateur Lesson Giver Program with a possible rule change proposal for consideration. A youth task force was created to include the Chair and Vice Chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee, the Youth Committee, the Amateur Committee, AQHA representation, and various APHA staff members. That task force met twice. No action was taken, and no information is available about future plans. A survey was sent out to gather additional membership feedback. The results of that survey have not been shared at this time. AQHA sent out a similar survey, and Task Force feedback was largely negative with specific age demographics about AQHA's possible movement forward with the program. At this time, both AQHA & APHA have not brought forth any possible proposals for this.

### **Joint Show & Contest, Youth, Amateur & Judges Committee Meeting: February 24, 2023, Meeting**

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the rule change proposals pertaining to the above committee's work. Each group also met separately during Convention.

This meeting was very large, and many, many opinions on rule changes were discussed. No voting was done to pass proposals out of committee for voting. That was done at the individual meetings.

Rule Change: Show & Contest-105-1; allows an individual to hold a maximum of one POR per calendar year; was discussed in detail. In summary, no speakers were in support of this proposal, and everyone thought it would do more harm than good to regional clubs and the shows hosted by regional clubs. At the Show & Contest individual meeting, this proposal was defeated, and did not move forward for State Director voting.

Rule change: Show & Contest-205; encourages exhibitors to show away from the middle of the arena where the judges stand in hunter under saddle classes; was discussed in detail. In summary, meeting

participants felt that it was up to the judge's discretion to move themselves when judging if they needed to. At the Show & Contest individual meeting, this proposal was moved forward for State Director voting.

Rule Change: Amateur-010 (written by Kory Kumar); allows APHA Amateur exhibitors to become private contractors for the purpose of Name, Image and Likeness deals, for which they could be paid without losing Amateur status; was discussed in great detail. In summary, many members felt that this rule change would ultimately lead to Amateur lesson giving (despite it being clearly outlined in the proposal that it **WOULD NOT** be allowed). Both sides of the argument were given, and specific information about College Equestrians and the impact to them was shared. At the Amateur individual meeting, this proposal was moved forward for State Director voting.

### **General Membership Meeting: February 24, 2023**

On Friday, February 24, 2023, there were 90 total Directors/Alternates present for Roll Call. A quorum was established.

### **Ultimate Youth Challenge: Shared by new AJPH Youth President**

- Using the Google Form, document horse related activities (kind of like a 4H Record Book). These activities have point values, and awards are being given to youth with high point values. The Google Form is to be submitted monthly. There are activities for kids who attend, but do not participate, points given for meeting a farrier, talking to a vet, etc. Lots of opportunity for youth of all ages, and level of horse ownership or participation with showing to be part of this.

### **State of the Association Report: Shared by Billy Smith**

- APHA is extremely healthy.
- Strategic Plan is based on three foundational pillars: Customer Experience, Educational Learnership and Financial Leadership. All things are connected to one of these items.
  - The number of horses at APHA sanctioned events (World show & Halter Million) has flatlined. In 2022 it showed a small decline when compared to 2021.
  - The number of horses registered has grown each year. The APHA expects to hit 10,000 registrations in 2023.
  - Breeding reports have decreased, but the number of mares bred have increased as new pathways to regular registration have come forward.
  - The number of overall association membership had decreased by approximately 1,000 from 2021.
  - While registration numbers have increased, the number of transfers of ownership has decreased by approximately 1,000.
- **Breeders Trust** has shown a slight decrease from 2021; and an overall progressive decline since 2018.

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
282	262	??	235	222

- There has been a progressive incline in the **Breeders Futurity Program**.
  - Increase in Gold Entries

- Increase in Gold Mare Nominations
- **The Halter Million** Program has shown increases.
  - Platinum Program increased.
    - Enrollment and entries went up in 2022.
    - 2022 had the largest payout ever for this program.
- **International Engagement:** 201% of all APHA engagement is from international events/clubs/members.
  - 31% of All APHA registrations are from international owners. (1 out of every 10 APHA foals are from outside of the U.S.).
  - European National Show entries increased by 13% in 2022.
- **Youth World Show Scholarships:**
  - The total amount earned (2012-2022) is \$1,012,800
  - The total amount redeemed (20012-2022) is \$601,466
  - This money comes from a collection of endowments.
- **Chrome Cash:**
  - This incentive plan began with working cow horse events to pay exhibitors of APHA horses. In 2023 it is expanding to Performance APHA events.
  - 2022 projects \$750,000 in payouts to APHA horse owners.
- **Horse IQ:**
  - Currently there are approximately 200 scribes.
  - Learn about what judges are looking for, and/or trained to do in the arena.
  - Horse IQ is a 3D Rulebook.
  - Reining and Cow horse content is being added in 2023.
- **Marked For Greatness:**
  - For profit subsidiary for APHA.
  - LLC protects APHA's non-profit status and generates more non-member revenue.
  - Cow Girl Gathering is being moved to May, 2023 in collaboration with PBR in order to grow the event.
- **Sponsorships:**
  - In 2022, sponsorship increased approximately \$70,000.
  - In 2023, we expect to increase to \$1,000,000.
  - This comes from Corporate Sponsors and in-kind deals.
- **Social Media:**
  - Increased by 17,000 followers on Facebook for 2022.
  - Increased by 1,000 followers on Instagram for 2022.
  - Twitter, YouTube & Linked In showed increased following in 2022.
  - Pinterest showed a decrease of approximately 4,000 followers in 2022.

#### **APHA Financial Report:**

- Operating Revenue increased in 2022.
- Expenses increased in 2022, and we experienced double digit inflation rates.
  - APHA experienced at 35-40% increase for paper and consumables related to business operations in 2022.
  - APHA is overall taking steps to reduce costs.

- Assets increased by 18.5% in 2022
- Liabilities increased in 2022
  - Total net assets and liabilities were down 4.8% overall due to investment loss.
- Membership Revenue was down by 3% from 2021. (Approximately \$2,000,000).
- Performance Revenue (show fees, Horse IQ, PAC fees, etc.) was down slightly.
- Sponsorship Revenue increased by 13% from 2021. (Approximately \$403,301)
- World Show Events Break Down:
  - World Show brought in \$2.7 million in revenue, which was an increase from 2021 by 13%.
  - Gift Show was a decrease from 2021 (minimal \$ decrease).
  - Net Show Events Breakdown: expenses were increased due to payouts. This resulted in an approximate operating loss in 2022 of \$241,000.
- PH Barn Door increased revenue by 4% from 2021. (Approximately \$385,000).
- MFG Properties had a net income of approximately \$16,500 from 2021.

Westwood Wealth Management: Portfolio Report: Presented by Amy Lester, VP.

- APHA maintains 3-4% in cash.
- Our ending market value for 2022 (year end portfolio amount), was \$16.9 million. We have a concentrated equity portfolio that is actively managed, with core investment grade bonds as well as high income funds.
  - Equities = 60% of portfolio
  - Fixed Income = 35% of portfolio
  - Specialty = 5% of portfolio
- Overall, our Year to Date was negative 7.22%.
- APHA won a Wizards of Westworld award for 2022, for having a best performing portfolio for the year.
- The overall market was negative 18% for the year, so in comparison, APHA showed significantly less negative growth.
- Westworld is working to ensure any economic downturns in the market result in a soft landing for APHA.

### **Breed Integrity Committee Meeting: February 25, 2023**

The rule change proposals being considered were discussed at this meeting. All proposals moved forward for State Director voting from this meeting. Rule Change-070; allowing horses with multiple paint pattern genes and at least 1 paint trait to be classified as regular registry was discussed. It is important to understand that this proposal adds to the current rule regarding ONE PAINT PARENT. There was some confusion at the meeting about it being a replacement of the current requirements.

1. APHA horses with ONE PAINT PARENT would have two options of pathways to regular registry under this proposal.
  - A: Horses with 1 paint pattern gene + 2 paint traits = regular registry
  - B: Horses with 2 or more paint pattern genes + 1 paint trait = regular registry
  - C: Horses with a tobiano gene = regular registry.

**Presentation: The State Director's Role in Rapidly Changing Associations/Clubs by Bob Harris:  
February 25, 2023**

- **Presentation is attached.**
- **EXCELLENT information with many links to free resources.**
- **Key Take-a-ways:**
  - **ALLLLLLL Regional clubs should have a strategic plan to anchor the work they do to.**
  - **Having your own IRS Tax Exempt Status can ONLY BENEFIT the club!**
  - **By-Laws are not enough! Club Policy interprets the By-Laws.**
  - **Make Sure the Club is Incorporated! This protects your personal assets!**
  - **Things that protect a BOD:**
    - **D & O insurance**
    - **Volunteer Immunity (only if you are incorporated)**
    - **Indemnification clause in By Laws.**
  - **Making decisions BEFORE a club meeting, and then saying, "We already decided..." = a Rump Statement/Session = VERY BAD for Business.**

**State Director Meeting 1: February 25, 2023**

- The following rule change proposal amendments were voted on:
  - Show & Contest-160-1; clarifies that score sheets should be posted after each class for exhibitors to view to provide education and allow for clerical errors to be caught and fixed during the show. Amended under 6A, to say ***Should be posted after each class to allow riders to evaluate their performance.*** This change was to allow show secretary teams time to get things copied, due to a lack of Wifi, etc. to get the sheets out for exhibitor viewing as soon as they possibly can.
  - Amateur-205; Novice Amateur may not have earned more than 75 points in any division. An amendment was voted on to allow International Exhibitor to retain Novice Amateur status for up to 25 points. (The change was requested by members of the International Committee).
  - Passed Rule Change proposals passed out of committee for final vote of the State Directors:
    - Breed Integrity-050; simplifies and removes duplication of information in the existing rule.
    - Breed Integrity-070; addition of regular registry pathway for 1 paint parent.
    - Breed Integrity-110; simplifies and clarifies verbiage for existing rule.
    - Show & Contest-045; removes restriction of judges only being used 2 times for top 20 awards.
    - Show & Contest-090; establishes the same submission deadlines for show approval applications for everyone in all areas.
    - Show & Contest-105-2; expands classes that can be judged simultaneously or in a slit arena format for back-to-back shows.
    - Show & Contest-125; allows show producers to submit score sheets electronically.

- Show & Contest-205; encourages Hunter Under Saddle exhibitors to show on the rail.
- Show & Contest-250; removes the off pattern (OP) rule for Novice and Walk/Trot divisions.
- Show & Contest-250-1; eliminates “elevated trot overs” in walk trot classes.
- Show & Contest-302-1; changes language to be more user friendly for exhibitors, show management and judges.
- Show & Contest-303; defines the required gaits for ranch rail pleasure.
- Show & Contest-303-1; changes language to be more user friendly for exhibitors, show management and judges.
- Show & Contest-304; adds Green Ranch classes.
- Show & Contest-3012; removes Competitive Trail Horse from the rule book.
- Amateur-010; allows amateurs to act as private contractors to receive payment for Name, Image and Likeness deals.
- Amateur – 015; updates the rule to reflect the current methods APHA employs to process showing eligibility cards.
- Amateur-300; increases the maximum number of allowed obstacles in walk/trot trail from 8 to 10.
- Judges-000; adds judged roping classes.
- Judges-000-1; allows clerical errors to be corrected after the show has concluded but before the results are submitted to APHA.

**State Director Meeting 2: February 26, 2023,**

**2023 Board of Directors: Three people were elected from a pool of 3 candidates to join the Board.**

- Incoming President: David Lands
- President Elect: Sandy Jirkovsky
- Board Member 1: Kelly Bowles-Chapman
- Board Member 2: Diane Alves
- Board Member 3: Monica Hagen
- Board Member 4: Ashley Griffin
- Board Member 5: Mike Holloway
- Board Member 6: James Howard
- Board Member 7: Peggy Cummings (newly elected)
- Board Member 8: Rachel Quaker (newly elected)
- Board Member 9: Meredith Landy (newly elected)
- Immediate Past President: Melanie Cox-Dayhuff

Thank you for the opportunity to represent Washington State!

~ Kory Kumar

SWWPHC

INPHC

WSPHC

PNPHC

### **Results of Vote on Rule Change Proposals:**

- RG0050: passed
- RG-070: passed
- RG-110: passed
- SC-045: passed
- SC-099: passed
- SC-105-1: Defeated at Committee (never brought to vote by State Directors)
- SC-105-2: passed
- SC-125: passed
- SC-106-1: passed with amendment
- SC-205: passed
- SC-250: passed
- SC-250-1: Defeated at Committee (never brought to vote by State Directors)
- SC-302-1: passed
- SC-303: passed
- SC-303-1: passed
- SC-304: passed
- SC-312: passed
- AM-010: Did not pass
- AM-015: passed
- AM-205: passed with amendment
- AM-210: Defeated at Committee (never brought to vote by State Directors)
- AM-300: passed
- AM-300-1: Defeated at Committee (never brought to vote by State Directors)
- YP-005: Defeated at Committee (never brought to vote by State Directors)
- YP-110: Defeated at Committee (never brought to vote by State Directors)