

**Racing Committee
2019 AQHA Convention
Fort Worth, Texas**

1. Approve the minutes of the previous Racing Committee meeting at the 2018 AQHA Convention in Jacksonville, Florida.

Executive Committee Action: Approved

2. The following individuals were selected for nomination to the 2019 Champions Selection Committee. Geographic balance to be considered when choosing the 11 committee members with the remaining nominees to serve as alternates.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Lloyd Yother (AZ) | j. Randy Hill (OK) |
| b. Russell Harris (TX) | k. Tommy Riley (TX) |
| c. Ross Brigdon (CAN) | l. Dutch Jumonville (LA) |
| d. Ryan Robicheaux (LA) | m. Mark Brown (NM) |
| e. G.R. Carter (OK) | n. Rod Lowe (OR) |
| f. John Bobenrieth (CA) | o. Fred Helmuth (IN) |
| g. Starlet Hunt (KS) | p. Conda Maze (NM) |
| h. Marshall Weir (TX) | q. Steve Burns (CA) |
| i. Spence Kidney (OK) | |

Executive Committee Action: Approved

3. Reestablish the International Racing Subcommittee with a list of potential candidates to be selected by the Racing Council for the approval of the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee Action: Approved

4. Adopt the language suggested by AQHA Legal Counsel to modify the AQHA Policy Concerning Awards & Publicity to include jurisdictional rulings for failure to report for out-of-competition testing.

Executive Committee Action: Approved

5. Recommend AQHA, as the Quarter Horse breed registry, collaborate with The Jockey Club advising Equibase and other TJC holdings to be consistent with the following:

“Any purse earnings paid out on a no contest race shall be counted in the horse’s earning record.”

Executive Committee Action: Approved

6. Elect Mark Brown Chair.

Executive Committee Action: Approved

**AQHA Policy Concerning Awards and
Publicity
of Horses and/or Trainers with Racing Medication
Positives**

For purposes of this policy, the term "Violation" shall mean:

(a) a positive test for a Class 1 substance, Class 2 substance, Clenbuterol, any prohibited substances in the presiding jurisdiction, or any medications other than those defined by ARCI as being a Controlled Therapeutic Medication; or

(b) failure to report for out of competition testing.

1. If a racing jurisdiction reports a Violation for a horse, such horse and record trainer as of the violation date¹ in question ("Offending Trainer"):

(a) shall be ineligible to be considered for AQHA awards associated with the calendar year in which the Violation occurred; this will include pending appeals of violations; and

(b) shall, unless waived by AQHA, be ineligible to be included in AQHA media (online and publications) during the calendar year in which the Violation occurred; this will include pending appeals of violations.

2. All horses that record an official start under the Offending Trainer anytime in the calendar year **AFTER** the expiration of thirty (30) days of an Offending Trainer's Violation being published on the AQHA website:

(a) shall be ineligible to be considered for AQHA awards associated with the calendar year in which the Violation occurred; this will include pending appeals of violations; and

(b) shall, unless waived by AQHA, be ineligible to be included in AQHA media (online and publications) during the calendar year in which the Violation occurred; this will include pending appeals of violations.

3. A horse that has recorded an official start under the Offending Trainer anytime in the calendar year **PRIOR** to the violation date but has **NOT** recorded an official start under the

¹ For purposes of this policy, the term "violation date" shall mean the date of the race in which the test sample was taken and resulted in a positive test or, in the case of failing to report for out of competition testing, the date on which the horse(s) were to be presented for testing.

Offending Trainer anytime in the calendar year **AFTER** the Violation confirmation date to be eligible to be considered for AQHA awards and included in AQHA media if AQHA is able to independently verify either (a) or (b) below:

(a) The owner moved the horse to another licensed trainer in good standing and notified AQHA in writing of such move on or before the expiration of thirty (30) days of the Offending Trainer's Violation being published on the AQHA website. Such new trainer must meet the following requirements:

(i) was a licensed trainer in the calendar year immediately prior to the calendar year in which the Violation occurred;

(ii) did not have a Violation in the previous year;

(iii) started a horse under his/her own license as a trainer in the calendar year immediately prior to the calendar year in which the Violation occurred;

(iv) was (and is) not the assistant trainer or an employee of the Offending Trainer during the calendar year of the Violation; and

(v) is not the spouse or "immediate family member" (defined by AQHA RuleSHW220.1) of the Offending Trainer.

(b) The owner, on or before the expiration of thirty (30) days of the Offending Trainer's Violation being published on the AQHA website, removed the horse from the care and control of the Offending Trainer and the horse has no further starts during the calendar year of the Violation.

4. A horse in the care and control of an Offending Trainer that has **NOT** recorded an official start under the Offending Trainer **PRIOR** to the violation date but subsequently records a start under a new trainer may be eligible to be considered for AQHA awards and included in AQHA media if the requirements set forth in 3.(a) above are met.

5. If a horse is ineligible to be considered for AQHA awards and included in AQHA media pursuant to the above provisions, its race records and earnings shall also be ineligible to be considered for any AQHA awards associated with the calendar year in which the Violation occurred.

6. A report of Violations can be found here [AQHA Policy](#). Such report lists: (a) Offending Trainers that have had a Violation during the calendar year; (b) horses that have had a Violation during the calendar year; and (c) horses that have not had a Violation during the calendar year but are reported as having started for an Offending Trainer during the calendar year. With

respect to horses that have not had a Violation during the calendar year but are reported as having started for an Offending Trainer during the calendar year, such horses are ineligible to be considered for AQHA awards and included in AQHA media unless the requirements set forth in this policy are met.

**Racing Council
2019 AQHA Convention
Fort Worth, Texas**

1. Approve the minutes of the previous Racing Council meeting.
Executive Committee Action: Approved

2. Approve the recommendations of the Graded Stakes Subcommittee.
Executive Committee Action: Approved, see lists provided; Also, staff will offer commentary of the effective nature of the newly revised guidelines

3. Approve the Racing Committee report.
Executive Committee Action: Approved

4. Approve the following recommendation by the Racing Committee:
 - a. AQHA, in its official position as the Quarter Horse breed registry, shall convey to The Jockey Club, Equibase, InCompass, and other Jockey Club holdings that as the entity representing our breed registry in recording race records and corresponding data, the American Quarter Horse Association expects them to reflect the following: any purse monies paid out on an official AQHA race shall be counted in a horse's earnings record in the event the race is declared no contest by order of the stewards.
Executive Committee Action: Approved

Staff notation: In reviewing our contract with the Jockey Club Information Systems, most changes require a fee for programming. Consequently, should we move forward with this request upon your approval, we anticipate TJCIS will reply with a cost estimate. If such proves to be the case, it will be reported to the Racing Council and, if feasible, considered in next year's budget.

5. The following individuals were selected for nomination to the 2019 Champions Selection Committee. Geographic balance to be considered when choosing the 10 committee members with the remaining nominees to serve as alternates.
 - a. Dutch Jumonville (LA)
 - b. Mark Brown (NM)
 - c. Rod Lowe (OR)
 - d. Fred Helmuth (IN)
 - e. Conda Maze (NM)
 - f. Steve Burns (CA)
 - g. Judy Warton (WY)
 - h. Lance Robinson (UT)
 - i. Chris Duke (IN)
 - j. Tom Lepic (IA)

Alternates:

 - i. Dr. Larry Findley (LA)
 - ii. Bobby Simmons (TX)
 - iii. Lee Jenkins (SC)
 - iv. Bob Broadstock (Canada)
 - v. David Nelson
 - vi. Don Griffin, Jr. (TX)

vii. Bob Gaston (TX)

Executive Committee Action: Approved

6. Recommend the solicitation of applications to host the 2020 Challenge Championship.

Executive Committee Action: Approved

7. Accept the modifications to the AQHA Policy Concerning Awards & Publicity policy as recommended by the Racing Committee.

Executive Committee Action: Approved

8. Approve the recommendation of the Racing Committee to reestablish the International Racing Subcommittee.

Executive Committee Action: Approved

9. Hold the 2019 Summer Council Meeting in Ruidoso, NM on Thursday, August 15, 2019

Executive Committee Action: Approved

**Graded Stakes Subcommittee
2019 AQHA Convention
Fort Worth, Texas**

1. Upgrade the following races to a Grade 1 from a Grade 2:
 - a. Junos Request

2. Upgrade the following races to a Grade 2 from a Grade 3:
 - a. Heritage Place Derby
 - b. PCQHRA Breeders' Derby
 - c. James Isaac Hobbes Stakes
 - d. Las Damas Handicap
 - e. Miss Polly Classic
 - f. Miss Princess Handicap
 - g. Los Alamitos Championship Challenge
 - h. Decketta Stakes
 - i. Remington Distance Handicap
 - j. Downs at Albuquerque Distance Challenge

3. Upgrade the following races to a Grade 3 from no grade:
 - a. Canterbury Championship Challenge
 - b. First Down Dash Handicap
 - c. Will Rogers Distance Challenge

4. Upgrade the following races to an RG1 from an RG2:
 - a. Governor's Cup Futurity

5. Upgrade the following races to an RG2 from an RG3:
 - a. Futurity Subasta Selecta
 - b. Futurity Garanones
 - c. Oklahoma Horsemen's Association Mystery Futurity
 - d. Remington Park Oklahoma Bred Derby
 - e. Governor's Cup Derby
 - f. Mesilla Valley Speed Handicap
 - g. Mighty Deck Three Stakes

6. Upgrade the following races to an RG2 from no grade:
 - a. First Moonflash Maturity

7. Upgrade the following races to an RG3 from no grade:
 - a. Black Gold 350 Futurity
 - b. Black Gold 440 Futurity
 - c. Wild West Futurity
 - d. Bitterroot Futurity

- e. FL Lady Bug Stakes
 - f. Laico Bird Stakes
 - g. Easy Jet Stakes
 - h. Mr Master Bug Handicap
 - i. Boyd Morris Memorial Handicap
 - j. Easy Date Stakes
 - k. Denim N Diamonds Handicap
 - l. New Mexico Cup 870 Championship
8. Downgrade the following races to no grade from a Grade 3:
- a. Lubbock Stakes
9. Downgrade the following races to no grade from an RG3:
- a. Lineage Championship
 - b. New Mexico Breeders' Championship
10. Recommend approval of the 2019 graded stakes ballot as presented with the following noted races with deviations from the points and purse guidelines. A warning letter should be sent to tracks pertaining to each race advising them of the decision:
- a. Southwest Juvenile Championship Invitational – Purse
 - b. Valley Junction Futurity – Points
 - c. Ontario Sires Stakes Futurity – Points
 - d. North Central QHRA Futurity – Points, Purse
 - e. Opelousas Stakes – Purse
 - f. TQHA Classic Stakes – Purse
11. Recommend approval of action to notify the racetracks in regards to the following races, which will warrant future consideration for an upgraded status with improvement in the corresponding points and/or purse guidelines:
- a. La Fiesta Futurity – Points
 - b. Old South Futurity – Points
 - c. Gillespie County Fair Futurity - Points
 - d. Eastex Stakes – Purse
 - e. Mr Jet Moore Handicap (Ruidoso Downs) – Purse
 - f. Keokuk Stakes – Purse
 - g. Lovington Stakes – Purse
 - h. Mr Jet Moore Stakes (Remington Park) – Purse
 - i. Mid-City Stakes – Purse
 - j. Jimmy Drake Stakes – Purse
 - k. B. F. Phillips Jr. Handicap – Purse
 - l. California Breeders' Matron Stakes – Purse

12. The following issues were discussed and recommendations were made:
 - a. In regards to AQHA Regional Challenge races, the committee recommends that if a Regional Challenge moves to a racetrack where it doesn't attract from the same population of horses, then it is to be considered a new race and shall not maintain any previous grade.
 - b. Research revealed inconsistencies of grade records for the Delta 550 in 2015 and 2016. The committee recommends that those years should reflect a Grade 3 status in all record-keeping capacities.

13. During the 2018 discussions on graded stakes calculation reform, the committee expected further modifications may be necessary to better align with the objectives set forth during that time. Upon review, the committee recommends the following revisions:
 - a. Adjust the minimum purse for a 3 Year Olds & Up qualification for a Grade 3 to \$30,000 from \$25,000.
 - b. Adjust the graded stakes qualifying tiers for the 3 Year Olds & Up Filly & Mare and Distance (870-yard) Divisions to:
 - i. Grade 1: 100+ average points / \$100,000 purse
 - ii. Grade 2: 60 - 99.9 average points / \$50,000 - \$99,999 purse
 - iii. Grade 3: 25 - 59.9 average points / \$30,000 - \$49,999 purse
 - c. Clarification in the 2018 guidelines on the manner in which the average point calculations shall be derived by factoring a full field size – a minimum of 10 horses for all races and divisions except for the Distance Division, where a field of eight is considered full. If any stakes race draws a field greater than the minimum, then the actual number of starters shall be used for the average point calculation.

14. Elect Jorge Haddad Mestre Chair.

15. Adjourn.