

Rules Committee Meeting

May 27, 2020

10:00 am Pacific

Present – Billy Ready, Ray Burchett, Kevin Griner, Paula Gatewood, Megan Disselkoe

Also – Tom Hodges, Ken Johnson, Karen Sartain, Sean Schembri, Keri LeForce, Lynette Thompson

Megan Disselkoe moves, and Kevin Griner seconded that the Ranch Trail rule changes as presented be moved to the ApHC Board of Directors with an approval recommendation.

Motion approved unanimously

Add **bold**, delete highlighted cross out (XXX)

724. RANCH TRAIL

C. Ranch Class Apparel and Equipment: Attire and tack should be clean and presentable. Working tack is encouraged.

7. In ranch trail, a get down rope will be allowed with the use of romal reins for the purposes of leading or working on the ground where required in the pattern. The get down rope may be a neck rope or a neck rope with bosalita, that is tied in a manner that will not slide/tighten around the horse's neck. The tail end (lead) of the neck rope may be attached to the front of the saddle with saddle strings or run through the rider's belt loop, it should not be tied to the saddle horn.

D. Horse shall be penalized for any unnecessary delay while approaching the obstacles. The horse/rider team should negotiate each obstacle with calmness and patience, moving safely through each obstacle. Horses should show awareness, be attentive and not spook, shy or spin. The horse should not stumble, tick, or clip obstacles. **Ticks, hits, or clips of obstacles should be factored into the maneuver score as appropriate for the spacing, gait required and type of obstacle.**

E. A minimum of six (6) obstacles (maximum of twelve (12) obstacles) will be used. It is mandatory that the horse be asked to walk, trot and lope during the course. **It is suggested that extended gaits be included.** Walk can be part of obstacle score or be scored with the approaching obstacle. Trot must be at least 35 feet and score with the approaching obstacle. Lope must be lead specific, at least 50 feet and score with approaching obstacle. Care must be exercised to avoid setting up any obstacles that may be hazardous to the horse or rider. When setting courses, the management will be mindful that the idea is not to trap a horse/rider team or eliminate it by making an obstacle too difficult. All course and obstacles are to be constructed with safety in mind to reduce the risk for accidents. Show committee shall have the option of setting up the trail course to best fit the arena conditions. An outdoor course is recommended if appropriate terrain is available. Each single performance event can be time consuming, especially with large classes, so it is imperative that time restrictions are placed on this class. The show committee, either through a pilot run or estimation, shall select a course that has a continuous and positive flow that can be negotiated in four minutes or less. Judge must walk the course and have the right and duty to alter the course if it is not in keeping with the intent of the class. Judges may remove or change any obstacles that they deem unsafe, non-negotiable, or unnecessarily difficult. Any time a trail obstacle becomes unsafe during a class, it shall be repaired or removed from the course. If the course cannot be repaired and some horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle shall be deducted from all previous draws in

that class. The course must be designed using a **combination of four (4) mandatory obstacles and** anything from the list of suggested optional obstacles. Combining two or more of the obstacles is acceptable.

F. Credit is given to horse/rider teams who negotiate the obstacle correctly and efficiently. Horses should receive credit for showing attentiveness to obstacles and ability to negotiate through the course when the obstacles warrant it while willingly responding to the rider's cues on more difficult obstacles. Quality of movement and cadence should be considered part of the maneuver score for obstacles. Each obstacle should receive an obstacle score and is subject to penalty that should be subtracted. Each obstacle should be scored on the following basis, ranging from plus 1 ½ to minus 1 ½. Plus 1 ½ - excellent; Plus 1 – very good; Plus ½ - good; 0 – correct; Minus ½ - poor; Minus 1 – very poor; Minus 1 ½ - extremely poor. Obstacle scores are to be determined and assessed independently of penalty points.

1. Disqualification (from entire class)
 - a. Use of two (2) hand (except Junior horses shown with a snaffle bit or hackamore)
 - b. Use of romal other than outlined in 715.A.7
 - c. Performing obstacles other than in specified order
 - d. No attempt to perform an obstacle
 - e. Equipment failure that delays completion of pattern
 - f. Touching the horse on the neck to lower the head
 - g. Fall to the ground by horse or rider
 - h. Riding outside the designated boundary marker of the course
 - i. Failure to enter, exit or work obstacle from the correct side or direction
 - j. Failure to perform the correct line of travel within or between obstacles
 - k. Third refusal, balk or attempt to evade an obstacle by shying or backing away more than 2 strides.

~~2. ½ point penalty~~

- a. ~~Each tick of log, pole, cone, or obstacle~~

~~3. 1 point penalty~~

2. 1-point penalty

- a. Each ~~hit~~ bite or stepping on a log, pole, cone, or obstacle
- b. Break of gait at walk or ~~jog~~ trot for two strides or less
- c. ~~Both front or hind feet in a single-strided slot or space~~
- d. ~~Skipping over or failing to step into required space~~
- e. ~~Split pole in lope-over~~

c. Split pole in lope-over

~~4. 3 point penalty~~

3. 3-point penalty

- a. Break of gait at walk or ~~jog~~ trot for more than 2 strides
- b. Out of lead or break of gate at lope (except when correcting an incorrect lead)
- c. Knocking down an elevated pole, cone, barrel, or plant obstacle or severely disturbing an obstacle.
- d. Stepping outside the confines of, falling or jumping an obstacle (back through, bridge, side pass, box, water box) with one foot.

~~5. 5 point penalty~~

4. 5-point penalty

- a. Dropping slicker or object required to be carried on course.

- b. First refusal, balk or attempt to evade an obstacle by shying or backing more than 2 strides away
 - c. Loss of control or letting go of gate, **rope, drag or other item required to be handled**
 - d. Stepping outside the confines of, falling or jumping off an obstacle (back through, bridge, side pass, box, water box) with more than one foot
 - e. Blatant disobedience (kicking out, biting, rearing, striking)
 - f. Failure to ever demonstrate the correct lead or gait if designated
 - g. Failure to complete obstacle
 - h. Second refusal, balk or attempt to evade an obstacle by shying away or backing more than 2 strides away.
 - i. Use of either hand to instill fear or praise
- G. Only one hand may be used on the reins, except for junior horses shown with an acceptable snaffle bit or hackamore/bosal. Hands must not be changed except that it is permissible to change hands to work with an obstacle. While the horse is in motion, there shall be no changing of hands on the reins. Hand to be around reins. One finger between reins permitted when using split reins only. While horse is in motion, hands shall be clear of the horse and saddle except that it is permissible to hold the saddle horn with either hand.
- H. ~~There are not mandatory obstacles.~~ **There will be four (4) mandatory obstacles, one selected from each of the following categories (1-4).** The course is to be set up at the discretion of show management and/or judges. Obstacles should be constructed of safe material and test the horse and rider's skills. Care shall be taken to design the course with safety in mind when determining the gait at which the obstacles will be maneuvered.
1. ~~Side pass (over obstacle is optional). May be elevated to 12" (30.48 cm) maximum~~
 2. ~~Ride over at least four logs or poles. These can be in a straight line, curved, zigzag, raised or combination. The space between poles/logs is not required to be measured as obstacles on a trail are random. Care shall be taken to design the course with safety in mind when determining the gate at which the obstacles will be maneuvered.~~
 3. ~~Ride over a wooden bridge. Minimum width shall be 36" (91.44 cm) wide and at least 6' (1.83 m) long. Bridges should be sturdy, safe, and negotiated at a walk or trot only.~~
 4. ~~Opening, passing through and closing gate. A gate that will not endanger horse or exhibitor must be used. If the gate has a metal, plastic or wooden support bar under the opening, exhibitors must work the gate moving forward through it. Gate may also be worked on foot from the ground.~~
 5. ~~Water hazard (ditch or small pond). No metal or slick bottom boxes may be used.~~
 6. ~~Carry object from one part of the arena to another. Only objects that might be reasonably carried on a trail may be used.~~
 7. ~~Backing obstacle.~~
 8. ~~Pick up a slicker while mounted, put it on and take it off.~~
 - a. ~~Dismount and ground tie. (Hobbles are allowed). May remount with a mounting block.~~
 9. ~~Load into a trailer~~
 10. ~~Drag an obstacle. Rider may hold rope or dally once, no tying hard and fast. At no time should the rider or horse get tangled in the rope. Horses should stand quietly during the preparation and then pull or drag in control. The exhibitor is strongly recommended to have the rope dallied on the saddle horn (half or full dally) for the duration of the drag.~~

11. Live animals or obstacles representing live animals may be used on the course if they are representative of animals which would normally be encountered in an outdoor setting but shall not be used in an attempt to spook a horse.
 12. Rope a steer head. The object is not to judge the ability of the exhibitor to rope but the patience and willingness of the horse in allowing the rider to complete the task at hand.
 13. Remove and replace materials from a mailbox.
 14. Trot through cones spaced a minimum of 6 feet apart.
 15. Cross natural ditches or ride up embankments.
 16. Pick up feet.
 17. Walk through brush.
 18. Lead at a walk or trot.
 19. Rocking or moving bridges are optional if constructed in a safe manner.
1. **Category 1 - An obstacle that demonstrates the horse's ability to be guided through or over obstacles. A minimum of one of the following must be included in the pattern.**
 - a. Ride over at least 4 logs or poles. These can be in a straight line, curved, zig zag, raised or combination. The space between poles/logs is not required to be measured as obstacles on a trail are random. It is suggested that the logs/poles be set in a manner that allows and emphasizes forward movement. Lope over poles shall be set a minimum of 14'
 - b. Ride over a wooden bridge. Minimum width shall be 36" (91.44 cm) wide and at least 6' (1.83 m) long. Bridges should be sturdy, safe, and negotiated at a walk or trot only. Rocking bridges are optional if constructed in a safe manner and cannot slide or roll.
 - c. Serpentine obstacles. Spacing of obstacles should take into consideration the gait required while allowing the exhibitor to demonstrate the willingness and ability of the horse to be guided easily.
 - d. Water hazard (ditch or small pond). No metal or slick bottom boxes may be used.
 - e. Ride over or through brush, branches, or other natural obstacles.
 2. **Category 2 - An obstacle that demonstrates the horse's ability for the rider to handle another object. A minimum of one of the following must be included in the pattern.**
 - a. Drag an obstacle. At no time should the rider or horse get tangled in the rope. Horses should stand quietly during the preparation and then pull or drag in control. The exhibitor is required to have the rope dallyed on the saddle horn (half or full dally) for the duration of the drag. No tying hard and fast permitted.
 - b. Handling of a rope – examples include: rope a steer head, throw a rope in front of the horse, and recoil the rope, swing a rope overhead or throw a rope and back up dragging the rope. The object is not to judge the ability of the exhibitor but the patience and willingness of the horse in allowing the rider to complete the task at hand.
 - c. Move live animals or be guided through live animals (must be animals that would normally be encountered on a ranch such as cattle, goats, or sheep).
 - d. Carry object from one part of the arena to another. Only objects that might be reasonably carried on a trail may be used.
 - e. Pick up a slicker while mounted, put it on and take it off.
 3. **Category 3 - An obstacle that shows the ability of the horse to be moved laterally. A minimum of one of the following must be included in the pattern.**

- a. Opening, passing through and closing gate. A gate that will not endanger horse or exhibitor must be used. If the gate has a metal, plastic or wooden support bar under the opening, exhibitors must work the gate moving forward through it. Rope gates are not permitted.
 - b. Side pass (over obstacle is optional). May be elevated to 12" (30.48 cm) maximum.
 - c. Backing obstacle completed in a curve, around obstacles, or showing change of direction (not a straight line).
4. Category 4 - An obstacle that demonstrates the horse's ability to be handled from the ground. If a horse is shown in a bridle with romal reins, a neck rope (get down rope) will be allowed for the purposes of handling the horse on the ground in ranch trail. A minimum of one of the following must be included in the pattern.
- a. Ground tie (hobbles are allowed).
 - b. Mount and dismount. May remount with a mounting block, which should be provided.
 - c. Work a gate while on foot.
 - d. Load into a trailer.
 - e. Pick up feet.
 - f. Lead at a walk or trot.
5. Suggested obstacles to complete the course can include, but are not limited to:
- a. Any additional obstacles from the required categories above.
 - b. Cross natural ditches or ride up embankments.
 - c. Remove and replace materials from a mailbox.
 - d. Backing obstacle (straight line), can include backing off a bridge.
 - e. Objects representing live animals which would normally be encountered in an outdoor setting but shall not be used in attempt to spook a horse.
- I. PROHIBITED OBSTACLES: Tarps, water obstacles with slick bottoms, PVC pipe used as a jump or walk over, tires, logs elevated in a manner that permits such to roll in a dangerous manner, **painted poles, rope gates, stuffed animals.**

Billy Ready moved, and Megan Disselkoen seconded that the show committee recommend to the ApHC Board of Directors that they approve the following rule that will allow married or divorced youth to become AYA members.

10. MEMBERSHIP

A. CLASSES

B. REGULAR

2. Youth One-Time Class: The youth one-time membership is valid for the entire calendar year in which the youth is 18 years of age and under as of January 1 of each year. (Age to be retained throughout the calendar year.) **Married or divorced individuals are ineligible for membership in the Appaloosa Youth Association.** This is a non-voting membership.

3. Classes where membership is annually approved with eligibility being determined based upon the following:

d. Appaloosa Youth Association (AYA) Youth. An individual 18 years of age and under as of January 1 of each year. (Age to be retained throughout the calendar year.) ~~Married or divorced individuals are ineligible for membership in the Appaloosa Youth Association.~~ This is a non-voting membership.

e. Non-Pro. An individual 19 years of age or older as of January 1 of each year ~~or a married individual ineligible for membership in the Appaloosa Youth Association who is also a member of the ApHC.~~ Additional Non-Pro eligibility criteria are set forth in the Non-Pro section of these rules.

800. APPALOOSA YOUTH ASSOCIATION

D. GENERAL RULES

1. Members shall consist of individuals 18 years of age or younger as of January 1 of the current year. (Age to be retained throughout the calendar year.) ~~Married or divorced individuals are ineligible for membership in the Appaloosa Youth Association.~~ A one-time youth membership fee is also available. (See Rule 10.B.2)

4. AYA Board of Directors

d. Following his/her election, **should a director** ~~get married or~~ move from his/her territory, he/she must resign, and the position will be filled by the runner-up from that territory, if still eligible. Should the runner-up (if any) be ineligible or unable to fill the position, the AYA board may appoint a youth to serve the remainder of the term.

801. YOUTH RULES

G. Youth exhibitors ~~shall be~~ **are** permitted to participate in the appropriate youth class age division ~~as well as~~ **and** open divisions. ~~if they so desire.~~ ~~Married or divorced contestants, regardless of age, are ineligible for competition in youth classes.~~

NON-PRO PROGRAM

900. ENROLLMENT AND PARTICIPATION RULES.

A. ELIGIBILITY: All individuals entering approved Non-Pro classes must hold a current ApHC Non-Pro card. In order to be enrolled in the Appaloosa Non-Pro program, an individual must be 19 years of age or older ~~or must be married and ineligible for Appaloosa Youth Association~~ and be a member of the ApHC.

Roll call vote: Ray Burchett—yes; Megan Disselkoen—Yes; Billy Ready—Yes; Kevin Griner—No; Paula Gatewood—Yes

Motion approved

Megan Disselkoen moved, and Billy Ready seconded that the rules committee recommend to the ApHC Board of Directors that the following rule change be made to allow youth 10 and over to be elected to the AYA Board of Directors.

800. APPALOOSA YOUTH ASSOCIATION

D. GENERAL RULES

4. AYA Board of Directors

a. The AYA shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of two youth from each ApHC territory. In order to serve as an AYA Director, a youth must be a current AYA member residing in the territory he/she would represent, and not less than ~~14~~ **10** nor more than 17 years of age as of January 1 of the first year of his/her two-year term. The AYA board of directors shall have the power and authority to direct the affairs of the organization with the approval of the ApHC Board of Directors.

Motion approved unanimously

Kevin Griner moved, and Megan Disselkoen seconded that the history portion of the ApHC rulebook be changed to read as follows.

HISTORY

While every horse possesses specific characteristics that define its breed, there is none more distinctive than that of the Appaloosa horse. Their unique color patterns set them apart from any other in the equine world and make them easily recognizable on a moment's glance, yet the qualities that win them favor penetrate further than skin deep.

Drawings of the spotted horses appear in the form of crudely drawn petroglyphs on the dimly lit wall of a cave in southwestern France. These ancient drawings of leopard patterned horses dancing among bison and woolly mammoths date to the last Ice Age, over 25,000 years ago. The colorful horses are depicted later in Chinese artistry dating from 500 BC, Persian art of the 14th century, and are scattered throughout works across most of Europe.

A widely accepted theory describing the arrival of Appaloosas to the Americas is that of importation from the Near East or Spain, transported by conquistadors among shipments of goods to Mexico in the 1600s. Recent genetic research suggests that the early predecessors of the Appaloosa may have traveled from Asia over the land bridge. Regardless of the direction of migration, the Appaloosa eventually found its home among the plains of the Palouse region in the western United States.

In the early 1700s, the Appaloosa was discovered by the Nez Perce and quickly earned their fancy. Impressed by their intelligence, stamina and variety of coat patterns, the Nez Perce engaged in the selective breeding of Appaloosas, gelding, or trading those they believed inferior in color, structure, or capability. They exercised care to develop traits that would enable the Appaloosa to withstand the challenges their environment presented. Raised in the mountains and canyons of eastern Washington, Oregon and Idaho, the Appaloosa became adapted to the rigors of mountain travel. Their bravery, speed and endurance proved them to be excellent partners in the heat of battle as well as specialized accessories amid the chase of the hunt. Intimate contact with the people of the tribe demanded a quiet, sensible disposition. The Appaloosa was entrusted to carry infants swaddled into cradleboards and to tiptoe around Nez Perce children playing in the heart of camp.

In 1877, life as the Nez Perce knew it would come to an end. Led by Chief Joseph and an assemblage of other Nez Perce chiefs, the tribe attempted a daring 1,350-mile retreat to Canada in order to avoid capture and placement on reservation lands. The Appaloosa dutifully accompanied warriors, women, children, and elderly over some of the most rugged terrain in the West, eluding five regiments of the US Cavalry. Less than forty miles south of the Canadian border, in the shadows of the Bear Paw mountains, Chief Joseph surrendered. The Nez Perce were sent to Oklahoma. Their horses were confiscated and either destroyed or sold. Those that survived were assimilated into other breeds and the Appaloosa was nearly lost forever.

Fortunately, a small group of passionate individuals intervened, determined to preserve the famed Nez Perce war and hunting horses and to prevent their permanent disappearance. The Appaloosa Horse Club, official breed registry for the Appaloosa horse, was formed in 1938 and tasked itself with the following objectives: to collect records and historical data relating to the origin of Appaloosas; to file records and issue certificates of registration for animals thought to be fit foundation stock and strong representatives of the breed; and to preserve, improve and standardize the breed of spotted horses known in the Northwest as Appaloosas. Through careful breeding, the Appaloosa of yesteryear was resurrected. The modern Appaloosa is no longer needed for the rigors of war, but the qualities for which they were bred make the breed the treasure that they are today. They are valued by modern equestrians for their versatility, trainability, and work ethic. Their docile, patient, and compliant nature make them trustworthy with children and suitable for families. Adapted for use in all disciplines from show, ranch, trail, pleasure, parades, polo, even racing and jumping, they are a true all-around horse.

Color, culture, history, and capability – the Appaloosa delivers it all in an attractive and unique package.

Motion approved unanimously

Ray Burchett moved, and Billy Ready seconded that the show committee recommend to the ApHC Board of Directors that they approve the following rules rule changes to the Green Horse classes.

717 G Green Western Riding

5. Horses eligible to compete:

a. Horses that have never been shown or horses that were shown in the previous years in ApHC-approved green western riding, open western riding, non-pro western riding or youth western riding but have not earned more than **10 15** points in those classes as of January 1 of the current show year. **No horse shall be eligible who has been awarded 1st place at the World or National show in any open division Western Riding Class (AA, JR, SR, Green).** Points from all divisions will count and are cumulative in determining eligibility.

718. P. GREEN WESTERN PLEASURE

4. Horses eligible to compete:

~~a. Horses in their first year of showing in ApHC-approved shows in western pleasure.~~

b. Horses that have never been shown or horses that were shown in the previous years in ApHC-approved green western pleasure, open western pleasure, non-pro western pleasure or youth western pleasure, but have not won more than **10-15** points in those classes as of January 1 of the current show year. **No horse shall be eligible who has been awarded 1st place at the World or National show in any open division Western Pleasure class (AA, JR, SR, 2YO, 3YO, Green).** Points from all divisions will count and are cumulative in determining eligibility.

723. K. GREEN TRAIL

6. Horses eligible to compete:

a. Horses that have never shown or were shown during previous years in ApHC-approved green trail, open trail, non-pro trail or youth trail, but have not earned more than **10 15** points in those classes as of

January 1 of the current show year. **No horse shall be eligible who has been awarded 1st place at the World or National show in any open division Trail class (AA, JR, SR, Green).** Points from all divisions will count and are cumulative in determining eligibility.

772. N. GREEN HUNTER UNDER SADDLE

4. Horses eligible to compete:

a. ~~Horses in their first year of showing in ApHC-approved shows in hunter under saddle.~~

b. Horses that have never been shown or horses that were shown in the previous years in ApHC-approved green hunter under saddle, open hunter under saddle, non-pro hunter under saddle or youth hunter under saddle, but have not won more than ~~10~~-15 points in those classes as of January 1 of the current show year. **No horse shall be eligible who has been awarded 1st place at the World or National show in any open division Hunter Under Saddle class (AA, JR, SR, 2YO, 3YO, Green).** Points from all divisions will count and are cumulative in determining eligibility.

Motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned 11:10 am Pacific.