

# 2018 RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS

*Any addition wording to an existing rule is in bold text.  
Any wording to be deleted from an existing rule is crossed out.*

## C -1 ADD A RECREATIONAL RIDER MEMBERSHIP

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Constitution, Article III Members, Section 4B2 Page 6

**Proposed Change:** **2. Recreational Rider Membership: Persons who desire participation in all Recreational Rider Programs only. It will allow transfer of horse but does not include registration of horses, Stallion Breeding Reports or PFHA shows. It does not include a subscription to PFW nor voting privileges. It can be upgraded at any time to a full membership by paying the additional fee.**

**Rationale:** By offering a new category to Recreational Rider membership at a reduced rate should get past members to renew.

**Financial Impact:** Should increase membership to those only wanting to do the Recreational Rider programs. Some Regular members may switch to the Recreational Rider membership.

## C -6 COMPUTER COMMITTEE DUTIES

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Constitution, Article X, Section 2, Page 16

**Proposed Change:** Replace entire section with the following.

### **Section 2. Computer Committee**

***This committee shall consist of the Committee Chair, Executive Director, and at least two (2) other members selected by the Committee chairman. The duties of this committee shall be as follows:***

- A. Investigate, evaluate and recommend to the President and the PFHA Board of Directors computer hardware and software needs of the Association.***
- B. Develop Request for Proposal (RFP) documents for submission to outside software/hardware suppliers.***
- C. Evaluate all RFP/vendor responses and contracts to fulfill Association requirements. After evaluation, the contracts will be forwarded to the Executive Director for signature.***
- D. The Committee Chair, or his designee, shall be the Program Manager on all software/hardware development/change/procurement programs.***
- E. Evaluate and coordinate with the appropriate standing committees all change requests to the PFHA website and Registry System.***
- F. Oversee the implementation of all approved changes to the PFHA website.***
- G. Submit an annual budget to the Finance Committee.***
- H. Manage the Committee budget as approved by the Board of Directors.***

**Rationale:** This change brings Section 2 into line with what the Computer Committee is actually doing. It will streamline the committee.

**Financial Impact:** None

## 1-1 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

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Chapter 1, Section IX, Page 33

**Proposed Change:** Replace Section IX with the following

### **IX. Disciplinary Procedures.**

#### **A. Potential Penalties for Violations.**

***Upon the filing of a complaint, protest, or charge resulting in the determination by the Association Hearing Committee, any member may be subject to sanctions as set forth herein which shall include but not be limited to discipline, probation, suspension, fines, censure or expulsion from the Association. This may also include the denial of any and all privileges of the Association for any member or nonmember.***

***Additionally any Certificate of Registration issued to such person may be canceled whenever it has been established by evidence presented at a hearing that such member or nonmember has violated any rule or written policy of the Association.***

#### **B. Protocol for Hearings.**

**1. General Information: Any person who believes that any other person has violated any rule or written policy of the Association may file a complaint, protest, or charge requesting a hearing on the violation with the Executive Director or President of the Association. All charges, protests, or complaints must be in writing, signed and dated. The Executive Director**

*and his/her staff shall investigate any charge, protest, or complaint to determine if sufficient cause exists to convene a hearing before the Association Hearing Committee.*

*Sufficient cause exists if the investigation shows that it is more probable than not that a violation of a rule or written policy occurred. Once cause has been determined to convene a hearing, no other Association entity may cancel the hearing. The Association Hearing Committee must conduct a hearing.*

*The individual(s) making the complaint, protest, or charge must be prepared for full disclosure, to the party or parties accused, of all information associated with the charge, protest, or complaint. All parties must be prepared to be present at a hearing either in person or by video conferencing to address all issues presented to the Association Hearing Committee.*

**Definitions:**

**(1)** *A complaint is defined as an allegation of a violation of any rule or written policy of the Association brought forward in writing to the Executive Director or President of the Association by any person (i.e. rider, handler, exhibitor, owner, agent, trainer or the parent of a junior exhibitor) provided that the person reporting the allegation is not a Show or Licensed Official in the performance of their duties at a sanctioned show.*

**A complaint must be:**

- a.** *In writing;*
- b.** *signed and dated by the person(s) alleging the violation;*
- c.** *addressed to the Executive Director and President of the Association; and*
- d.** *received at the Association office within 30 days of the alleged violation.*

**(2)** *A protest is defined as an allegation of a violation of any rule or written policy of the Association committed during a sanctioned show or activity brought forward in writing with the Show Committee or the Show Hearing Committee by any person (i.e. rider, driver, handler, exhibitor, owner, agent, trainer or the parent of a junior exhibitor) present at the show or activity.*

**A protest must be:**

- a.** *in writing;*
- b.** *signed by the person presenting the protest;*
- c.** *addressed to the Show Manager of the show or Event Chair at which the alleged violation occurred, or to the Show Hearing Committee, or received by the steward, technical delegate, a member of the Show Committee, the show manager or the show secretary within 48 hours of the alleged violation.*
- d.** *If made directly to the Show Hearing Committee, the protest must be received by the Executive Director and President within 30 days of the last recognized day of the show.*

**(3)** *A charge is defined as a report of an alleged violation of any rule or written policy of the Association committed during a sanctioned show brought forward in writing to the Show Hearing Committee or Show Management by a show or licensed official assigned to the said show or activity.*

**A charge must be:**

- a.** *in writing;*
- b.** *signed by the person making the charge;*
- c.** *addressed to Show Management of the show at which the alleged violation occurred, or to the Show Hearing Committee; and*
- d.** *If made to Show Management, it must be received by the steward, technical delegate or a member of the Show Committee within 48 hours of the alleged violation and then forwarded to the Executive Director or President of the Association within 30 days of the last recognized day of the show.*
- e.** *If made to the Show Hearing Committee, it must be received by the Executive Director and President of the Association within 30 days of the last recognized day of the show.*

**2. Procedure upon presentation of complaint, protest, or charge:**

**All complaints, protests, or charges, whether presented by a member of the PFHA, either in a personal capacity, or as a trainer, or owner, or in the capacity as a judge, steward, or other show official shall be filed with the Executive Director or President of the Association within 30 days after occurrence of incident in question.**

**The complaint, protest, or charge shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Director or the President of the Association by the person making the complaint, protest, or charge to determine if sufficient cause exists to convene a hearing before the Association Hearing Committee.**

**The Executive Director, in consultation with the Chair of the Association Hearing Committee, shall have the authority to schedule a disciplinary hearing when he/she determines there is sufficient cause for a hearing. Additionally, a disciplinary hearing shall be held if it is requested by two (2) members of the Executive Committee or by the President.**

**When it is determined that there is sufficient cause for a hearing, a Letter of Inquiry shall be forwarded to the Respondent and the Complainant from the Chair of the Association Hearing Committee within 30 days after receipt of the complaint, protest, or charge by the Executive Director or President. The Letter of Inquiry shall contain notification of the alleged violation and written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing. A copy of the complaint, protest, or charge which was filed with the Association shall also be included with the notice mailed to each person.**

**The Respondent shall respond to the complaint, protest, or charge set forth in the Letter of Inquiry no later than 21 days from the date of the Letter of Inquiry. The Respondent shall additionally present any evidence in support of his or her position in response to the complaint, protest, or charge to the Chair of the Hearing Committee.**

**Each party shall be entitled to request and shall receive one initial continuance at the discretion of the President. All initial continuances by either party must be made within 7 days of date of the Letter of Inquiry. Each party shall also be entitled to request two additional continuances beyond the initial continuance with a \$500.00 charge for each additional continuance. No more than a total of 3 continuances of a hearing, which shall include the initial continuance, shall be granted to either party.**

**Each party shall have the right to appear at the hearing and produce witnesses and other relevant evidence on their behalf. The Association Hearing Committee shall have the right to hear and examine witnesses and other relevant evidence relating to the complaint, protest, or charge for the purpose of making a complete determination of the issues.**

**The hearing shall be held within 90 days from the date of the Letter of Inquiry on the issues set forth in the Letter of Inquiry unless a continuance is requested and granted. The determination of the Hearing Committee shall be based upon a deciding vote of 51% by the members hearing the charges.**

**All exhibits and witness lists shall be exchanged 14 days prior to the hearing by the complainant and the respondent or by counsel representing the complainant and counsel representing the respondent. Any requests for discovery made by the complainant or the respondent or on their behalf shall be answered within 28 days or receipt of same.**

**Following the hearing, a Determination Letter prepared by the Chair of the Association Hearing Committee shall be forwarded to the Respondent which shall be dated no later than 7 days from the date of the hearing held on the complaint, charge, or protest.**

**The Chair of the Association Hearing Committee shall prepare a Press Release which shall be forwarded to the PFHA offices for publication in the Paso Fino World.**

### **3. Hearing Procedure.**

**Quorum. There must be Fifty-one percent (51%) of the members of the Association Hearing Committee for purposes of a quorum for a disciplinary hearing.**

**Testimony via Telephone. Testimony may be taken at a hearing via telephone or video conference. Any person desiring to present testimony via telephone should notify the Executive Director 14 days prior to the scheduled hearing. This notice should**

*contain the name, address and telephone number of each person who will testify via telephone. This provision is not intended to limit or preclude other appropriate procedures for offering testimony or evidence at hearings.*

*Testimony by Notarized Statement. Testimony may be given at a hearing by notarized statement in writing at least 14 days prior to the hearing. Any person desiring to present testimony in this manner shall notify the Executive Director and provide the written notarized testimony at least 14 days prior to the hearing.*

*Failure of Charged Person to Appear. In the event the person or persons alleged to have violated a rule or written policy of the Association fails to appear at the scheduled hearing or fails to file a notarized statement of the evidence regarding the alleged violation, a copy of the hearing notice and the date of mailing thereof shall be entered in the record of the proceedings, and the Association Hearing Committee shall then have the right to conduct the hearing and make a final determination of the issues.*

*Decision of Hearing Committee. The Association Hearing Committee shall decide If a violation of a rule or policy occurred by a determining vote of 51% of the members present at the hearing. Upon the determination of a violation, the Association Hearing Committee shall determine the level of sanction to be issued associated with the violation. The decision and disciplinary action of the Association Hearing Committee shall be final and binding on all parties.*

#### **4. Levels of Sanctions**

*A sanction issued by the USEF shall not preclude the Association Hearing Committee from issuing a sanction on the same incident in the event a charge is filed with the PFHA.*

*Level I Sanction - A Level I sanction is associated with a violation involving an action which includes but not be limited to a minor, first time infraction of the PFHA Rules. This would include but not be limited to as an example, a board pass not allowed under the rules; or a failure to pay dues. (Fine of \$100.00 and Letter of Reprimand)*

*Level II Sanction - A Level II sanction is associated with a violation involving an action by a member which includes but is not be limited to any act done willfully or with the specific intent to deceive or cheat; or an Intentional action taken by a member to defraud or trick while knowing the representation made to be false. This would include but not be limited to any fraudulent action taken by a member of the PFHA as defined under General Rules, Sec. VIII. It may also include improper influence; unfair dealings concerning horses; use of performance enhancing drugs with horses; falsifying registrations; falsifying a signature on a stallion report; unfair dealings involving horse sales; and any fraudulent action involving a registration of a horse. (Fine of \$300.00 to \$2,500.00; and the committee shall have the right to suspend up to 5 years depending upon the severity of the violation.)*

*Level III Sanction - A Level III sanction is associated with a violation involving an action by a member which includes but not be limited to any action taken by a member who impacts a horse and/or other members.*

*This would include but not be limited to violations as defined under General Rules, Sec. VII(A)(1-3). This would also include threats of violence to an owner, horse, trainer, or participant, or rider; and acts of violence or abuse to an owner, horse, trainer, or participant. Violence or abuse to a person is defined as placing someone in fear of imminent serious physical harm, or the act of physical harm to a person.*

*Violence or abuse of a horse is defined as inflicting physical pain, suffering, or death on an animal, usually a tame one, beyond the necessity for normal discipline. It can include neglect, such as withholding food and water, resulting in the suffering, death, or imminent danger of death to the animal. It may also include the use of banned drugs with a horse. (Fine of \$500.00 to \$5,000.00; and the committee shall have the right to suspend up to 5 years depending upon the severity of the violation.)*

*Level IV Sanction - A Level IV sanction would include but not be limited to any action taken by a member involving a continual and total disregard for the rules, policies, and Constitution of the PFHA. This would also include any actions taken by a member which are three or more offenses similar in severity. It may also include any action taken by a member which results in the death of a person or animal. The Association Hearing Committee shall be entitled to consider additional sanctions beyond the sanctions in Levels I, II, and III, with a mandatory minimum fine of \$1,000.00 and a mandatory minimum suspension of 1 year.*

**5 Notice of Decision.** *As set forth above, a Determination Letter shall be forwarded to all parties documenting the decision of the Association Hearing Committee.*

*During the period of denial of Association privileges, failure to comply with these restrictions and any other express conditions or restrictions of said disciplinary actions may constitute grounds for further disciplinary action.*

**6. Effect of Suspension or Denial of Privileges.**

*On or after such time as any person has been suspended or denied further Association privileges, the following restrictions shall apply:*

- a. Person May Not Participate in Events. That person shall not participate and shall be ineligible to participate in any Paso Fino Horse Association approved event. Nor shall such person be eligible to hold approved Judge's credentials or any other Association accreditation.*
- b. Restrictions on Registration and Transfers. That person or spouse or minor child shall not register any horse with the Association or transfer registered horses into his or her name or that of his or her spouse, child or business in which the person is an owner. However, the signatures of the suspended person and that person's spouse will be honored on transfer reports for the purpose of allowing such disciplined person or spouse to transfer horses recorded in his or her ownership at the time of notice of disciplinary action. In addition, written leases filed with the Association prior to date of notice of suspension, covering horses owned by the suspended member shall be valid and the signature of the lessee shall be accepted during the original term of such lease, but not during the renewal period of such lease,*
- c. No Registration If Breeding Date During Period: Of Suspension. No horse shall be registered which is sired by a stallion, or out of a mare, owned or leased by such person or spouse or business where the breeding date is shown to be on or subsequent to the date of notice of disciplinary action<sup>1</sup>, until fees, penalties, or fines are paid in full to the Association.*
- d. Horses May Not Participate In Events. No horse which is registered in the name of such person or spouse is eligible to participate in any event approved or recognized by the Association.*
- e. No Recognition of Signatures. The Association shall not accept the signature of such person, nor such person's spouse, nor that of such person's children under the age of eighteen (18) on any breeder's certificate or stallion reports evidencing breeding taking place on or after the date of notice of suspension.*
- f. No advertisement No person on suspension or that person's spouse may advertise in Paso Fino Horse World during the period of his suspension, nor may that person's name, or that of his/her spouse appear in any advertisements in Paso Fino Horse World during the period of suspension.*

**7. Probation.**

*Probation is defined as a period in which the disciplined member's conduct and actions with respect to all Paso Fino Horse Association activities are subject to strict review. A person who violates an Association rule or written policy while on probation is subject to additional disciplinary action.*

**8. Additional Violations During Suspension.** *Failure to comply with the sanctions issued or any other express conditions or restrictions of the disciplinary action during the period of suspension or denial of Association privileges will constitute grounds for further disciplinary action.*

**9. Publication,**

*When a member is disciplined, suspended, expelled or fined, or a nonmember is denied membership privileges, publication of the action shall be made as soon as practical in Paso Fino Horse World. The notice shall include the specific violation. The Association office shall also notify the management of every Association sanctioned show by letter of the penalizing of any person and of the person thereof.*

**10. Reimbursement for Costs in Unsuccessful Challenge to Association, Venue for Legal Action.**

*The Association has adopted the following provision for the mutual benefit of the members. The intention is to reduce the Association's litigation expenses, which expenses would ultimately be borne by members and nonmembers participating in Association activities. Every member, by joining the Association, or nonmember, by purchasing Paso Fino horses, filing a registration application or other documents with the Association, or participating in Association approved events, does thereby agree as follows:*

*a. If unsuccessful in an attempt to overturn Association decision, actions, rules or regulations, to reimburse the Association for its reasonable attorney's fees, court costs and other expenses in defense of such suit; and*

*b. That he/she will not commence any action, whether in law or equity, against the Association in any courts other than those federal and state courts located In the state of Kentucky.*

**11. United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. On receipt of official notice that disciplinary action has been taken by United States Equestrian**

**Federation, Inc. (USEF), such disciplinary action shall be upheld by the Association in conformity with existing USEF rules regarding such reciprocity.**

**Rationale:** Chapter I, General Rule IX has been modified and streamlined to allow for a more concise read of the disciplinary procedures. Additionally, the levels of sanctions which have been used by the Hearing Committee over the last two years as policy in addressing the discipline for violations of the rules have been added in Ch. 1, GR IX. The modification of the disciplinary procedure is much needed for a thorough understanding of the Hearing Process by the members of the Association.

**Financial Impact:** None

## **1-4 PAID ADVERTISEMENT AND SPONSORED CONTENT IS CLEARLY MARKED**

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Chapter 1, Section II I, Page 28

**Proposed Change:** Add the following section.

**I PFHA Publications.**

***Any multi-page or single-page advertisement or sponsored content that could be confused for a magazine article shall be clearly marked as "Advertisement" at the top of each page where the advertisement/sponsored content appears.***

**Rationale:** PFHA has a duty and a responsibility to the members to operate with the highest ethical standards and this includes the association's magazines and publications. Therefore, any paid advertisements or sponsored content should be clearly identified to the reader as such so as to avoid any confusion by the reader as to what is a magazine article and what is paid advertising and sponsored content. This is done in other magazines and so is consistent with good editorial practices.

**Financial Impact:** None

## **2-1 SHOING**

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Chapter Two, Section IV C, Page 52

**Proposed Change:** All four (4) feet must be shod with the same type of shoe of the same material, weight and thickness, although front and back hooves may be shod in different sizes. Each shoe cannot exceed ten (10) ounces. ~~Weighted shoes and pads are prohibited. However, toe and/or side clips drawn from the same shoe are allowed as long as the clips are an integral part of plate shoe which does not exceed ten (10) ounces in weight.~~

***Weighted shoes, trailers, heel caulks, and any style of pads are prohibited. Toe and/or side clips drawn from the show are allowed as long as the clips are an integral part of the plate shoe. Any horse found to have illegal show weight (10 ounces) or material will be disqualified from the class.***

**Rationale:** To show illegal show weight or material will result in disqualifications from the class. Agreed with USEF PF 102.

**Financial Impact:** None

## **2-2 SOREING**

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Chapter 2, Section IV E, Page 52

**Proposed Change:** Section IV E Soreing of a horse is prohibited. Any physical evidence, including but not limited to scars or blisters, of training with heavy shoes or artificial devices or soreing ~~cause the horse to be disqualified~~ **shall disqualify the horse for the remainder of the competition.**

**Rationale:** Consistent wording in sections

**Financial Impact:** None

## 2-3 CRUEL AND ABUSE

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Chapter 2, Section IV F, Page 52

**Proposed Change:** 4-Showing a horse with raw or bleeding sores or raw or bleeding abrasions around the muzzle, nose, jaw, chin groove or jaw **is considered an act of abuse and must be disqualified from the competition.**

**Rationale:** Clarify the rule and to mirror USEF Paso Fino rule 102.3.b.2.b & 102.12.

**Financial Impact:** None

## 2-4 BRIDLE MATERIAL

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Chapter 2, Section VII E, Page 57

**Proposed Change:** Bridles can be Colombian- or English type headstalls, flat, rolled or braided. Bridles must be leather, goatskin, or flat rawhide **or black or brown synthetic**. Twisted rawhide is allowed in Schooling classes only.

**Rationale:** Synthetic material is easier to sanitize, clean and does not “rot” like leather making it safer. The synthetic material is now so leather like it is almost impossible to monitor unless each exhibitor is examined such as at Nationals. Many of these bridles also match synthetic saddles now in use, and look as professional as genuine leather.

**Financial Impact:** None

## 2-5 MOUNTING BLOCK AT SHOW

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Chapter 2, Section VII K, Page 60

**Proposed Change:** Each show ~~have~~ **must** have a mounting block.

**Rational:** Changing have to must

**Financial Impact:** None

## 2-6 SAFETY HEADGEAR IN DRIVING CARTS

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Chapter 2, Section VII M4, Page 61

**Proposed Change:** .All riders/**exhibitors** twelve (12) years of age and under, including Walk-Corto Leadline riders are required to wear Safety headgear at all times while on horseback, **or driving or while in the driving cart** at any Association authorized function.

**Rationale:** Agrees with USEF Paso Fino rule 106.5

**Financial Impact:** None

## 2-7 TIE OPTION

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Chapter 2, Section VII M1, Page 61

**Proposed Change:** Male riders shall wear ~~a~~ **an unadorned** tie.

**Rationale:** Current rule states males shall wear an unadorned tie for the official Paso Fino Show Costume, females are except from the tie, but can wear the exact tie i.e. a Paso Fino horse bolo, etc into the same class as males and a steward must tell the males to change their tie to meet the rules.

**Financial Impact:** None

## 2-8 TIME OUT

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Chapter 2, Section VIII E, Page 62

**Proposed Change:** Add the following new Section E and then renumber remaining sections.

### **E. Time-Out**

**A suspension of judging which may be requested by a competitor or directed by the judge(s).**

1. **A competitor is entitled to request a time-out for a period not to exceed five minutes in aggregate in order to make obvious adjustments or to repair broken equipment or to rectify a similar condition, or to replace a shoe.**
2. **The competitor may call only two time-outs per class. The penalty for exceeding the allowed time out(s) is for the entry to be excused or disqualified.**

3. *To request a time-out for any such emergency, the competitor must go to the center of the ring (if possible) and be acknowledged by the judge. The announcer will declare that a request for time-out has been made and permission granted; time will be taken from the moment such announcement is made.*
4. *If a horse casts a shoe in a class, time starts (after weighing, measuring and/or gauging has concluded, if applicable) when the farrier or his assistant touches the shoe or the horse. No more than three minutes will be allotted to find a shoe; if the shoe is not found, the exhibitor may elect to continue or withdraw. If a horse is removed from the ring for the purposes of shoeing, the steward or judge shall accompany and remain with the horse until it is returned to the ring, excused or disqualified from the class.*
5. *Two attendants are permitted in the ring to assist a competitor during his/her time-out. If at the expiration of five minutes the repair has not been made, the competitor may proceed as is or be excused or disqualified.*
6. *The steward or judge is responsible for timing unless an official timer is present.*

*Competitors who are not involved in a time-out may make minor adjustments that can be performed with the assistance of one attendant and not be charged with a time-out. Minor adjustments do not include replacing shoes.*

7. *At any time the judge(s) considers it necessary he/she may call for a time-out. Said time-out may be charged to a that, in the judge's opinion, is responsible for the suspension of judging as long as the competitor is so informed by the judge prior to calling the class back to order.*

**Rationale:** Time-outs are called for at most shows. There need to have correct procedures in the PFHA Rule Book.

**Financial Impact:** None

## 2-9 CONCURRENT CLASSES

Chapter 2, Section VIII F, Page 62

**Proposed Change:** Add new Section F and then renumber remaining sections.

### F. Concurrent Classes

1. *Competition management may choose to hold classes concurrently (one performance, multiple judges, multiple sets of placings) provided both classes are held in accordance with all applicable rules.*
2. *Competition management may choose to run two separate classes in the arena at the same time provided:*
  - a. *There are no duplicate riders;*
  - b. *The class specifications are the same for both classes;*
  - c. *The combined class size does not exceed 25 horses;*
  - d. *The same judges are adjudicating both classes and turn in separate cards for each class.*

**Rationale:** The term often used is "combining classes" when the correct term is "running classes concurrently".

**Financial Impact:** None

## 2-10 CAN RIDE MULTIPLE HORSES IN TRAIL CLASS

Chapter 2, Section VII H, Page 63

**Proposed Change:** In saddle classes, a rider may only ride one horse in a class. In addition, in any saddle class, riders cannot be changed in the middle of the class. ~~Even in classes with individual work, for example, the Paso Trail class, one rider cannot show two (2) different horses.~~ **Exhibitors may show more than one horse in trail as long as they have a handler for each entry. Exhibitor should ride the last horse in to minimize time. Handlers walk other entries to accept ribbons.**

**Rationale:** This is not a rail work class. Multiple horses could be shown by one exhibitor.

**Financial Impact:** Could increase class size and revenue. Trainers often have to choose which client's horse they will ride in the trail class. By allowing them to ride multiple horses, they can keep multiple clients interested in showing in the trail class.

## 2-13 ELIMINATE REQUIREMENT TO OWN HORSE IN AMATEUR CLASS

Chapter 2, Section XII, Page 65, 85, 86, 88, 90

**Proposed Change:** Remove the requirement to own the horse in order to compete in amateur classes. Change the "amateur owner" classes to "amateur" classes.

**Rationale:** If an amateur doesn't own a horse, the only classes in which they can currently compete are the open classes and amateur specialty classes. We have young riders that are too old to compete in the youth classes and do not own a horse, and new to the breed riders that would like to try showing but are prohibited from showing in amateur classes unless they complete



a sales affidavit. In the spirit of promoting as much participation as possible, we should open up opportunities for amateurs who do not own show horses at the present time to be able to compete.

Members have circumvented the current "amateur owner" rule by submitting "Affidavit of Sale" forms or adding their name to the horse's registration either directly or by participating in business ownership of a horse. Since submitting a false affidavit of sale is against our rules, we basically have an amateur class for those people who "bend" the rule or have enough connections to have their names added to a horse's registration. Removing the "owner" requirement will level the playing field and encourage competition in the amateur division.

**Financial Impact:** Increased participation in amateur classes, more show revenue.

## 2-14 NUMBER OF STEWARDS BASED UPON NUMBER OF HORSES

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Chapter 2, Section 1A, Page 42

**Proposed Change:** Add the following.

***Shows with more than one-hundred seventy-five (175) Paso Fino horses competing shall be required to have at least two (2) Stewards with the count to be determined by the previous year's steward's report .***

**Rationale:** As per the General Responsibilities of Steward at a Show (Chap 5, Section VIII. A.) the responsibilities of a steward include 1). Being a representative of the association at a show or event, 2). Being available to exhibitors and show management at all times to clarify the rules, and 3). Investigate any situation where rules are not upheld.

For those shows with a high number of horses and competitors, it is difficult for one steward to adequately monitor the show rings and warm-up areas as well as the barns, stables, and grounds for violations of the rules, particularly the rules regarding cruelty and abuse. Since the public image of our breed and association is so vital to the growth of our breed, it is important that cruelty and abuse do not occur anywhere on the show grounds and when it does occur that it is dealt with quickly and in a diplomatic manner by a show steward according to the rules. Therefore, large shows with more than 175 Paso Fino horses competing will benefit by having an additional steward available

**Financial Impact:** None

## 3-2 GOLD MEDAL ADVANCED EQUITATION

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Chapter 3, Section I B 8, Page 71

**Proposed Change:** Add the following additional paragraph.

***Once a Youth rider has placed first in a Silver Medal Class, that youth rider is not eligible to exhibit in another Silver Medal Class for the remainder of the current competition year. The Youth rider may, but is not required to ride the same horse at Gold Medal Final Class that the rider rode when he/she qualified to participate in the Gold Medal Final Class. The winner of the Gold Medal Class is no longer eligible to compete in medal classes after having won twice.***

**Rationale:** Agree with USEF Paso Fino rule 107 2.b

**Financial Impact:** None

## 3-3 DRIVING APPOINTMENTS

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Chapter 3, Section VII E 2, Page 106

**Proposed Change:** Add the following paragraph.

***All exhibitors, twelve (12) years of age and under are required to wear safety headgear at all time while driving or while in the driving cart at any association authorized function.***

**Rationale:** Safety. Agree with USEF Paso Fino rule 106.5

**Financial Impact:** None

## 3-5 EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIP

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Chapter 3, Section I A 5 & 9, Page 69 & 71

**Proposed Change:** Under I A 5:

Points shall be accumulated based on the specific horse a Youth rides in Classic Fino, Paso Performance, Horsemanship and Paso Pleasure Youth classes. ***The exception to this rule is Equitation classes, points are accumulated in Equitation classes by the rider regardless of the horse ridden and, therefore, a rider in Equitation may ride a different horse in the Equitation Championship than in the qualifying class.***

Qualification in Equitation for the Association's Grand National Championship show is dependent only on the rider's point count in the Equitation division.

Under A 9:

To be eligible for entry into a Championship class, a horse/rider combination must have been properly entered, shown and judged in one of the qualifying classes. **Exception is an Equitation rider may ride a different horse than in the qualifying class.**

**Rationale:** This is a Rule Clarification that was ratified by the BOD July 8, 2017

**Financial Impact:** None

## 5-1 EMERITUS STATUS

Chapter 5, Section III, Page 115

**Proposed Change:** Add this new section F and renumber the remaining sections.

### F. Judges/Stewards Emeritus

**To award Paso Fino Horse Association Judges and Stewards the title of Judge/Steward Emeritus in recognition of their services to the Paso Fino Horse Association after their retirement as such.**

#### A. Eligibility:

**Minimal of 4 of the following must be met:**

- 1. Senior Certified Judge/ Steward active and with a participation for a minimum of 10 years. (Active may be waived for individuals that previous went inactive).**
- 2. Have demonstrated excellence in his/her performance as Judge or Steward.**
- 3. Have actively participated in different PFHA Committees (Judges and Stewards, Clinic and Education, Hearing)**
- 4. Have actively participated in PFHA education and clinics.**
- 5. Have published articles, books, etc. related to the Paso Fino breed.**
- 6. Have international judging or stewarding experience.**

**Curriculum vitae needs to be submitted for the consideration of the Judges and Stewards Committee which the Board of Directors will ratify.**

#### B. Privileges:

- 1. Listed in the Judges/Stewards list with their title. (Emeritus)**
- 2. Assigned office facilities and support for research, if available.**
- 3. Invitation to participate in Seminars, clinics, lectures and adhoc committees.**
- 4. Library privileges.**

**Rationale:** To award retired Paso Fino Horse Association Judges and Stewards the title of Judge/Steward Emeritus in recognition of their services to the Paso Fino Horse Association after their retirement as such.

**Financial Impact:** None

## 7-1 AWARDS FOR COMPETITIVE TRAIL RIDES

Chapter 7, Section IV, Page 137, 138

**Proposed Change:**

### A. Competitive Trail Rides.

The Association shall award points for miles ridden, for final impression score and ~~for placement (if placed) in veterinarian/Lay Judge~~ judging categories in a Competitive Trail Ride at the following rate:

One (1) point shall be awarded for each five (5) mile increment completed of the competitive trail ride for rides of twenty five (25) through twenty nine (29) miles; two (2) points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of thirty (30) miles up to an including forty (49) miles; three (3) points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of fifty (50) miles up to an including seventy four (74) miles; four (4) points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of seventy five (75) miles up to an including ninety nine (99) miles; and (5) five points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of one hundred (100) miles. For example: A horse that completes a seventy five (75) mile ride will be awarded sixty (60) points for mileage.

The Association also shall award points for placement in the following categories established by the competitive trail ride management, as shown below:

~~1. Placement Error! Bookmark not defined. from Veterinarian Judge. Points for first (1st) through sixth (6th) placements are as follows:~~

~~First (1st): eighteen (18) points, second (2nd): fifteen (15) points, third (3rd): twelve (12) points, fourth (4th): nine (9) points, fifth (5th): six (6) points and sixth (6th): five (5) points.~~

In addition to points already awarded to Competitive Trail Rides for mileage, ~~placement (if placed) from veterinary Judge and (if placed) from trail/lay/Judge(s),~~ points also shall be awarded for the average of the final overall impression scores from the veterinary and trail/lay Judge(s) as follows:

- Ninety eight (98) to one hundred (100): eighteen (18) points,
- Ninety five (95) to ninety seven (97): sixteen (16) points,
- Ninety two (92) to ninety four (94): fourteen (14) points,
- Eighty nine (89) to ninety one (91): twelve (12) points,
- Eighty six (86) to eighty eight (88): ten (10) points,
- Eighty three (83) to eighty five (85): eight (8) points,
- Eighty (80) to eighty two (82): six (6) points,
- Seventy seven (77) to seventy nine (79): four (4) points and
- Seventy four (74) to seventy six (76): two (2) points.

If the average of the scores comes out to 96.5, for example, the points shall be rounded up to the next highest number, in this case, 97. If the ride does not have a trail/lay component, then the overall score from the veterinarian will be used. If a ride uses a score other than 100 (such as 200, 300, 400, etc.) then the final score will be divided by two, three, four, etc., to obtain a number between zero and 100. For example: Ride A uses 200 as its top score. Applicant Paso Fino scores 160. Divide 160 by two, which equals 80, which equals six PFHA points. Ride B uses 400 as the top score. Applicant Paso Fino scores 380. Divide 380 by four, which equals 95 or 16 PFHA points.

If the score comes to 95.5, for example, the score will be rounded up to 96. If the score comes to 95.4, it will be rounded down to 94.

**Rationale:** To standardize the points awarded so that there are no biases based upon regional distance organization scoring (ECTRA, SEDRA, NACMO) and no biases based on number of participants in the ride.

**Financial Impact:** None

## 7-3 CHANGE ENDURANCE RIDE POINTS

Chapter 7, Section IV, Page 138

### Proposed Change:

#### B. Endurance Rides.

The Association shall award points for miles ridden and completed with a fit horse with an 'official completion' recorded by a veterinarian on Vet Ride Book/Card, ~~and placement for Time Finished, for Best Condition and Post-Ride Vet Check Overall Impression Score at the following rate:~~

One (1) point shall be awarded for each five (5) mile increment completed on the endurance ride with a fit horse earning a completion recorded as such on the veterinarian ride book or card for a ride of twenty five (25) through twenty nine (29) miles; two (2) points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of thirty (30) miles up to and including forty nine (49) miles; three (3) points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of fifty (50) miles up to and including seventy four (74) miles; four (4) points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of seventy five (75) miles up to and including ninety nine (99) miles; and five (5) points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of one hundred (100) miles.

For example, horse that completes a fifty (50) mile ride will be awarded thirty (30) points for mileage.

~~The Association also shall award points for placement in the following categories, with a fit horse with an 'official completion' recorded by a veterinarian on Vet Ride Book/Card established by the endurance ride management as shown below:~~

~~1. Placement for Time Finished. Points for first (1st) through tenth (10th) place are as follows:~~

- ~~First (1st): eighteen (18) points,~~
- ~~Second (2nd): sixteen (16) points,~~
- ~~Third (3rd): fourteen (14) points,~~
- ~~Fourth (4th): twelve (12) points,~~
- ~~Fifth (5th): ten (10) points,~~
- ~~Sixth (6th): eight (8) points,~~
- ~~Seventh (7th): six (6) points,~~

- ~~Eighth (8th): four (4) points,~~
- ~~Ninth (9th): two (2) points and~~
- ~~Tenth (10th): one (1) point.~~

~~**2. Placement for Best Condition Award.** Points for first (1st) through tenth (10th) place are as follows:~~

- ~~First (1st): eighteen (18) points,~~
- ~~Second (2nd): sixteen (16) points,~~
- ~~Third (3rd): fourteen (14) points,~~
- ~~Fourth (4th): twelve (12) points,~~
- ~~Fifth (5th): ten (10) points,~~
- ~~Sixth (6th): eight (8) points,~~
- ~~Seventh (7th): six (6) points,~~
- ~~Eighth (8th): four (4) points,~~
- ~~Ninth (9th): two (2) points and~~
- ~~Tenth (10th): one (1) point.~~

The Association also shall award points for Placement for Post-Ride Vet Check-Overall Impression Score. Points for scores are as follows:

- A+: eighteen (18) points,
- A: sixteen (16) points,
- A-: fourteen (14) points,
- B+: twelve (12) points,
- B: ten (10) points,
- B-: eight (8) points,
- C+: six (6) points,
- C: four (4) points and
- C-: two (2) points.

**Rationale:** To standardize the points awarded so that there are no biases based upon the number of participants in the ride. Regional differences in participation vary widely. Both the above criteria are unfairly affected by participation.

**Financial Impact:** None

## 8-2 MICROCHIP ALL PFHA REGISTERED HORSES

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Chapter 8, Section IV A, Page 144

**Proposed Change:** Add this as new section A and then re-letter the remaining sections

**All horses being registered with PFHA after 2018 shall be microchipped.**

**Rationale:** Assists in the identification of the horse, specifically helpful in finding the lineage of rescue horses.

**Financial Impact:** Increased revenue from microchip fees.

## 8-3 RECORD OF OWNERSHIP WITH EMBRYO TRANSFERS

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Chapter 8, Section I 1 & 3, Page 149

**Proposed Change:**

1. General Rule: Applicant Horse is Registered in Name of Owner or Lessee of Dam.

Except as provided in Subsection 2. below, the applicant horse must be registered in the name of the recorded owner or lessee of the dam at the time of foaling **or at the time of breeding if the foal is the result of an embryo transfer.**

3. No exception if Foal Transferred.

b. If, pursuant to the general rule provided in Subsection 1. above, the ownership of the applicant horse at the time of foaling, **or at the time of breeding if the foal is the result of an embryo transfer**, is listed in two or more names, the recorded owners of the foal will be listed as owners in the conjunctive by use of the ampersand symbol...

**Rationale:** Clarification that foals resulting from embryo transfer will require the signature(s) from the owner(s) of the dam at the time of breeding. If the genetic dam is sold before the foal is born, the new owner appears to be required to sign as the owner of the dam at the time of foaling.

**Financial Impact:** None

## 8-4 EMBRYO TRANSFER REGISTRATION SIGNATURES

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Chapter 8, Section VI A 2, Page 156

### Proposed Change:

**2. The owner of the genetic dam at the time of breeding shall sign the registration application as the owner of the dam at the time of foaling.** An Embryo/Oocyte Transfer Permit must be filed with the Association or accompany any registration of a foal as a result of an embryo/oocyte transfer. There will be a fee to file this permit. The Board of Directors will determine the fee.

**Rationale:** There is currently nothing in place that specifies the required signatures for foals resulted by Embryo Transfer. If the genetic dam is sold before the foal is born, the new owner appears to be required to sign as the owner of the dam at the time of foaling, for a foal they have never seen.

**Financial Impact:** None

## G-2 GLOSSARY ADDITION-HEEL ON BOOTS

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Glossary

**Proposed Change:** *Boots/shoes must have a distinguishable heel.*

**Rationale:** Safety of rider.

**Financial Impact:** None

## G-4 GLOSSARY ADDITION-CONSERVATIVE COLOR

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Glossary

**Proposed Change:** *Conservative in Color – Conservative colors (including trim) are black, white, off white, darker shades of grey, blue, green, red, brown and purple.*

**Rationale:** Our rule book mentions “conservative in color” in several sections. This RCP defines such colors. This was taken from the rule clarification June 2016.

**Financial Impact:** None

## G-5 DEFINITION OF DISQUALIFICATION AND EXCUSED

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Chapter 2, Section VIII G, Page 63

**Proposed Change:** Insert the following section.

### G. Disqualified/Excused

**1. Disqualified from class –While the class is working, horse is required to leave the ring by the exhibitor or by the judge prior to the lineup. The horse is not qualified for the championship.**

**2. Disqualified from competition – Horse will be disqualified from the entire competition under the following circumstances.**

**a. Horse exits arena without permission.**

**b. Abuse/cruelty.**

**c. Ineligible exhibitor due to relationship with judge.**

**d. Ineligible horse to due to relationship with judge.**

**e. Undue stress on horse.**

**f. Soreing**

**3. Excused from class – Exhibitor completes the class and remains in the ring at the line up. Horse is qualified for the championship.**

**Rationale:** Clarify disqualified from class, disqualified from competition and excused from class.

**Financial Impact:** None

## G-6 GLOSSARY ADDITION-DISQUALIFICATION FROM CLASS

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Glossary

**Proposed Change:** Disqualification from class

*Horse will be disqualified from the entire competition under the following circumstances.*

**a. Horse exits arena without permission.**

**b. Abuse/cruelty.**

- c. Ineligible exhibitor due to relationship with judge.*
- d. Ineligible horse to due to relationship with judge.*
- e. Undue stress on horse.*
- f. Soreing*

**Rationale:**

**Financial Impact:** None

## **G-7 GLOSSARY ADDITION-DEFINITION OF EXCUSED FROM CLASS**

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Glossary

**Proposed Change:** *Excused from class – Exhibitor completes the class and remains in the ring at the line up. Horse is qualified for the championship*

**Rationale:**

**Financial Impact:** None