



Regulation Department

News

Competitions & Officials

February 2007 Edition

ATTENTION, MEMBERS!

The 2007 rulebooks are targeted to begin shipping on or before March 5th. Given 3-5 weeks average shipping time for bulk mail, look for yours to arrive in early April. A compiled document containing all the rule changes approved at this year's Annual Meeting is available on the web in PDF format at:

<http://www.usef.org/content/rules/RuleChanges2007.php>

You can also view the completed 2007 rulebook organized by chapter online at:

<http://www.usef.org/content/rules/ruleBook/2007/>

Contact: Abigail Cook, Legislative Coordinator, (859) 225-2057; acook@usef.org.

TRAVELING ABROAD

Starting January 23, 2007, the U.S. government will require passports when citizens of the United States, Canada, Mexico and Bermuda enter or re-enter the United States by air from Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Caribbean, Central America and South America.

This requirement does not affect travelers entering the country by land or sea at this time. U.S. passports won't be required for travelers returning from U.S. territories, including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The new rule is expected to prompt a dramatic increase in passport applications. If you need to apply for or renew a passport, we recommend doing so as soon as possible.

It typically takes about six to eight weeks to receive a U.S. passport. Faster, more expensive service through the U.S. Passport Office can take up to two weeks.

INFORMATION REGARDING USEF HEAD-GEAR RULE WHICH BECAME EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2005

We would like to remind you of the following information regarding the requirements of GR318.2 and .3, which

read as follows:

GR318 Dress.

2. It is compulsory for riders in all Hunter, Jumper and Hunt Seat Equitation classes, and Paso Fino classes, both open and breed restricted including Hunter Hack, where jumping is required and when jumping anywhere on the competition grounds to wear properly fastened protective headgear which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag. It must be properly fitted with harness secured. A Show Committee must bar riders without protective headgear from entering the ring for classes in which protective headgear is required and may bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience.

3. Except as may otherwise be mandated by local law, all juniors riding in Hunter, Jumper and Hunter Seat Equitation sections, and all sub-juniors riding in the Paso Fino division, while riding anywhere on the competition grounds, must wear properly fitting protective headgear which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag. Harness must be secured and properly fitted. Any rider violating this rule at any time must immediately be prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place.

In particular, we would like to remind you that the rule does state for senior riders that **"A Show Committee must bar riders without protective headgear from entering the ring for classes in which protective headgear is required and may bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience."** In addition, the rule states for junior riders that **"Any rider violating this rule at any time must immediately be prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place."**

Thus, for example, if it comes to the attention of Licensed Officials or Competition Management that a junior is riding without the chin strap affixed or without the harness

secured, the rule places an obligation on them to immediately stop the rider from participating until compliance is achieved. Another example would be where another person such as an exhibitor or the parent of an exhibitor approaches a Licensed Official or Competition Management and points out that a particular rider is using a helmet which is not ASTM/SEI approved. Pursuant to GR1122.2.b it is the responsibility of a Steward or Technical Delegate **“to investigate and act upon any alleged rule violations without waiting for a protest.”** Pursuant to GR1211.2 of the rules it is the obligation of Competition Management to **“enforce all rules of the Federation from the time entries are admitted to the competition grounds until their departure.”** Therefore, in the above circumstance described of a report of possible non-compliance made by another person, the Licensed Officials and Competition Management must investigate, and upon determination of the accuracy of the report, must immediately stop the individual from further riding until ASTM/SEI approved headgear is properly in place.

In a recent (December 22, 2006) news release, USEF responded to queries from members regarding helmets purchased in Europe. “A number of exhibitors using the GPA brand of helmets while competing in USEF licensed events may be unaware that they are not wearing an ASTM/SEI certified model as required by USEF rules. Helmets purchased in Europe, from online stores in Europe, or possibly from EBay, if the helmets originally came from Europe, may not meet the ASTM/SEI standard as required by USEF GR318.2-GR318.7. Riders should check the buckles of their GPA helmets to see if there is an SEI logo on it and they should also check the inside of the helmet which should carry the SEI certification tag on it. If it does not appear there, then the helmet should not be used in USEF licensed competitions.”

We would also like to bring to your attention that for classes where ASTM/SEI headgear is not required but is worn by an exhibitor, GR318.4 states as follows: **“Any exhibitor may wear protective headgear (ASTM/SEI) in any division or class without penalty from the judge.”**

Questions on headgear required in specific classes or disciplines should be directed to the USEF department of that breed or discipline.

Contact: Leigh Anne Claywell, Director of Competition Dates, (859) 225-6959; lclaywell@usef.org.

USEF OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN FORM – NO LONGER REQUIRED

Effective immediately, it will no longer be necessary for competition management to obtain, have on file for inspection, and provide to the Steward or Technical Delegate a USEF Official Veterinarian Form (GR1204.1) pursuant to the

rule change proposal approved by the USEF Board of Directors 1/14/2007. Please note that this does not change GR1212.4 with regard to the requirement of a written agreement with veterinarians on call.

Contact: Judy Klawetter, Assistant Director of Competition Dates, (859) 225-6931; jklawetter@usef.org.

HUNTER RULE CHANGE

The following change to HU105.2 was approved by the Board effective 12/1/06 but was inadvertently omitted from the blue supplement pages. It will appear in the 2007 printed version of the rulebook.

HU105 Amateur Owner Hunter. [Hunter Division]
Effective 12/1/06:

1. To be ridden by Amateur Owners or an amateur member of the owner's family. In either case classes are restricted to riders who are no longer eligible to compete as junior exhibitors. Leased horses are not eligible and multiple ownership is not permitted unless all owners are members of the same family.
- ~~2. Competitions may stipulate, provided it is so stated in the prize list, that all horses shown in an Amateur Owner class must be ridden by the same amateur or an amateur member of the owner's family, if shown in any other Hunter class in a Green or Regular section at the same competition.~~

2007 STEWARD/TD REPORTS

2007 Steward and Technical Delegate Report forms are available to officials either by downloading from the USEF website (select FORMS & PUBS, then Competitions; scroll down to Stewards/TD's and select the particular form needed) or by ordering forms directly from USEF. Form orders sent directly to USEF should be entered on the 2007 order form which can be printed from the USEF website (select USEF ORDERS, Competition/Steward & TD Orders, Steward & TD Packets, 2007 Steward & Technical Delegate Order Form, in that order). The Steward/TD Report forms themselves must be ordered in the order form's Individual Forms box; they are not a part of the Standard Official's Packet. Please note the Order Form is not currently website interactive; you will need to print it off, fill it out and submit it either via fax, mail, or scan and email to USEF. Please note also it is no longer necessary to send USEF the second (yellow) copy of the Steward/TD Report form; only the original (white) is required in 2007.

An official can now choose to submit his/her Steward/TD Report electronically using the electronic report form on the USEF website. To access the electronic form, use the same method outlined above to locate a report form; make sure, however, the particular report form you choose is labeled “Reader Rights Enabled.” If you haven't submitted

an electronic form previously, be sure to use the "Click HERE for a basic How To tutorial" section which contains step-by-step instructions, including illustrations. There is no need to additionally submit a hard copy. GR1122.2 requires all USEF Stewards/TD's to retain copies of all reports and supporting documentation for a period of three years, so if you are not regularly backing up your computer data, you may wish to print a hard copy for your records in the event of computer crash. You should receive an email acknowledgment of your electronic report submission from USEF within 24-48 hours; be sure to print it off and retain for your records; it is your proof of submission. And if you are not scanning and transmitting required additional documents with your electronic report, please note in the report's Comments section what additional documents are being sent under separate cover and how sent, i.e., fax or regular mail. Be aware the separately-sent documents must be submitted **within** 14 days following the last licensed day of the competition, just like the report itself. **Note that certain additional documents must be submitted in hard copy;** these include: Measurement Forms; documents processed by the USEF Legal or the Regulation Department (formerly Rules Compliance) such as Charges, Protests, Warning Cards, reports of abuse, etc.; USEF Accident/Injury Reports; and AHA report forms.

Contact: *Judy Klawetter, Assistant Director of Competition Dates,*
(859) 225-6931; jklawetter@usef.org.

WHO NEEDS TO PAY IHP (INTERNATIONAL HIGH PERFORMANCE) DUES?

The USEF rule regarding IHP dues states as follows:
GR204.3

In order for an individual to be eligible to participate as a rider, driver, vaulter, or longeur, in international competition as defined herein, said individual **must be a member of the Federation and must pay an International High Performance "IHP" Discipline Due** established annually by the Federation as noted below by discipline, in addition to other Breed/Discipline Dues.

Junior and Young Rider International High Performance Member **\$100**.

Senior International High Performance Member **\$200**.

Please remember that USEF Life members are exempt from payment of the IHP dues. The IHP requirements can vary depending on the discipline in which the rider and owner are competing. For example:

IHP dues must be collected for most selection trials and training sessions organized by the high performance division of USEF. For Jumping, at a USEF recognized Grand Prix that is included on the USEF Computer List (National and International levels), IHP dues must be paid or **the Rider is ineligible to participate in the class.**

Contact: *Andrea Kimmel, FEI Registration Coordinator,*
(859) 225-6995; akimmel@usef.org.

NO SIGNATURES REQUIRED ON USEF HORSE ID APPLICATION

The form used to get a USEF horse ID has changed. The pre-numbered form is no longer used. The new form for Horse ID is the USEF Horse Application. When a horse ID is requested on this form, no signatures from the steward or competition secretary are required as the Horse ID cannot be used for points. There will be no charge for Horse ID numbers that are issued via the internet to members of USEF or its affiliates for: 1) horses that are life recorded, registered or otherwise identified or listed with a USEF discipline affiliate, or 2) horses registered with a USEF breed affiliate. Horses not meeting the above criteria must have a completed USEF Horse application indicating on the application the request for a Horse ID before a number will be issued. This form can be completed on the internet, free of charge, at www.usef.org or via mail for a fee. Requests for Horse ID numbers using the paper format of the Horse application will be charged a \$10 non-refundable fee. If you have any questions regarding Horse ID, please contact Lisa Owens at lowens@usef.org.

COMPETITIONS SELECTED FOR ROADSTER PONY HEEL MEASUREMENTS

The Federation has selected the six competitions which will be required to take heel measurements from the first and fourth place ponies in Roadster and Hackney Roadster Pony Championships. The 2007 competitions include:

- Bonnie Blue National – Lexington, VA (5/9 -5/12)
- Lexington Junior League – Lexington, KY (7/9 – 7/14)
- Kentucky State Fair – Louisville, KY (8/19 – 8/25)
- All American Horse Classic – Indianapolis, IN (9/4 – 9/8)
- Mid-America Mane Event – Springfield, IL (10/25 – 10/28)
- UPHA/American Royal – Kansas City, MO (11/13 – 11/17)

Prior to these show dates, competition managers, secretaries, and stewards will receive informational packets that will explain all procedures and policies regarding USEF rules HK116.3. and RD112.2 which state:

All Hackney Roadster and Roadster Ponies must be re-measured and issued new measurement cards prior to competing in licensed competitions for the year 2004 and beyond. In all Hackney Roadster or Roadster Pony championship/stake classes (except Junior divisions) at selected USEF competitions which will be notified in writing by USEF, the first place and fourth place ponies must allow a heel measurement to be taken immediately following the class to verify the heel measurement is at or below what is

indicated on the current measurement card; a copy of which must be on file in the show office prior to the pony competing. The heel measurement will be taken by the competition steward at a location determined by the measuring official and competition management. The heel measurement must be taken from the left bulb of the left front heel, from the skin line on the lower side of the coronary band with the ruler perpendicular to the flat surface. It is the trainer's or driver's decision and responsibility to determine if the pony will be hitched or unhitched for this measurement. If the heel measurement is higher than the measurement on the pony's USEF measurement card, an overall height measurement must be performed by two measuring officials (See GR502.4) no later than one hour following the end of the session at the designated location. Any entry that exceeds the legal height limit will forfeit winnings in that class. In the event there are fewer than four ponies in a class, the pony occupying the final placing will be measured. In the event of an emergency and the steward is unavailable to take the heel measurement immediately, competition management must appoint a representative to remain with the pony until the heel measurement can occur.

Any questions regarding these USEF rules or the 2007 competitions selected should be directed to the Federation office at (859) 225-6986.

HACKNEY MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED

Please be aware of new rule changes effective 4/1/07 that require membership with the American Hackney Horse Society. The first new rule is GR1004.12 which requires all USEF judges holding a Hackney card to be members of the AHHS. The other rule updates can be found in HK101.2 and HK120.2. These rule references explain that owners and trainers of Hackney ponies and Hackney horses must show proof of membership with the AHHS in order to compete in the Hackney division at USEF recognized competitions.

Contact: Carrie Mortensen, Director of Breeds & Western Disciplines, (859) 225-6986; cmortensen@usef.org.

2007 TRIPLE POINT COMPETITIONS

The Federation has selected the 2007 triple point competitions for the Saddlebred, Roadster, and Hackney divisions. Points won at these designated competitions will count as triple points for the Farnam/Plastform USEF Horse of the Year program. Congratulatory letters and ads for use in the competition prize list have been mailed to the show contacts on file with the USEF office. If you did not receive your information packet or prefer an electronic version of the ad, please contact the Breeds Department at (859) 225-6986 or cmortensen@usef.org.

Saddlebred Division

- Region 1 Santa Barbara National – Competition #7457
- Region 2 NWSA Fall Classic and Futurity – Competition #711
- Region 3/4 Wisconsin Futurity – Competition #1595
- Region 5 Midwest Charity – Competition #343
- Region 6/7 Oklahoma Centennial – Competition #5674
- Region 8 All American Horse Classic – Competition #330
- Region 9 Asheville Lions Charity – Competition #3355
- Region 10 Southeastern Charity – Competition #370
- Region 11 Bonnie Blue National – Competition #269763
- Region 12 UPHA Spring Premiere – Competition #2922

Roadster Division

- Region 1 UPHA Chapter One – Competition #317874
- Region 2 Summer Showcase – Competition #320244
- Region 3/4 Wisconsin Futurity – Competition #1595
- Region 5 Midwest Charity – Competition #343
- Region 6/7 Oklahoma Centennial – Competition #5674
- Region 8 Lexington Junior League – Competition #152
- Region 9 Asheville Lions Charity – Competition #3355
- Region 10 Southeastern Charity – Competition #370
- Region 11 Bonnie Blue National – Competition #269763
- Region 12 Eastern States Exposition – Competition #324095

Hackney/Harness Division

- Region 1 UPHA Chapter One – Competition #317874
- Region 2 NWSA Fall Classic and Futurity – Competition #711
- Region 3/4 Wisconsin Futurity – Competition #1595
- Region 5 St. Louis National Charity – Competition #1704
- Region 6/7 Oklahoma Centennial – Competition #5674
- Region 8 All American Horse Classic – Competition #330
- Region 9 Asheville Lions Charity – Competition #3355
- Region 10 Southeastern Charity – Competition #370
- Region 11 Bonnie Blue National – Competition #269763
- Region 12 Eastern States Exposition – Competition #324095

Contact: Carrie Mortensen, Director of Breeds & Western Disciplines, (859) 225-6986; cmortensen@usef.org.

MAJORITY OPINION JUDGING SYSTEM (MOS) UPDATE

The Federation asks that all show managers, stewards, and judges that utilize the “Majority Opinion Judging System” (most commonly referred to as MOS) obtain a copy of the guidelines and procedures and familiarize themselves with the entire process. The MOS handout currently asks that show managers and judges meet prior to the first class to discuss the system. Of significant importance are the procedures

for handling 3 way identical ties. It has come to the Federation's attention that some managers, stewards, and judges may not understand when a workout is or is not required. For the safety and well being of the horses, when a 3 way identical tie occurs, the horses should not be "reworked" if they have already gone back to the rail for additional work prior to the tie. Instead, management is instructed to go to the cards. At no time will horses ever be asked to perform more than one workout per class (exception: Equitation). A complete description of tying the class is described in the handout.

If you have any questions or would like to obtain a copy of the handout, please call the Federation office at (859) 825-6004 or e-mail Kristin Detwiler at kdetwiler@usef.org.

SADDLE & BRIDLE HUNTER CLASSIC CLASS

Judges should be advised that the class specifications for the Saddle & Bridle Hunter Classic class have been updated to reflect that a jump may be included in qualifying classes and must be utilized at the Final. In addition, a clarification has been made that if a jump is part of this class, then the jump should count at a value of 30%. Show committees and managers should be advised that they must state in the prize list that qualifying classes have the possibility of a jump requirement. See SB163.

Contact: Carrie Mortensen, Director of Breeds & Western Disciplines, (859) 225-6986; cmortensen@usef.org.

ARABIAN AND HALF/ANGLO ARABIAN DIVISION BITS

Spring loaded bits are allowed in all Arabian and Half/Anglo Arabian sections provided they meet the bit measurement criteria set forth in each performance section.

Contact: Jennifer Holman, Assistant Director, Breeds & Western Disciplines, (859) 225-6951; jholman@usef.org.

HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT FOR ROADSTER PONIES

Please be advised that the height for Roadster and Hackney Roadster Ponies under saddle and to wagon has been raised from 52 inches to 54 inches effective 4/1/07. Show managers, secretaries, and stewards should familiarize themselves with these new changes to RD112 and HK116 so that prize lists and entries can be prepared accordingly. It is important to note that the height of Roadster and Hackney Roadster to Bike classes remains at 52 inches. Any questions regarding these rule changes should be directed to the Breeds Department at (859) 225-6986.

Contact: Carrie Mortensen, Director of Breeds & Western Disciplines, (859) 225-6986; cmortensen@usef.org.

RULE CHANGE PROCESS

Changes to GR342 Rule Change Procedures were approved by the USEF Board of Directors January 14th, with an effective date of April 1, 2007. Submission dates were changed, although the procedure to submit the changes did not change. The official form is found on the website or can be obtained by contacting the USEF office. Deadlines for submissions are as follows:

Individual Federation members	June 1
Federation Staff	June 1
Federation Committees	September 1
Affiliated Entities (Bylaw 221)	September 1
Affiliated Associations (Bylaw 222)	September 1

For 2007, the Arabian Horse Association has the submission date of September 15th.

Some breed or discipline affiliates have procedures for handling rule changes at their annual conventions. Two examples are the Arabian Horse Association and the American Morgan Horse Association. Both Affiliated Associations have well defined rules pertaining to how proposed rule changes affecting their division rules are handled. Anyone contemplating submitting rule changes affecting these divisions is advised to work within the parameters of the Affiliated Association.

Changes to GR342 expand on the procedures for Standard and Extraordinary Rule Changes. A new category is "Rule Clarifications." This category was created to simplify the process of correcting contradictory language, missing or incorrect phrasing, and other wording or punctuation errors that cause inconsistent interpretations of the intent of a rule.

Contact: Mary Smith, Director of Licensed Officials, (859) 225-6948; msmith@usef.org.

REMINDER FOR DRESSAGE RIDERS AND TRAINERS REGARDING WARM-UP AND TRAINING AREAS AT FEI-SANCTIONED EVENTS

In recent years the warm-up areas have become more accessible to spectators, judges, press and media who enjoy watching skillful and sensitive riding and training methods.

Every rider and trainer must accept his responsibility to uphold the high level of horse welfare our sport has achieved.

All warm-up and training areas are supervised by official-appointed FEI Stewards. Their job is to ensure that FEI regulations are enforced and riders and trainers maintain standards of riding and warming-up in accordance with Art. 143 and 144 of the FEI General Regulations.

Should any spectator, rider, trainer or judge be concerned about, or feel they are witnessing, rough or unfair riding or

training, they should report the incident to the FEI Steward without delay. The FEI Steward will then decide on the appropriate course of action including reporting the incident to the Chief Steward who will report to the President of the Ground Jury.

More detailed information regarding disciplinary procedures can be found in the FEI General Regulations, Art. 174 or on the FEI website at www.horsesport.org.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR FEI REGISTRATION

Please remember to renew your FEI Registrations. They must be renewed annually. This year the horse and rider applications are separate; there is one application for the rider information and one application for the horse information. You can download the 2007 FEI Horse and Rider Registration applications from the USEF website or use the following link to get them:

2007 FEI Rider Registration application -
<http://www.usef.org/documents/international/2007FEIRiderRegForm.pdf>

2007 FEI Horse Registration application -
<http://www.usef.org/documents/international/2007FEIHorseRegForm.pdf>

To avoid any delay in the processing of your FEI Registration, please fill in as much information as possible on the applications. In order to process your FEI Registration renewal you must have the following:

Current USEF Membership (Owner(s) and Rider)

Current USEF Horse Recording (Annual or Life)

Membership Renewal

http://www.usef.org/content/membership/join_renew.php

If your USEF membership has not been renewed for 2007, you must do so before an FEI Registration application can be processed. You may renew online or by mail. To renew online, you must sign onto the Authorized User Area (AUA) on the USEF website. You may also download an application to mail or fax to the USEF office.

<https://www.usef.org/content/aua/userSystemArea.php>

If your horse's USEF Recording is not current for 2007, you must renew this as well before processing. You may do this online or send an application by fax or mail. Please remember that processing of an application can take up to 30 days. If you are transferring ownership of a horse, please send a copy of your bill of sale and the transfer fee of \$60.

If you need your membership or horse recording processed immediately, USEF does offer a rush service for an additional \$30.

If you have any additional questions, please contact us at FEIServices@usef.org. You may verify your USEF Membership and Horse Recording on the USEF website. You may verify your FEI Registrations when completed on the FEI website.

http://www.horsesport.org/fei_documents/public/public_documents.lasso?sub=fei_documents&active=fei_documents1

Contact: *Andrea Kimmel, FEI Registration Coordinator,*
 (859) 225-6995; akimmel@usef.org.

MENTOR PROGRAM

An exciting new program for potential Hunter and Hunter Seat Equitation judges was approved at the January 2007 Board Meeting, with an effective date of April 1, 2007. The purpose of the Mentor Program is to assist qualified horsemen in the pursuit of a USE judges' license in the Hunter and Hunter Seat Equitation divisions. An additional component is to assist 'r' judges in obtaining 'R' status in Hunter, Hunter Seat Equitation, and Hunter Breeding.

Information about and an application to become a Mentor will be sent to the over 300 Hunter and Hunter Seat Equitation judges who have held the "R" for a minimum of five years and are at least 35 years of age. The Licensed Officials Committee will review all applications to become a Mentor and will notify those accepted to be a Mentor.

Once approved to be a Mentor, it will be the Mentor's responsibility to identify and select applicants for 'r' status that are current, active, professional horseman that they feel would be successful judges in the Hunter and Hunter Seat Equitation divisions. Watch for full details and application materials for this program on the USEF website.

Contact: *Mary Smith, Director of Licensed Officials,*
 (859) 225-6948; msmith@usef.org.

ALL COMPETITION SECRETARIES AND MANAGERS

Please note that the USEF or USEF/USHJA card key fob that states "SR" only means the member has NOT paid a breed/discipline due and needs to pay \$5 breed/discipline fee per competition or pay the full amount of their breed/discipline dues at the competition. This is the card key fob only. The members full size hard copy card will state after Senior - "Must pay Br/Disc dues to compete."

We have asked our card printer to start printing the following on the card key fob: "SR Must pay Br/Disc."

Contact: *Mary Henson, Director of Membership Processing,*
 (859) 225-6954; mbenson@usef.org

ATTENTION USEF MEMBERS!

Remember to take advantage of the USEF MemberPerks Program. USEF MemberPerks offers substantial cost savings on products and services from John Deere, Dodge, Office Max, UPS and many more!

For more information, please call (877) 576-6872 or FAX (859) 422-9407 or logon to www.usef.org.

A BIT OF HISTORY – STEWARDS

The first mention of a Steward in the American Horse Shows Association (ASHA) Rule Book appears in 1948, under Conduct of Member and Licensed Shows, Section 2.

“(a) Every Recognized Show shall appoint its own Steward or a Ring Committee, such Steward or a majority of such Ring Committee to be present at each session of the show, who shall be responsible for the operation of the show, the enforcement of AHSA rules, the hearing of protests and the taking of such disciplinary action as shall be within the jurisdiction of such Committee or Steward, and provided for in the rules. The failure of the Steward or Ring Committee to attend the show and to perform their duties shall constitute cause for disciplinary action against the individuals responsible for such failure. Such action may include suspension from serving on a ring committee, suspension from managing a horse show and suspension from exhibiting or judging at any Recognized Show for such a period of time as may be determined by the Executive Committee of the AHSA.

The failure of a show to appoint such a Steward or Committee shall constitute grounds for dropping the show from membership in the succeeding year.”

The 1952 AHSA Rule Book lists the requirements for a person to be eligible as a Steward:

“To be eligible as a Steward a person must possess a thorough knowledge of the current rules of The Association and must either:

- 1. be a Recognized Senior Judge or*
- 2. have managed Recognized Horse Shows or*
- 3. have been responsible for the direction of a show or had comparable experience.”*

An article published in the July 1959 issue of the AHSA magazine stated that the Association would issue a questionnaire based on the Rule Book to all Senior Members, inviting them to consider becoming licensed Stewards. Replies would be considered as and when received. The Board approved a passing mark of 90%. License would be issued as of Jan. 1, 1960 to all those who satisfactorily complete the above (questionnaire) and who meet the AHSA requirements. About that same time, a Stewards Committee was established with eligibility requirements to be a steward established.

“Eligibility: A Senior Individual Member, 21 years of age or over, may apply for enrollment as a Recognized Steward.”

“A Recognized Steward is a person who has been approved by the

Stewards Committee and who has been issued a Steward’s Card for the current year. A Recognized Steward is a representative of this Association at a show; he is not to be confused with the ring steward.”

By 1970, enrollment procedures included an official form and required fee. No application would be considered unless and until six questionnaires were returned from members of the Association, three of which must be from Recognized Judges, Recognized Stewards, or members of an AHSA Committee. There were two levels of stewards, with promotion requirements stating the applicant must be a minimum of 25 years of age, has served as a recorded steward for at least two years, and officiated in at least two recognized shows during the past three years with his name listed in the catalogue.

During the time period of 1971 to 1999, additional items were added to the list of duties, conflict of interest considerations, as well as minor changes in the enrollment requirements. A major change did not occur until 1979, when the first ‘two show’ rule came into effect: *“No Steward may officiate at more than two consecutive shows run by the same governing body, Board of Directors or member of show management.”* The Board approved changes to this rule that went into effect in the 1996 competition year that read: *“No steward or technical delegate may officiate for more than two consecutive years at the same competition or at more than two consecutive competitions run by the same governing body, Board of Directors or member of Competition Management.”* Except for a small change that addressed Licensee, this rule has remained virtually unchanged since 1996.

Rules passed in 2000 established separate categories for stewards for the first time; Category 1 for Hunter/Jumper stewards and Category 2 for breeds/Western stewards. Rules approved in 2003, effective for the 2004 competition year changed the enrollment process to require minimum background experience and approval to enter a training program. The first group of stewards to complete this program is now officiating, with more working towards completing the requirements. Competitions have become more complex over the years and we have come a long way since 1948 when virtually no requirements were necessary to become a steward.

Compiled by Mary Smith.

REGULATION NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2007

REGULATION STAFF DIRECTORY

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REGULATION DEPARTMENT

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