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The following rule changes were approved by the Executive Committee on November 17th, 2008 **with an effective date during the 2008 competition year or later**. *Bold/italic format indicates new text*. Strikethrough indicates deleted text. **Numbering may need to be adjusted when the approved changes are added to the existing rule book.**

CHAPTER 2 – MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES AND REQUIREMENTS

GR207 High Performance ~~Dues~~ *Fees*. [Chapter 2. Membership Categories and Requirements] **Effective 12/1/08:**

1. International High Performance

b. The IHP fee is \$35 per entry at defined competitions as noted below for each discipline. The fee is capped at \$420 per competition year. Please refer to the USEF website for policy and instructions on requesting reimbursement for payments over \$420 in the same competition year.

(1) For purposes of this rule, an entry is defined as ~~a separate~~ *each* horse/~~rider combination~~, horse/vaulter combination, vaulting team, *or* driving single, pair or team.

(2) Competition secretaries are responsible for collecting the fees and sending them to USEF with the post-competition report.

c. Dressage

(1) FEI Recognized ~~Competitions/Classes~~ *Events* (CDI)

(2) The North American Junior and Young Rider Championships (NAJYRC) and/or European Junior and Young Rider Championships require an IHP fee.

d. Eventing

(1) FEI Recognized ~~Competitions/Classes~~ *Events*.

(2) The North American Junior and Young Rider Championships (NAJYRC) and/or European Junior and Young Rider Championships require an IHP fee.

e. Jumping

(1) FEI Recognized ~~Competitions/Classes~~ *Events* (CSIO/CSI) including for Children, Young Riders, and Senior.

(2) USEF recognized Grand Prix included on the USEF Computer List (National and International levels).

(3) The North American Junior and Young Rider Championships (NAJYRC) and/or European Junior and Young Rider Championships require an IHP fee.

f. Driving

(1) FEI Recognized ~~Competitions/Classes~~ *Events* at the Advanced Level.

g. Endurance

(1) FEI Recognized ~~Competitions/Divisions~~ *Events*.

h. Para-Equestrian

(1) FEI Recognized ~~competitions/divisions~~ *events* at the 3* level or above.

i. Reining

(1) FEI Recognized ~~Competitions/Classes~~ *Events* in the U.S.,

(2) The North American Junior and Young Rider Championships (NAJYRC) and/or European Junior and Young Rider Championships require an IHP fee.

j. Vaulting

(1) FEI Recognized ~~Competitions/Divisions~~ *Events*,
k. In order to compete in International Competitions in the US as defined above, foreign competitors must be a member in good standing of their National Federation and are required to pay the \$35 IHP per entry fee as listed above.

CHAPTER 5 – MEASUREMENT

GR507 Measurement Surface. [Chapter 5. Measurement of Entries] **Effective 12/1/08:**

2. If a suitable surface is not available at a competition, animals without a measurement card issued after December 1, 1982 or a valid measurement form must be measured to compete in that competition, but no measurement form shall be given to the owner ~~or returned to the Federation and no fee shall be charge.~~

CHAPTER 12 – COMPETITION OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS

GR1210 General. [Chapter 12. Competition Officials, Employees and Volunteers] **Effective 12/1/08:**

5. Competition Management is required to submit a Post Competition Report, along with the appropriate fees, to the Federation within 10 calendar days after the close of the competition. Fees must be submitted by cashier/company/personal check, money order, credit card or wire transfer; cash will not be accepted as proper payment. For purposes of this rule, a Post Competition Report shall include all appropriate fees and the following properly completed forms: a Post Competition Report Form, Membership Applications *and* Horse Recording Applications, ~~Non-Member Forms, Affidavit Forms and Cross-Breed/Discipline Forms.~~ A fine of \$100 will be imposed on any Competition Management which fails to pay any appropriate fees with the Post Competition Report within 10 calendar days after the end of the competition. Competition Management disputing that the fee/fine is properly owing may appeal in writing to the Federation within 30 days of the date of the notice of outstanding fees and fines. The Federation's CEO or Executive Director will consider the appeal and may waive part or all of the fine upon a finding of good cause why the payment was not submitted in a timely fashion and/or a finding that extreme hardship results from the automatic penalty.

GR1213 Entries. [Chapter 12. Competition Officials, Employees and Volunteers] **Effective 12/1/08:**

5. Collect and remit promptly to the Federation, the non-member registration fee and respective discipline fee as provided in GR205 and GR206 for each rider, driver,

handler, owner, lessee, agent and trainer who is a non-member and participates in any Regular Competition, Eventing Competition at the Preliminary Level or above, Dressage Competitions, Combined Driving Competitions at the Advanced Level or above, Endurance and Vaulting Competitions who has not produced a valid Federation membership card or copy thereof ~~or filed an affidavit.~~

6. When classes or divisions are recognized by The Federation under the same competition number, duplicate Federation fees (drug, non-member, ~~affidavit~~, etc.) may not be charged to exhibitors, regardless of whether different competition secretaries officiate in these classes or divisions. See GR407.

CHAPTER 13 – COMPETITION PARTICIPANTS AND ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS

GR1306 Amateur Status. [Chapter 13. Competition Participants and Associated Individuals] **Effective immediately:**

1. Regardless of one's equestrian skills and/or accomplishments, a person is an amateur for all competitions conducted under Federation rules who after his/her 18th birthday, as defined in GR101, has not engaged in any of the following activities which would make him/her a professional. Exception: In the Dressage Division, individuals are only eligible to compete as amateurs from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach age 22. See DR119.3. In the Reining Division, ~~amateur status will be determined per Reining Division,~~ amateur status will be determined per Reining Division Non Pro Conditions; see amateur status RN105. (For professionals wishing to be re-classified as amateurs, see GR1308.2.a):

CHAPTER EV – EVENTING DIVISION

EV105 Qualifications. [Chapter EV. Eventing Division] **Effective 12/1/08:**

3. LOSS OF ESTABLISHMENT. (*Preliminary Level and up*).

- a. A horse that is eliminated twice, for non-technical reasons, within any 6 month period loses it's qualification to compete at the level at which the *second* eliminations occurs.
- b. A horse that falls in competition 2 times in any 6 month period loses it's qualification to compete at the level at which the *second* falls occurs.
- c. A rider who falls in competition from the same horse during competition 2 times in any 12 month period will cause the horse to lose its qualification for the level at which the *second* falls occurs.
- d. Having lost qualification, a horse may be re-qualified by achieving 2 QRs at the next lower level within a 6 month period following the loss of qualification.

EV119 Competitor Representative. [Chapter EV. Eventing Division] **Effective 12/1/08**

At all Three-Day Events and certain Horse Trials two competitor representatives will be appointed. The designation of the Horse Trials and selection of competitor representatives will be made by the ~~Federation Active Riders Committee~~ **Federation Eligible Athletes High Performance Discipline Committee**. The competitor representatives will be selected by the organizers of the relevant competition from among those active riders listed (who are present) at that competition. The representatives will meet with the technical delegate, president of the ground jury, veterinarian delegate, and representative of the organizing committee, to discuss aspects of the competition, voice concerns, and suggest modifications. Any suggestions or action resulting from this meeting shall be reported to the Federation by the technical delegate.

CHAPTER HU – HUNTER DIVISION

HU111 Amateur Owner 3'6" [Chapter HU. Hunter Division] **Effective immediately:**

~~3. "A" and "AA" rated sections may be combined only if there are eight (8) entries or less in any divided section.~~

3. 4- If the Amateur Owner and Junior Hunter sections are offered with an "A", "B" or "C" rating, and there are less than three (3) entries in either section, they may be combined. ***If sections are combined, the horses must jump the respective height of the section entered.*** In addition while the divisions can be combined if entries warrant in order for Horse of the Year points to count they must be offered separately in the prize list.

HU114 Height of Obstacles. [Chapter HU. Hunter Division] **Effective immediately:**

3. Amateur Owner Sections: 3'6" required. (Exception: Fences may be a maximum of 3" lower in Zones 11, 12, and at "B" and "C" rated competitions.) ***If the Amateur 3'3" section is offered, the Amateur Owner 3'6" must be offered. If both the 3'3" and 3'6" Amateur Owner sections are offered at "B" and "C" rated competitions, the fences must be set at 3'3" and 3'6" respectively.***

HU153 General. [Chapter HU. Hunter Division] **Effective 12/1/08:**

2. Derby Classics may only be offered at ***USEF licensed "AA" competitions, "A" and competitions with special status.***

[...]

4. Bonus points will be awarded to each horse's respective ***hunter*** division as declared at time of entry except horses ridden by juniors or amateurs will be awarded points in their respective divisions. The points structure will be as follows: Classic Round: 1st-100, 2nd- 90, 3rd- 80, 4th-70, 5th-60, 6th-50, 7th-40, 8th-30, 9th-20, 10th 10, Handy Hunter: 1st- 100, 2nd- 90, 3rd- 80, 4th-70, 5th-60, 6th-50, 7th-40, 8th-30, 9th-20, 10th-10, Overall: Champion-250, Reserve-225, 3rd-200, 4th-175, 5th-150, 6th-125, 7th-100, 8th-75, 9th-50, 10th-25.

HU173 Measurement Surface. [Chapter HU. Hunter Division] **Effective 12/1/08:**

[Note: This language takes effect 12/1/08.]

2. If the steward determines that a suitable surface is not available at a competition, animals without a measurement card issued on August 15, 1991 or thereafter, or a valid measurement form may nonetheless be measured for the purpose of competing in that competition only, and no measurement form shall be given to the owner ~~or returned to the Federation.~~

CHAPTER PF – PASO FINO DIVISION

PF145 Paso Trail. [Chapter PF. Paso Fino Division] **Effective immediately:**

2. Procedures. In this class, each horse shall be asked to negotiate through obstacles. Obstacles are to be negotiated by exhibitors individually with only one horse in the arena at a time. This class shall be judged 100% on the obstacle course; there is no rail work. This includes the distance from the beginning of an obstacle to the beginning of the next obstacle. Any horse not performing the gait required properly should be penalized in the same manner as not completing the obstacle. ***The canter or lope is not to be called for in the class procedure. However, if a jump is called for in the class, the rider has the option of using any of the qualifying gaits in negotiating the jump.*** Failure to follow the prescribed obstacles, or course of travel through obstacles, will result in automatic elimination. A drawn course will be provided by show management, reviewed for compliance with required procedures and approved by the judge(s) and steward(s). The course will show the line of travel through obstacles and the gait required to perform obstacles. Changes or revisions will not be permitted after posting. The course will specify how a horse is to negotiate or travel between obstacles that seem appropriate.

[...]

CHAPTER RN – REINING DIVISION

RN103 Scoring. [Chapter RN. Reining Division] **Effective 12/1/08:**

13. There will be a half point penalty for failure to remain a minimum of 20 feet from ~~wall or fence~~ *the side of the arena* when approaching a stop and/or rollback.

RN104 Categories of Competition and Class Eligibility. [Chapter RN. Reining Division] **Effective 12/1/08:**

1. CATEGORY 1—NRHA Approved ancillary classes; World Champion and Top Ten awards to apply

b. NON PRO—Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA Non Pro card as defined in the Non Pro section of the NRHA Handbook.

(1) INTERMEDIATE NON PRO—Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA Non Pro card who has earned less than ~~\$40,000~~ **15,000** in NRHA Category 1, 2, 6 and 8 earnings over the previous three calendar years.

(2) LIMITED NON PRO—Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA Non Pro card who has earned less than ~~\$2,500~~ **4,500** in Category 1, 2, 6 and 8 earnings over the three previous calendar years.

(3) Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA Non Pro card who is 50 or older as of January 1 of NRHA year. This class may run concurrent with the Category 1 (Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro, or Limited Non Pro) class.

[...]

~~e. NOVICE HORSE OPEN—Subject to the general conditions but restricted to horses who have not earned (lifetime) in excess of \$5000 in NRHA Category 1 earnings at the start of the NRHA year.~~

~~d. NOVICE HORSE NON PRO DIVISION—As Novice Horse Open but limited to Non Professional riders and eligible horses as defined in the NRHA Rulebook. Restricted to horses who have not earned more than \$5000 in lifetime NRHA Category 1 earnings at the start of the NRHA year. This class may be run concurrently with the Novice Horse Open Division. Added Purse for the Novice Horse Non Pro Division must not exceed the added purse for the Novice Horse Open Division.~~

c. NOVICE HORSE LEVEL 1 – Subject to the general conditions but restricted to horses that have not earned more than \$5,000 in lifetime earnings in all NRHA categories except 3, 7 and 9. Also available in the Non Pro division, however, the Non Pro division would be restricted to riders with a valid NRHA Non Pro card and would be restricted to the rules of ownership as stated in Non Pro conditions.

d. NOVICE HORSE LEVEL 2 – Subject to the general conditions but restricted to horses that have not earned more than \$25,000 in lifetime earnings in all NRHA categories except 3, 7 and 9. Also available in the Non Pro division, however, the Non Pro division would be restricted to riders with a valid NRHA Non Pro card and would be restricted to the rules of ownership as stated in the Non Pro conditions.

2. CATEGORY 2—NRHA Approved Aged Events (Futurity, Derby and other approved Aged Events)

a. **Level 4** OPEN AGED EVENT—Any rider holding a valid NRHA card may show in this division.

(1) **Level 3 (INTERMEDIATE)** OPEN AGED EVENT—Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA card who is not in the Top 50 money earners in open classes based on open earnings in Category 2 and 6 events for the previous three calendar years. In addition, the Top 25 Non Pro riders based on total earnings in Category 2 and 6 events over the previous three calendar years, are not eligible. For members giving up Non Pro cards please refer to the Non Pro conditions.

(2) **Level 2 (LIMITED)** OPEN AGED EVENT—Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA card who has earned less than \$15,000 in lifetime NRHA Category 2 and 6 earnings at the start of the NRHA year. For members giving up Non Pro cards please refer to the Non Pro conditions.

(3) **Level 1 OPEN AGED EVENT – Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA Non Pro or Youth membership card who has earned less than \$50,000 in lifetime NRHA earnings all categories at the start of the NRHA year.**

(4 ~~3~~) **PRIME TIME OPEN** - Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA card who is 50 or older as of January 1 of NRHA year. This class may run concurrent with the Category 2 (Open, Intermediate Open or Limited Open) class.

b. **Level 4** NON PRO AGED EVENT—Restricted to Non Professional riders and eligible horses as defined in the Non Pro section.

(1) **Level 3 (INTERMEDIATE)** NON PRO AGED EVENT—Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA Non Pro card who is not in the Top 25 money earners based on total earnings in NRHA Category 2 and 6 events over the previous three calendar years.

(2) **Level 2 (LIMITED)** NON PRO AGED EVENT—Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA Non Pro card who ~~has earned less than \$7,500 in lifetime NRHA Category 2 and 6 earnings at the start of the NRHA year~~ **is not in the Top 125 money earners in Non Pro classes based on Non Pro earnings in Category 2 and 6 events for the previous three calendar years.**

(3) **Level 1 NON PRO AGED EVENT – Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA Non Pro card who has earned less than \$25,000 in lifetime NRHA earnings all categories at the start of the NRHA year. For members giving up Non Pro cards please refer to the Non Pro conditions.**

(4 ~~3~~) [...]

[...]

5. CATEGORY 5

b. **ROOKIE**—Rider ~~must have completed NRHA Non Pro approval process and possess an NRHA Non Pro card. Riders may use a horse without the restrictions~~

of ownership for Non Pro classes as defined under Non Pro Conditions. Riders must not have earned in excess of \$200 NRHA lifetime earnings, all categories, at the start of the NRHA year. This does not include money earned in youth classes. Riders must not have earned more than 50 points in NRHA sanctioned Youth competition. Horses are to be shown one handed. Rookie Reining is not to be run concurrently with any other NRHA class except Prime Time Rookie.

(1) Rookie Level 1 – Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA Non Pro card who has earned less than \$200 in lifetime earnings in all NRHA categories except 3,7, and 9 or 50 youth points (excluding points earned in the Youth (10 & Under Short Stirrup class). Riders may use a horse without the restrictions of ownership for Non Pro classes as defined under Non Pro conditions. Horses are to be shown one handed. Rookie reining can only be run concurrent with Rookie level 2 or Prime Time Rookie. In order to offer Rookie Level 1, Rookie Level 2 must also be offered.

(2) Rookie Level 2 – Open to any rider holding a valid NRHA Non Pro card who had earned less than \$500 in lifetime earnings in all NRHA categories except 3, 7 and 9 or 100 youth points (excluding points earned in the Youth (10 & Under Short Stirrup class). Riders may use a horse without the restrictions of ownership for Non pro classes as defined under non pro conditions. Horses are to be shown one handed. Rookie reining can only be run concurrent with Rookie level 1 or Prime time Rookie.

RN106 Freestyle Reining. [Chapter RN. Reining Division] **Effective 12/1/08:**

4. TIME LIMIT is a maximum of ~~3½~~ 4 minutes including any introductions. The time limit will be from the beginning of the music or from the beginning of the introduction (whichever is first) and will end with the music.
