

OFFICIAL RULEBOOK



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Release Clause

No rodeo committee, national director, regional representative or sanctioning organization can be held responsible for injuries or loss sustained by a contestant, livestock or property of either while representing or competing in any manner in a wild horse race. Each contestant is free to make a choice governing his/her own safety, understands this clause and releases all entities and mentioned above as evidenced by any entry into a wild horse race.

Copyright

All rules, procedures, policies and information contained in this Rulebook are the exclusive property and copyrighted information of the Professional Wild Horse Racers Association. Any use of this information by any organization other than the PWHRA or without the specific written permission of the PWHRA is strictly forbidden.

A. General Rules for Competition

- A-1) All contestants must adhere to the Professional Wild Horse Racers Association rules and by-laws on personal conduct and humane animal treatment.
 - A-1-1) If a situation should arise where an appropriate ruling is unavailable in the Professional Wild Horse Racers Association (PWHRA) rulebook, the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association rules and bylaws shall apply. If neither association has a rule governing the situation, the Board of Directors will be responsible for determining the proper course of action.
- A-2) A maximum of three (3) men per team, for each horse they have drawn, in any one performance.
- A-3) No biting of the horses' ears or gouging of eyes! This is an automatic disqualification from the entire rodeo.
- A-4) Each team must supply their own saddle, halter and lead shank.
- A-5) The lead shank may not exceed sixteen (16) feet in total length, from the tip of the snap to the tail of the rope.
- A-6) The horse must be worked by the lead shank from the halter only. No choking down, half-hitches or trip ropes are allowed.
- A-7) A horse may not be saddled until his entire body (Tail not included) is clear of the chute gate when open at a ninety (90) degree angle from the closed position. Once the animal has cleared the gate requirements, the team may continue competition wherever the horse may take them, except inside the confines of the chute. If a horse should return to the chute he must be brought out and be clear of the chute before he can be saddled.
- A-8) The horse may not be saddled while lying down or still within the confines of any chute. A horse may be saddled in a sitting, rearing or standing position.
- A-9) If any team should unlatch or untie the chute gate prior to the start of the race and the draw horse should become free of the chute (due to premature gate opening) before the signal is given for the race to begin, the team/teams responsible will be automatically disqualified.
- A-10) If a horse is saddled behind the finish line, the horse must re-cross to the proper side and then cross the finish line again in the proper direction in order for a placing to count. This rule only applies at shotgun or straightaway races where the finish is a line completely crossing the opposite end of the arena and the three (3) -jump rule is in effect.
- A-11) The starting line must be properly marked and not exceed a distance greater than the length of the open chute gate. (Starting line is not required; please contact your

director.) This starting line must maintain an equal distance from all chutes being used in the Wild horse Race Event. (Refer to rule AA: Tradition Consideration)

- A-12) In order to place, the rider must be seated in the saddle wherever the saddle may be positioned on the horse. The rider's entire physical body must cross the finish line. Hanging on the side or over the saddle, seated behind or in front of the saddle, does not constitute a qualified ride.
- A-13) Every race must have a finish line clearly designated. In all arena races the barrel marking the finish line must have it's original position marked with a visible substance to mark the finish line in the event the barrel designating the finish line is knocked out of it's original position.
- A-14) Upon crossing the finish line, only one team member may report to Judge.
- A-15) At some rodeos, no one will be allowed to report to the judge until the race is over and judge and contestants are out of the arena. Ask the judge before the performance, as failure to comply will result in a fine.
- A-16) Once a rider is mounted, no team member except the rider may cross the finish line with a lead shank in hand.
- A-17) Up and Out Rule (or Three Jump Rule): All wild horse races sanctioned by the PWHRA within the continental U.S. shall enforce the up and out rule. This rule shall automatically be in effect unless otherwise specified by the rodeo committee Board of Directors. When the rider is mounted in the saddle, his team members may not retain the lead shank or halter after the horse has completed three (3) full jumps or steps in any direction. The rider has the option of retaining lead shank at all times if he so desires. At any time the rider becomes dislodged from the horse and saddle or harm or injury is apparent to man or horse, a rescue attempt involving the use of the lead shank is legal. The three-jump rule will begin again upon the rider's remount onto the saddle. This rule is a judgment call and the Judge's decision is final. Failure to abide by this rule will result in an immediate disqualification from that performance.
- A-18) Only team members and other PWHRA contestants entered in that particular performance may haze any number of horses with or without riders and may even cross the finish line without incurring any penalties. Exceptions to this rule will be allowed only upon consent from the PWHRA Board of Directors, on a per rodeo basis.
- A-19) As arena conditions vary from one rodeo to another, guidelines governing the race may be implemented by the rodeo committee. These rules shall not alter the standard entry fee or pay-off guidelines or change the basic performance rules of the event. No rule shall be in direct conflict with existing PWHRA rules and policies.
- A-20) Any changes from the previous sanctioned year must be cleared through rodeo's Regional Director.

- A-21) These rules and regulations shall be in effect at PRCA rodeos sanctioned by PWHRA within the U.S. only. All pro-wild horse races sanctioned rodeos featuring the wild horse race outside the U.S., will be governed by the printed rules and regulations in the country where competition occurs as standardized by their rodeo association.
- A-22) The judge's decision is always final.
- A-23) Video Ruling: Video cameras will be used at the finish line (when available) for placing only, NOT TO BE USED FOR INFRACTIONS. Judge's decision is final. No personal videos will be accepted for placing or infractions.
- A-24) When competing in a track race, the rider is responsible for keeping the shank rope in the rider's hand and clear of the front legs of the horse. (At the discretion of the judges.)
- A-25) The shank rope release rule will take place at all PWHRA sanctioned events. This requires leaving a maximum of 4 ft. on the shank rope as the three-jump rule takes effect. If a team does not perform this task, they will be disqualified from that performance.
- A-26) Any intentional act of obstruction that impedes any team's access to the finish line and their placing is an automatic disqualification from that performance. (Judges will use their discretion to determine what is an intentional act.)
- A-27) No person shall shank, mug, saddle or ride for any team other than team said person is competing with in that performance. Failure to comply will result in disqualification from that performance for one or both teams at the Judge's discretion.

B. Equipment

B-1) Halters

B-1-1) Halters must be of leather or of a nylon fabric without a chain attached, tacks inserted blinders or any pressure devices added.

B-2) Lead Shanks

B-2-1) Lead shanks shall not exceed more than sixteen (16) feet in total length.

B-2-2) If the lead shanks are supplied by anyone other than the PWHRA teams, the shank must be the minimum of fourteen (14) feet in length. (The larger the rope diameter, the less chance of injury to the animal and contestant.)

B-2-3) Shanks may contain a metal clip or ring if used to attach shank to halter.

B-3) Saddles

B-3-1) Saddles may be of any style and size and are not required to have stirrups or a horn; however, the saddle must contain front swells and a cantle. There must always be a protective material between the saddle and the horse, i.e.,

sheepskin, foam rubber or a blanket. The protective material must be securely attached to the saddle in a manner, which will not harm the horse.

B-4) Quick Cinch

B-4-1) Quick cinches and safety belts are acceptable if they are attached to a proper belly cinch and are not harmful to the animal.

B-5) Releases

B-5-1) A simple trip release is required for fast and easy removal of the saddle in the stripping chutes.

B-6) All equipment is subject to inspection by committee, stock contractor and/or directors.

B-6-1) If equipment is rejected, said team must provide new equipment for approval or be disqualified from that performance and fined for turnout prior to race.

C. Type of Race/Rodeos

C-1) A wild horse race shall be either a track or an arena race.

C-1-1) Track Race: Shall be any racetrack where the animals are clear of the chutes at starting of the race.

C-2) Sanctioning Rules for PWHRA events

C-2-1) All PWHRA Rules must be followed.

C-2-2) The rodeo must be sanctioned and posted in the newsletter at least 30 days prior to the dates of said rodeo.

C-2-3) PWHRA reserves the right not to sanction any future races.

C-2-4) It will be at the discretion of two directors whether added money will be sent to the National Office prior to the first performance.

C-2-5) All entries will be taken by the PWHRA National Office, in accordance with procedures in place at this time.

C-2-6) For all PWHRA sanctioned events - the added money will be a minimum of \$1,000 or \$500 a go-round, whichever is greater. A one-day, one go-round rodeo must add \$1,000. This is required to be eligible for National Points Standings. Entry fees must be in accordance with the PWHRA Rulebook Section E-F. First year rodeos may have a minimum of \$500 added

C-2-7) The event must have at least four (4) chutes.

C-2-8) If a rodeo committee follows the PWHRA sanctioning guidelines (section C-2 of the PWHRA Official Rulebook), including at least the minimum amount of added

money and minimum number of chutes, the points won at that rodeo will be counted for the national standings regardless of the number of teams entered.

D. Animal Draw

D-1) All race draws shall be decided by the judge.

D-1-1) The decision should be stated so that the least confusion, time spent and fairness to all contestants is considered.

D-1-2) All other arena rules apply.

D-1-3) Upon drawing numbered livestock where contestants receive said animal, the draw may be made and posted at any time.

D-1-4) Draw must be made by a "numbers from the hat" method.

D-1-5) No double chute draw. At no time will two teams be allowed to compete from the same chute at the same time.

D-1-6) Horses must be loaded before chute draw.

E. Track Race

E-1) No maximum number of teams is required in a track race.

E-1-1) In order to have a qualified ride on a track the rider must physically maintain control of the animal drawn the entire distance of the track.

E-1-2) If the team saddles the horse and the rider bucks off in the staging area (without first progressing around the track), and re-catches the horse after the animal has made the entire distance around the track without a rider, the rider must remount and then go completely around the track before the team can be placed.

E-1-3) This rule is subject to committee review and approval.

E-1-4) If the rider and horse jump the rail, at any time, the team will automatically be disqualified from that go-round or performance.

F. Arena Race

F-1 An arena race shall be any race where the animals come from chutes with starting signals. A racetrack fully contained within the arena shall still be considered an arena race if the animals are allowed into the arena.

F-1-1) All arena races shall be chute draw unless animals are numbered and drawn. In the case of a chute draw, it is preferred that the draw is made after the horses are loaded in the chutes. If the draw is made prior to loading the chutes, it must be done by a judge or a PWHRA representative and may not be posted or announced until horses are loaded in the chutes.

F-1-2) All races must be started on an even basis. No odd/even gate openings are allowed.

F-1-3) At no time will a trip race be allowed. A contestant need not take the saddle from the horse and return to the judge for a placing or even to make a qualified ride.

F-1-4) Intentional Gating: Any team intentionally gating or trapping another PWHRA team will result in a disqualification. Judges will use discretion and Judge's decision is final.

G. Entry Fees

G-1) Entry fees for all rodeos will be a minimum of \$345.00 per rodeo. Fees collected as part of entry fees are secretary fees, awards fees and judges' fees. Any additional fees such as day permits or any other fees will be assessed on a per team/individual basis. The exception to this rule is any current rodeo with entry fees higher than \$345.00 or any future rodeo that desires to establish a higher entry fee.

G-2) The standard entry fee of \$345 shall be lowered to \$245 for any "Rookie Team" (consisting of at least two card holding members in "Rookie" standing, competing on the same team); the secretary and award fees will still be deducted from the \$245 entry fee.

G-2-1) The rookie team entry fee is good for the entire current season, unless stated for said Rookie.

G-2-2) Upon Director approval, any rodeo may require the rookie entry fee to be the same as full card members for that rodeo only. This must be stated on the sanction sheet.

H. Entry

H-1) Entries may be placed by any team member, however the team captain must work the team during each go-round in which he is drawn. The other two contestants may be substituted at the team's discretion.

H-2) Only PWHRA members who are "in good standing" with the Association, will be allowed to enter PWHRA sanctioned "card member only" shows.

H-3) A local team may enter a sanctioned PWHRA event if they are not a member of the PWHRA, as long as PWHRA accepts local entries [within fifty (50) miles of the rodeo].

H-4) The National office may not close entries to personal appearance only. They must accept telephone entries during the hours entries are open.

H-5) PWHRA or a committee may ask for entry fees to be paid prior to entry closing time.

H-6) Entries must close prior to the beginning of the first performance.

- H-7-1) Exclusion from this rule shall be if an entered team has not made themselves ready prior to their performance, another team may be entered in their place and the original team drawn out.
- H-7-2) The team drawn out will still be responsible for fines levied.
- H-7-3) This rule is at director's discretion.
- H-8) Entries must be open first to all PWHRA members in good standing as a single team entry. Double-back entries will be allowed if teams are needed. Teams must be entered under different names.
- H-9) Local or Non-Member teams can enter a rodeo at the discretion of a judge and or a director in the event that the chutes are not full.
- H-10) All added money must be stated at the close of entries. If more money is added to a purse at a later date, it will be paid out to the cowboys, but will not count for National Standings Points.

I. Maximum Entries

- I-1) Rodeo entries may not be closed prior to set closing date. Entries may be extended at directors' discretion if more teams are needed.
- I-1-1) If entries go one past the maximum number of teams the qualifying rule takes effect (Section K). All teams entered must be PWHRA members before considering the qualifying rule.
- I-1-2) Examples:
8 chutes x 4 performances = 32
 $32 \div 2 = 16$ teams maximum entry
- In the case of both the number of chutes and the number of performances being odd numbers, the calculation would be as illustrated below:
7 chutes x 3 performances = 21 - 1 = 20
 $20 \div 2 = 10$ teams (always an even number)
- This will allow each team to compete on a minimum of two-head average.
- I-1-3) Track races may figure a maximum entry according to a minimum of a two-head average at fifteen (15) head per performance.

J. Trade Outs

- J-1) Trade-outs are accepted in PWHRA entries, except in the case of a "no trade-out show." In a "no trade-out show," the entered name is responsible to pay the entry.
- J-1-1) You may trade-out your entry after entries have closed and before the first performance of the rodeo. Any team trading out will be cleared through the National Office and director of said rodeo. If the traded-out team doesn't show for the performance and/or the rodeo, and does not pay the entry fee, the team

accepting the trade out will be held responsible for the entry fee and any fines assessed and added to the blacklist if fees are not paid.

J -1-2) Teams capable of trade-out are at the discretion of the judge or director only and only before first performance of said rodeo. (In the case of an emergency, flight problem, weather, act of God, it will be up to the said rodeo official judge/director to permit a trade out.)

K. Qualifying Rodeos

K-1) The qualifying rule has been instated to cope with excessive entries at popular rodeos. This rule is not in effect at all rodeos.

K-1-1) All contestants must be members of PWHRA.

K-1-2) Teams with the most money won that year will be entered on a first priority.

K-1-3) Teams entering the largest number of rodeos from the first rodeo of that season and entry closing time will be given second priority. After all teams that qualify from rules K-1-1 and K-1-2 above are met.

K-1-4) Teams within a fifty- (50) mile radius and members in good standing will be given third priority.

L. Finals

L-1) A rodeo may hold a finals, but only in the last performance and will be paid as another go-round.

L-2) In the final go-round, at any given rodeo, all qualifying contestants must compete on animals drawn. They may not work more than one (1) animal in any one given performance and they may not turn out except with a verified medical release. A qualifying contestant that turns out and works with another team shall automatically cause disqualification for both teams involved.

L-3) Any rodeo holding a qualifying final go round may accept the top qualifying teams equal to the number of chutes or set number of teams determined by the Regional Director prior to the first go round of the rodeo. In the event of a points tie entering the rodeo's final go round, a PWHRA official will hold a draw to determine the team that will compete in the final go round.

Example:

9 chutes in the rodeo, 4 performances

- Take the top placings per day for the final go
- Day one - two teams cross, Day two - four teams cross, Day three - four teams cross.

- In the short go are: Top teams - Both teams from day one, three teams from day two, three teams from day three, then hold a draw between the two fourth place teams; you have 9 full chutes.

M. Payback

- M-1) In all payoffs there shall be an aggregate average. The average shall be 50% of the total purse, entry fees and added money. The other 50% shall be divided equally into go-round money. Each performance shall constitute a go-round.
 $\$600$ (entry fees) + $\$800$ (added money) = $\$1,400$ (total purse)
 $\$1,400 \div 2 = \700
 $\$700$ go-rounds + $\$700$ average = $\$1,400$ (total)
- M-2) If the majorities of performances have six (6) or less teams out in a go, it shall pay first and second (60%-40%).
- M-3) If the majority of performances have seven (7) to ten (10) teams out, it shall pay first, second, third (50%-30%-20%).
- M-4) If the majority of performances have eleven (11) or more teams out in a go, it shall pay first, second, third, fourth (40%-30%-20%-10%).
- M-5) Each performance and/or slack constitutes a go-round.
- M-6) A one (1) horse, one (1) performance rodeo shall pay on an average basis only.
- M-7) If a rodeo has an even number of performances and 50% of the performances have eight (8) or eleven (11), all performances will be paid to the maximum number of teams.
- M-8) Average payoff on 50% of total purse:
 $\$100$ - $\$3,000$ average, 3 places (50%, 30%, 20%)
 $\$3,001$ - $\$6,000$ average, 4 places (40%, 30%, 20%, 10%)
 $\$6,000$ and up average, 5 places (39%, 29%, 19%, 9%, 4%)
- M-9) All winnings must be paid out by check to have documentation for the transaction.
- M-10) The only instance in which a ground split shall be paid is when no one crosses the finish line for a placing during the entire rodeo. All unclaimed monies will be divided proportionately between the placing teams. If only one (1) team shall place, they shall receive all the monies. If no one team shall place in a go-round, the monies shall be added to the average.
- M-11) The largest number of teams entered in any performance at that rodeo shall be where the points start. Example: if one performance has nine and all the rest have nine or less teams, points will start at nine and continue through one, placing all teams that cross the finish line within the time limit.

M-12) Number of placings will always continue until the time limit is exhausted.

M-13) In case of a tie at the finish line, the placing shall be split evenly between tying teams.
Tie for first and second place would be $5 + 4 = 9$; $9 \div 2 = 4\frac{1}{2}$

M-14) The team with the largest number of points at the end of the rodeo is the winner.

M-15) Pay-out Rule: the pay out will be done on the teams that have pre-paid or are competing at the time of the rodeo. In the event of a turn-out, if the turn-out fee and fine is received within 30 days of the last performance of that rodeo, the pay out will be changed to include the entry fee of the turn out team. If it is received after the 30 days, it will be put into the Operating Account to benefit the Association.

N. Bonus Monies

N-1) Bonus monies won at individual rodeos will count in the cumulative tabulation for each team, if the PWHRA office is notified prior to the first go-round, or at the time of sanction. The PWHRA office must be aware of the amount to be paid and the manner in which the amount is to be distributed.

N-2) A wild ride shall not count towards the average and shall not be paid from the purse money. If a rodeo wishes to award a wild ride, they must appropriate extra funds and the winner shall be paid after each performance.

O. Medical Releases and Substitutions

O-1) The member under whose name constitutes the team entry may draw out prior to his/her first animal and be returned their full entry fee on a medical release only.

O-2) If a team turns out due to an injury or illness of one of the team members, a turn-out fee and fines may result.

O-3) The first medical release will be fully excused and the team refunded the entry fee if the medical release is executed before the team takes their first horse.

O-4) Upon receipt or notification of a second medical release, the submitting member will be placed on a mandatory forty-five (45) day suspension list based on the decision of the Regional Director. The member will not be eligible to enter or participate with any team, in any performance, at any sanctioned PWHRA rodeo. The result of participation with any team would be a disqualification of that performance and a forfeiture of any monies and/or points won in that performance.

O-5) A member who has notified the PWHRA office or a director of a medical release for a particular rodeo may not participate at that rodeo with his or any other team. This would result in a disqualification of that team for each performance that the excused member did participate in.

- O-6) A medical release must be signed by a licensed medical doctor. The release must be sent to the PWHRA office within 24 hours of the injury sustained. The PWHRA office or a Director must be notified of the turn-out prior to the team's first competition performance.
- O-7) If a team member does not notify the PWHRA office or a Director of a medical turn-out, all members of the team will be held responsible for entry fees and any fines assessed, and all three (3) members will be added to the blacklist.
- O-8) An entry substitution may be made after entries close and prior to the first performance in which the team is entered except at "no-trade shows." The substitution must be approved by the PWHRA rodeo secretary and the PWHRA director or representative who may be present at the rodeo. **SEE MEMBERSHIP.**

P. Membership

- P-1) Any person who is under the age of eighteen (18) years of age, will have to have a release, signed by his/her parents or legal guardians before membership in the PWHRA will be granted.
- P-2) Once a member has paid a full card membership, that member cannot take out a rookie card membership; members must stay in full card status. Exceptions to this are regional permit holders. Regional permits allow past members to compete in their region rodeos only.
- P-3) Regional Permit holders may retain a permit indefinitely, but must adhere to the following rules:
 - P-3-1) A regional permit is only valid for four rodeos in the member's region.
 - P-3-2) Members must be a full cardholder to participate at the PWHRA National Finals.
 - P-3-3) A permit holder/regional permit holder has the option to obtain a full card by paying the remainder of dues to the PWHRA office, prior to participating in their fifth (5th) rodeo.
 - P-3-4) Regional Permit: To gain membership into the PWHRA only to qualify to participate in rodeos ONLY in the region he/she lives in. Regional Permit holders do not have the right to vote nor are they entitled to a companion pass. A companion pass may be purchased by a regional permit holder for a cost of \$25.00.
- P-4) A member must be in good standings with the PWHRA to be eligible to compete for rookie awards.
 - P-4-1) The points counted toward rookie standings will be one third (1/3) of all points won with any team.

P-4-2) Rookie points may not be accumulated at the finals. The cutoff date for rookie points to count will be midnight before the first day of the PWHRA National Finals.

P-4-3) Rookie members are responsible for making sure their points are recorded by the National Office. The member must have the rodeo official (director/judge) note the points on the race result sheet. Or the member must obtain a copy of all rodeo payoff checks, then have the other two (2) team members endorse the stub and turn it into the PWHRA secretary to receive 1/3 of the accumulated points towards rookie standings. This must be within ten (10) days of the conclusion of the rodeo

P-5) Day Card (Permit) Assessment of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per day to allow a participant to claim membership in the PWHRA for a particular rodeo. This will normally occur when a substitute is necessary and will ensure that points garnered by that team on that day will be counted toward year-end awards. No newsletter, voting privileges or companion passes are included in this type of membership.

P-6) Judges Card Included in this membership is the monthly newsletter, companion pass and voting privileges.

P-7) Gold Membership is 25 years in good standing and will cost a \$25 fee. This will institute a GOLD CARD.

Q. Dues

Q-1) An annual charge for membership with all rights and privileges in the PWHRA shall be levied by the Board of Directors. These dues shall be charged to the general membership. Dues revenue shall be used to support the activities necessary for administration and promotion of the PWHRA and the event.

Q-2) All dues and charges assessed to a contestant may be paid to the PWHRA national office, or rodeo judge, unless otherwise specified.

R. Conduct Restrictions and Disciplinary Action

R-1) Any member who violates the PWHRA Bylaws, PWHRA Rulebook, PWHRA Rodeo Rules or any PWHRA sanctioned event may be subject to reprimand, fine, ineligibility, suspension or expulsion pursuant to the penalties set forth in this rulebook and chapter.

R-2) **Progressive fines.** In the case of any offense listed herein with a progressive fine structure (such as doubling of fines, or set fines for the first offense, second offense, etc.), the escalation fine structure shall apply to offenses within the same rodeo year only and shall not carry over to later rodeo years; provided, however, that if a Member is fined for the same Class III Offense three times in the same rodeo year, the escalating fine structure shall continue into the following rodeo year.

- R-3) **Blacklist**: Any member listed on the blacklist is ineligible to enter, compete, garner or gain points for themselves or any other team in any performance or rodeo sanctioned by the PWHRA.
- R-4) **Class I Offenses**. The following shall be considered Class I Offenses and shall be punishable by a fine of less than \$250 per offense and/or disqualification from a rodeo, unless otherwise stated.
- R-4-1) **Dress code**: refer to western attire, no duct tape, electrical, or any other tape besides medical tape and medical wraps will be allowed. Shirts will be tucked into pants. Smashed and/or crumpled hats may be disallowed at the discretion of any PWHRA official. At any one performance by any one member, dress code offenses will be handled with up to \$100 dollar fine and removal from competition until attire is presentable. Dress code will be enforced and fines levied at the discretion of any PWHRA official.
- R-4-2) **Failure to Wear Contestant Number**. Failure to wear contestant number when required shall result in a \$10 fine per performance or section of slack.
- R-4-3) **Rowdyism or Quarreling in the Arena**. Rowdyism or quarreling in the arena shall result in a fine of no less than fifty dollars (\$50) for the first offense, with the amount of the fine doubling for each subsequent offense.
- R-4-4) **Contestant Not Ready to Perform**. In any event, a contestant not ready when called during a performance or section of slack will be fined \$25 for the first offense, \$50 for the second offense, and \$100 for the third and subsequent offenses, and/or may be disqualified from the rodeo where the offense is committed.
- R-4-5) No artificial noise-making device will be allowed, this is a disqualification, from that performance, and subject to a fine up to \$100.00.
- R-4-6) **Unwarranted Presence in Livestock Pen**. Contestant will be disqualified for being present in a pen with livestock at any time, except when accompanied by stock contractor, arena director or a judge or when assigned to work in those pens.
- R-4-7) **Violation of Bylaw or Official Rodeo Rule with Undisclosed Penalty**. Violation of a PWHRA Bylaw or Official Rodeo Rule, which is not explicitly listed as Class I, II, III offense and for which no fine or penalty is set forth shall be considered a Class I offense.
- R-5) **Class II Offenses**. The following shall be considered Class II Offenses and shall be punishable by fine and/or ineligibility, unless otherwise stated.
- R-5-1) **Bad Checks**. Writing or passing a bad check made payable to the PWHRA, a Rodeo Secretary, Stock Contractor, First Year Stock Contractor, Contract Personnel or Rodeo committee in conjunction with a PWHRA approved rodeo, or any such

check to any business establishment in the town of a PWHRA-approved rodeo during the time of said rodeo, shall be a Class II Offense subject to the following penalties:

- R-5-2) **Bad Checks**. For any member writing or passing a bad check made payable to the PWHRA, a Rodeo Secretary, Stock Contractor, Contract personnel or rodeo committee in conjunction with a PWHRA approved rodeo shall be a Class II offense and subject to the following penalties: For the first time offense, the member will be charged a flat fine of \$75.00. For the second offense, the member will lose all check writing privileges and will be fined double the written amount of the check.
- R-5-3) **Ineligibility**. A returned check received in the PWHRA office shall result in immediate ineligibility. To regain eligibility, the face value of the check, the bank charge, and the collection fine must be paid in full.
- R-5-4) **Dispute Over Alleged Bad Check**. In case of a dispute over an alleged bad check, Member must post a cash bond equal to the face value of the check and the bank charge in order to regain eligibility.
- R-5-5) **Checks Not Accepted by PWHRA National Office**. The PWHRA National Office shall not accept personal checks from Members who have lost their “credit okay” status.
- R-6) **Class III Offenses**. The following shall be considered Class III Offenses and may be punishable by fine of no less than \$500, ineligibility, suspension, suspension of PWHRA privileges and/or expulsion, unless otherwise stated.
- R-6-1) **Fighting**. Fighting in the arena.
- R-6-2) **Influencing a PWHRA Official**. Attempting to bribe or influence through physical intimidation any PWHRA official at any time, in or out of the arena, or talking with a judge at a time when an event is in progress.
- R-6-3) **Harassing a PWHRA Official or Spectator**. Engaging in, or attempting to engage in, any action threatening, berating, harassing, or intimidating a rodeo official, a rodeo spectator, any official representative or employee of the PWHRA or any Member.
- R-6-4) **Disorderly conduct**. Disorderly conduct, being under the influence of drugs or alcohol, abusive language, physical or verbal abuse of a judge, contractor, committee person, PWHRA office personnel, directors, members or arena personnel will result in a fine and/or disqualification from the rodeo.
- R-6-5) **Conduct Detrimental to Public Image**. Conduct, speech, appearance or lack of financial responsibility which shall be determined by the PWHRA to be significantly detrimental to the public image, reputation, or well-being of the PWHRA or the sport of professional rodeo.

R-6-6) **Multiple Class I or Class II Offenses.** Committing Multiple Class I or Class II Offenses.

R-6-7) **Mistreatment of Stock. Abuse of Animal.** If a Member abuses an animal by any unnecessary non-competitive or competitive action, he may be disqualified for the remainder of the rodeo and fined \$500 for the first offense, with that fine progressively doubling with each offense thereafter. Judges will immediately inform the announcer that the Team has been disqualified and spectators will be informed of the disqualification due to unnecessary roughness against livestock.

R-6-8) **Logo and Copyright.** All rights are reserved, for both the logo and the name, "Professional Wild Horse Racers Association." Any use of the title, name (including any part of the name) or the logo must be approved by the Board of Directors, be it for private or personal use or for financial gain. Any member using the name (including any part thereof), the logo or PWHRA without said permission may be subject to a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or legal action. Any non-member using the name (or any part thereof), the logo or PWHRA may be subject to legal action. Only the Board of Directors has the legal use of the name, logo and PWHRA and that use must be for approved financial benefit of the PWHRA.

S. Grievance and Disciplinary Action Appeal Procedures and Fines

S-1) **Internal Resolution of Disputes:** As a condition of membership, each PWHRA Member agrees that any disagreements or disputes (including appeals of disciplinary actions taken against a Member) with the Professional Wild Horse Racers Association (PWHRA) or Wild Horse Racers of America, Inc. (WHRA), it's parent corporation, (including any affiliated staff, officers or representatives) that involves interpretation of the Articles of Incorporation, or Bylaws, the official current rulebook or procedural rules (event judging, rodeo sanctioning or other established procedures) will be settled by the grievance procedures outlined in this chapter and in no other manner.

S-1-2) **Purpose of this Procedure:** The purpose of this grievance procedure is to provide a formal path by which a PWHRA Member may voice concern over a possible rule or policy infraction committed by a PWHRA official or representative, which could adversely affect the Member or the reputation of PWHRA within the rodeo community.

S-1-3) **When This Grievance Procedure May Not be Used:** The grievance procedures outlined in this chapter may not be used to challenge or contest actions of PWHRA officials involving ostensibly honest judgment calls made during rodeo competitions that are based on an official's personal observation. This procedure is not intended to be used to challenge the appropriateness of a rule or established procedure or to seek a waiver of a rule, procedure or policy.

S-2) **Procedures:**

- S-2-1) The Member filing the grievance will notify the PWHRA National Office in writing, by mail no later than thirty (30) days after the event giving rise to the grievance. The letter should specifically describe the alleged infraction, giving dates, the name of the involved official or representative, possible witnesses, and how the infraction could adversely affect the grievant. The letter should include any documentation or other evidence (witnesses' statements, video, photographs, etc.) that tend to verify or support the grievant's claim. It is the members' responsibility to supply the National Office with 5 sets of any materials that the National Office cannot make copies of (example: videos, photographs etc.) A fee of \$250.00 shall be included with the grievance.
- S-2-2) The National Office will forward a copy of the letter to the involved official or representative for a response. That person will have thirty (30) days in which to reply to the grievant's letter by sending a response in writing by mail sent to the National Office.
- S-2-3) The National Office will then forward copies of the claim and response, if timely received, to each current member of the Board of Directors.
- S-2-4) The Board of Directors will, within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the materials, respond in writing by forwarding a copy of its decision to the National Office for distribution to the claimant and other parties.
- S-2-5) The Board of Directors, in its discretion, may order the refund of all or any portion of the filing fees paid by the Grievant to pursue a grievance.
- S-2-6) The National Office will mail the response of the Board of Directors as soon as practicable to the grievant and other parties.
- S-3) **Appeals to the Board of Directors:** If any party to a grievance or disciplinary action is dissatisfied with the decision of the Board of Directors, that person may file with the National Office an appeal within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the decision. The appeal should be addressed to the Board of Directors and mailed or delivered to the National Office. The National Office will immediately forward copies of the appeal to each Director. The Board of Directors will have fifteen (15) calendar days from receipt of the appeal in which to respond in writing. The decision of the Board of Directors will be final and not appealable.
- S-4) **Disciplinary Actions:** With respect to PWHRA Rules infractions by Members, the following procedures will apply:
- S-4-1) In the event of an alleged infraction the appropriate Regional Director will notify the National Office of the infraction and recommend an appropriate sanction within those established by the then current Rulebook.

- S-4-2) The accused Member will be notified in writing via mail of the infraction, the referenced rule or policy, and the sanction recommended by the Regional Director.
- S-4-3) The accused Member will have thirty (30) days from the date notified in which to file a written reply to the accusation via the National Office and to request a review by the Board of Directors. This reply should include any appropriate documentation and/or statements of witnesses and explain the reasons the Member feels the disciplinary action is inappropriate. If a reply is not received within the time allotted, the recommended sanction may be enforced without delay.
- S-4-4) Immediately upon receipt of a reply or appeal to the disciplinary action, the National Office will forward a copy of same, a copy of the Regional Director's original accusation and recommendation and a copy of the Member's notification to each member of the Board of Directors for its review. The Board of Directors will have fifteen (15) days in which to respond in writing. The member will be notified of the results of such vote by the National Office.
- S-5) **Appeals:** Appeals from the decision of the Board of Directors shall be made in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2.6 above. An appeal has the effect of suspending the imposition of any sanction during the pendency of the appeal.
- S-6) **Payment of fines:** The Member will have thirty (30) days from the date the decision is mailed to him in which to pay any fine or comply with any sanction imposed by the Board of Directors. If the Member does not so comply said person shall be suspended (placed on "Blacklist") and lose all membership privileges until such time as the fine is fully paid or sanctions complied with.
- S-6-1) If no payment is received or sanctions complied with within ninety (90) days after the Member is suspended, the Member will lose all membership privileges for the remainder of the current rodeo season. Reinstatement will occur only when sanctions are complied with and the fine (and any appropriate collection costs or interest as determined by the Board of Directors) is paid in full to the National Office.
- S-7) **Three strikes, "you're out!"** After three upheld disciplinary actions, the involved Member will be suspended from membership for the remainder of the current rodeo season. All dues, entry fees and other payments to PWHRA made by that Member will be forfeited.
- S-7-1) If a "three-strike" Member is a captain of a registered team, the two remaining team members may elect to re-register as a new team, even if the deadline for

team registration has passed. The original team members may register with a new team captain, and acquire original points and complete the season with said points for national competition.

S-8) **Definitions**

- S-8-1) **Mail:** When any reference is made in these rules to the mail, certified mail with return receipt requested is intended. Personal service may be substituted for service by mail.
- S-8-2) Any team **checking in with the judge at said rodeo** with a suspended member **(Person on the Blacklist)** will be ineligible to **compete**.
- S-8-3) **Turn Out Fines:** Any team drawing out of a rodeo without a medical release must have their entry fees into the PWHRA national office within 24 hours after the last performance of the rodeo entered. If entry fees are not received within 24 hours, there shall be a seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) fine added to the entry fees and possibly a one hundred dollar \$100.00 per rodeo turnout fine assessed as well, at the discretion of the appropriate regional director. If the fines are not paid in full within one month, another fifty dollars (\$50.00) per month will be added for up to four months (a total of \$200.00). Any team turning out at any rodeo and not contacting the PWHRA national office, president or regional director at least two (2) hours prior to the first performance of the rodeo will be fined one hundred dollars (\$100.00) along with their entry and office fees. A team notifying the office in a timely manner may still incur a one hundred dollar (\$100.00) per rodeo fine or waived at the discretion of the rodeos regional director.
- S-8-4) If a team incurs any fines or penalties, it will be the responsibility of the team captain to make sure these fines and/or penalties are paid to the PWHRA office. If the team captain decides the entire team should shoulder this responsibility, it will be up to him to collect any monies owed to him by the team members. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the team captain being blacklisted from future PWHRA events until payment is received in full.
- S-9) Until a decision is made on the Grievance by the entire Board of Directors, the member shall be allowed to enter, compete and gain points, the same as any member in good standing.
- S-9-1) If a decision is made in favor of the member, all points/money earned from the date of offense shall be counted for awards and towards the national finals.
- S-9-2) If the decision is made against the member, then all points/money earned from the date of the offense shall not count for awards and towards the National Finals.

T. Points & Standings

- T-1) All team members must be members in good standing to enter any rodeo in order to accumulate points for the National Finals and/or year-end standings.
- T-1-1) Each dollar earned in competition at properly sanctioned rodeos will count as one point.
- T-1-2) Before a team competes on their first horse or in their first performance at any PWHRA sanctioned event, all three (3) people must be members of the PWHRA. If one (1) of the team members is injured during the rodeo and a non-member substitute is required, the replacement must purchase a \$20.00 day permit in order for points to count.
- T-1-3) In the event of an emergency (automobile trouble, late airlines, bad sanctioned, etc.), a team member of the original team entered, or the person entered, may get one (1) or two (2) \$20 day permits to compete on the first horse and possibly the remainder of that rodeo. The entered name may be substituted, but it must be with a paid member in good standing for any points to count. The names of the replacement people must be reported to the PWHRA office within 24 hours to retain any points earned.
- T-2) Any PWHRA member becoming ineligible and working for another team will make that team ineligible to acquire points for that rodeo.
- T-3) In the case of an incorrect pay-off or result sheet due to secretary error, the contestant must report the error within ten (10) days of the publication of the PWHRA newsletter containing the results of the particular rodeo or the points and pay-off remain as received.
- T-4) If an association member reports a pay-off infraction within the time allotted and it is impossible to redistribute the correct monies, the member will receive the correct number of points earned.

U. Team Registrations

- U-1) Team registration forms must be signed by all team members. New team registrations will be accepted any time during the current season. There is no charge for a team's first registration. After that, the charge will be \$25 to change the team's registered members.
- U-2) Each registered team member must be a paid member in good standing no later than the postmark date of the team registration.
- U-3) The team must register under the name of one team captain and all entries must be made in the name of the registered team captain.
- U-4) If a team is registered, the team captain is not required to compete in order to gain points for the national finals, as long as two original team members are competing and the team is still entered in the original team captain's name.

- U-5) To receive points towards National Finals, two registered team members must compete together in each performance.
- U-6) Any third person being substituted must already be a member in good standing or buy a \$20 per day permit in order for the points garnered to count for the national finals standings.
- U-7) A registered team may resign their registration at any time by written notice from the team captain. If disputed, the team captain will retain the points
- U-8) The team captain may be changed to one of the original registered team members with the team captain's medical release only. There will be a \$25 charge to cover office expenses. Changing the team captain is not required; instead, this is a matter of choice for the team. If not, the team must continue to compete under the original team captain's name in order for the points to count.
- U-9) In the event of a current season injury (unable to compete for the remainder of the current season) example broken leg, back or neck. A registered team may replace said injured man with paid member to continue as a registered team.
- U-10) Team captain can compete and gain points as long as remaining two registered team members are not competing at any other rodeo or same rodeo to gain points for the same team.

V. President/Vice President/Regional Director/National Secretary's Duties & Requirements

- V-1) Regional Directors will coordinate with rodeo committees and assist with entries, if required. Duties will also include providing local media with information on the event and monitoring the conduct of wild horse race contestants. Any complaints involving PWHRA contestants will be investigated by the Regional Director. If the director discovers factual evidence of an infraction, a written report detailing the complaint and investigation will be completed and forwarded to the National Office, along with the director's fine or disciplinary action instigated. The disposition of the case will be decided by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- V-2) Regional Directors will be required to reside within the geographic boundaries established for that region. The director must also participate, **attend** a minimum of three (3) rodeos **in his region** during each year he is in office. **Participation can include entry or judging of a rodeo.** Failure to meet residency or active involvement requirements will disqualify the director and the national secretary will conduct an interim election to fill the remainder of the term.
- V-3) Board of Directors' meetings will be held on a biannual basis, in April and at the National Finals. If a Regional Director is unable to attend such meetings, he can appoint an assistant to participate in his place. This assistant will have full voting powers of the elected director for the purposes of the meeting.

- V-4) The general membership of the PWHRA has recognized the responsibilities and hardships incurred by persons holding the President / Vice President/ Regional Director positions and have exempted said directors of any membership dues for the two years of their service to the Professional Wild Horse Racers Association.
- V-5) Office of the President: The president shall preside at all meetings of the PWHRA including the meetings of the Board of Directors. He will advise the national secretary on all matters concerning policies of the organization. If the President discovers factual evidence of an infraction by a member/contestant, a written report detailing the complaint and investigation will be forwarded to the National Office.
- V-6) The President is able to spend up to \$750.00 maximum per year without Board approval.
- V-7) The president will act as a national spokesperson for the PWHRA, and be asked to attend the NFR Convention as a spokesman and can solicit estimates for National Finals jackets and/or awards. It will be the Board of Directors who will make the purchasing decisions for these jackets and/or awards.
- V-8) In the case of misunderstandings or disputes among officers or directors the president shall serve as mediator, pulling together what facts are available in a situation and making his recommendation for a solution to the Board of Directors.
- V-9) The National Secretary of the PWHRA works for the Board of Directors and the General Membership.
- V-10) Office of the Vice President: The term will be two years. The Vice President has voting privileges in Board of Directors meetings. A two year membership will be free to the person holding the position. The first duty shall be to locate and direct the PWHRA National Finals rodeo for that year. This includes locating added money, stock, promotion, and sponsors. Also will act as President in the absence of the President.

W. Recall of Officials

- W-1) If misconduct by an official of the PWHRA is alleged, the Board of Directors will review the complaint. If a majority of the Board decides there is a factual basis to the complaint, the secretary will add a form to the next newsletter detailing the allegation and the official's response. This form must be returned, signed and dated by majority vote of Directors in a specified time frame for removal of that official to occur. The Board will name a replacement.
- W-2) If a general consensus of the membership in a region believes that the elected Regional Director does not represent their interests, it will be up to the membership to obtain two-thirds (2/3) of the affected members' signatures on a recall petition. The secretary, upon receiving such a petition and verifying the required elements,

shall schedule a special election for that position. The incumbent director can not be on the ballot.

W-3) Officials on the blacklist for two consecutive months will be suspended from any duties of their office. Failure to resolve the reason for blacklisting before the next newsletter will result in removal and a replacement will be selected by the Board. Upon removal a certified letter will be sent out informing said official that his/her term has been revoked.

W-4) Upon notification of removal, official responsibilities and telephone credit card privileges are immediately terminated. Any further representation of the PWHRA or use of its assets can result in criminal or civil action.

X. PWHRA Judges Duties/Requirements

X-1) New judges will take judge's exam.

X-2) Wild horse racers can only judge after completing the judge's examination.

X-3) No wild horse racer holding a judge's card shall judge a rodeo where there is any possibility of a conflict of interest, at the discretion of the Regional Director.

X-4) Any PWHRA Card Holding Judge shall not judge at any rodeo where there is a possibility of a conflict of interest, at the discretion of the Regional Director.

X-5) A PWHRA Card Holding Judge should judge a minimum of three rodeos a year to be in good standing. If a card holding judge can not meet this requirement without just cause, the Regional Director, shall require the cardholder to submit a new application and a new test, successfully pass the judge's examination, before judging at another rodeo.

X-6) PWHRA Card-Holding judges will be compensated (paid) for judging at each rodeo. Judges Fee is \$50.00 to pay for membership to pay for administrative expenses.

X-7) The PWHRA Directors shall decide compensation. Compensation will be based on number of judges, refer to rule X-8:

\$100.00 per rodeo performance, not per go. (Example) Said rodeo has 2 performances a day, 1pm & 7pm. There are 2 gos at 1pm and 2 gos at 7pm. The judge would be compensated \$100 for the 1pm performance and \$100 for the 7pm performance for a total of \$200.00 for the day.

X-8) Guidelines for number of judges to judge rodeos:

- 1 Judge at all PWHRA events
- 2 Judges at National Finals

X-9) Judges Pay: The judges will be paid the following: \$100 per performance minimum for judges payment for a one judge rodeo, and \$150 per performance at National Finals.

X-9-1) A judge working a one-day, one performance rodeo will make no less than \$150.00.

X-10) Judges shall be responsible for the following duties:

- Correct calculations of race result sheet.
- Check in all teams & procuring all required paperwork.
- Disburse back numbers.
- Placement and removal of Barrel cover/banners or any National Sponsor Promotional items.
- Mail complete race result into the national office with all pertinent paperwork.
- Procure completed vet survey form.
- Judges shall assist the Regional Directors at the end of the rodeo with the payoff. If the Regional Director is not available, the Rodeo's Head Judge shall handle all payoffs.
- Judges will be held responsible for legible paperwork and monies collected.

X-11) PWHRA Judges will garner points for participation at any rodeo they are assigned to participate at: All judges will garner 5 point per performance. Judges will be tracked per rodeo basis, points are to be noted on the race result sheet. The judges will then be tracked and noted in monthly newsletter or website and the judge with the most points will automatically qualify to be one of the judges at the current seasons National Finals. The next judges to qualify will be selected by the teams participating at the current National Finals. A minimum of 2 judges will attend National Finals.

X-11-1) Definition of assigned judge: any judge who calls in to the National Office or the appropriate Regional Director 2 weeks prior to the date of the first performance.

X-11-2) Paid judges shall receive 2 additional points per rodeo.

X-12) Judges are required to send their rodeo results and all related paperwork to the National Office within 72 hours after the end of the rodeo. If this requirement is not met then the Judge will lose their points for that rodeo. If this requirement is still not met, for every 5 days the Judge will lose one performance of pay.

X-13) National Finals Awards for Judges shall be:

- All YearsPlaque
- Third YearJacket
- Fourth YearBelt Buckle

X-14) Judges Rule: All judges will be paid on the number of teams entered at time of entry close date and not on number of teams competing.

Y. Award Guidelines

Y-1) **Anyone receiving a year-end award must be card-carrying member of the PWHRA**

Y-2) All award money collected throughout the year will be used strictly for the year-end buckle awards. All other awards to include plaques, back numbers, etc. will be paid out of the association operating account.

Z. Rodeo Sanctions

Z-1) The PWHRA reserves the right to charge a sanction fee on a per rodeo basis. As the conditions that govern fees and charges may differ from year to year, a rigid collection of rules would be an unwise publication at this time. It is mandatory that a rodeo honor all the rules and regulations of the above sanction, unless otherwise approved by the Board.

AA. Tradition Consideration

AA-1) Any rodeo that has featured the PWHRA event before the sanctioning procedure was instituted in 1976 and desires to continue a specific tradition that has been in effect before 1976 must have the tradition considered by the PWHRA Board of Directors. This allowance or special addition to the event cannot alter the prescribed pay-off or entry fee requirements. This rule is at Directors' discretion.

BB. Voting

BB-1) All votes for an officer can be accepted by mail, phone, e-mail or fax to the National Office.

BB-2) All rule changes or additions to the rulebook must be by majority vote of the Board of Directors before they can pass.

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