



The Markel APHA Professional Horsemen is a program consisting of equine professionals who are members of the American Paint Horse Association and derive a portion of their income from the equine industry. These professionals pledge to encourage professionalism, integrity and fairness throughout the horse industry, and particularly the Paint Horse industry.

Potential members of this Professional Horsemen certification must apply to and be accepted into the program, be APHA members in good standing, provide references and agree to function as experts at local Paint Horse shows and other equine events, answering questions and promoting the breed and Association. By becoming a member of the Markel APHA Professional Horsemen, the member understands that the equine industry and clients expect a high standard of conduct. APHA members who compete at the amateur level are not eligible for this program.

Membership in the Markel APHA Professional Horsemen is a privilege, not a right, subject to continual review of the Professional Horsemen's Committee. As such, each member understands and agrees that APHA has the right to investigate complaint(s) regarding a member's alleged conduct. Further, each member must cooperate in the investigation and abide by decisions concerning application approval and revocation of membership.

If approved, you will be provided with a frameable certificate & embroidered Cinch button down shirt.

## How to Apply

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1. Read the **Mission Statement** and **Code of Ethics** on the next page and indicate your acceptance of the terms and conditions by signing the bottom of that page.
2. Complete the 2-page application form, including references and return it along with your signed Mission Statement/Code of Ethics page and payment. A \$25 office processing fee will be charged on unapproved applications.
3. You will be contacted by the Professional Horsemen Committee regarding your application. The process can take anywhere from two to four months. Your initial term will not begin until you have been approved.

If you have questions regarding the application process, please contact Sandy Jirkovsky at 817-222-6436.

## Mission Statement

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To enhance and promote industry professionals of the American Paint Horse Association as the premier purveyors of equine services. The association serves to foster credibility, proficiency and advocacy, through the endorsement of superior industry standards that will enable professionals to excel in a sustainable career.



## **Markel APHA Professional Horsemen Code of Ethics**

- 1. I submit myself to the professional standards of the American Paint Horse Association and the Professional Horsemen Code of Ethics and shall work to promote its goals and objectives.*
- 2. I will ensure that the welfare of the horses in my care and ownership is paramount and that each such horse shall be treated humanely. I will not violate the animal welfare rules as outlined in the APHA rulebook. It is my duty as a Professional Horseman to notify the APHA and/or show management if I witness a violation.*
- 3. I will conduct all business affairs with integrity and accuracy in an ethical and legal manner.*
- 4. I will not charge, nor be involved in the charging of more than one (1) commission in a purchase/sale transaction without full disclosure to both the buying and selling party of the additional commission and actual sales price being paid by the end purchaser. Such commissions are known as “dual agency commissions” and are unethical and sometimes illegal.*
- 5. I will fully disclose all veterinary procedures, conditions and medications concerning a horse involved in any sales transaction.*
- 6. I will disclose fully any and all agents involved in any horse sale transaction to all parties.*
- 7. I will act with integrity in financial dealings with clients, other professionals and the public. In this regard, any horse shown by my spouse, client or child will be economically owned as prescribed by APHA rules.*
- 8. I will handle all business, training and professional matters in a manner which promotes confidence in and the image of the APHA and Paint Horses.*
- 9. I will take no action attempting to influence a show judge prior to, during or after any horse show.*
- 10. I will avoid any actions that will discredit the APHA, my membership in it or the equine business.*

**YOU MUST SIGN THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE AND  
RETURN WITH YOUR APPLICATION.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ APHA ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Application for Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ APHA ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Best Contact): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (To be listed on website): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

List all other APHA ID #'s and/or names you have used in the past: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever had any disciplinary action taken against you from APHA or any other equine association? Yes No

If yes, please describe the circumstances and resolution. \_\_\_\_\_

## Years of Service in the Equine Industry:

Please indicate the roles(s) you serve in the equine industry by placing the number of years beside each service you provide.

Trainer: \_\_\_\_\_ Riding Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge: \_\_\_\_\_ Farrier: \_\_\_\_\_ Boarding: \_\_\_\_\_ Breeder: \_\_\_\_\_ Veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_

Frozen/Cooled Semen: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse Auctions: \_\_\_\_\_ Equine Nutritionist: \_\_\_\_\_ Mare Care/Foaling: \_\_\_\_\_

Breeders' Trust Participants: \_\_\_\_\_ Equine Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_ Equine Business Consultant: \_\_\_\_\_ Equine Educator: \_\_\_\_\_

Equine Related Association Professional: \_\_\_\_\_ Other (fill in the blank along with the number of years): \_\_\_\_\_

## Training:

Please use the check boxes below for the classifications of services that you offer.

Clientele:	Youth	Amateur	Open		
Western:	Rail	Pattern Classes	Halter	Reining	Cutting
	Roping	Cow Horse	Working Ranch Horse	Speed	
English:	Rail	Pattern Classes	Driving	Over Fences	
Lessons:	Beginning	Intermediate	Advanced	Therapeutic Riding	

Do you have lesson horses available? Yes No If yes how many of your lesson horses are APHA registered? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of a Trainer/Instructor Certification Program? Yes No

If yes, please list the programs: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Services (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Years at current location: \_\_\_\_\_ If less than two years, list previous location: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

**Memberships** – Please list memberships you hold with other equine associations, including APHA affiliates:

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**Judges Cards** – Please list all equine associations in which you hold a judge's card:

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**Short Answers** – Please answer the following questions the spaces provided below :

1. Why do you want to be an APHA Professional Horsemen? How can you further the mission and purpose of APHA Professional Horsemen?

2. What qualifies you to become a Professional Horsemen? Include any special skills or talents that supports your qualifications.

Please list any additional information you'd like the Professional Horsemen Committee to know.

**References** – For all applicants in all Zones excluding Zones 13 and 14; four references are required for your application to be sent to the Pro Horsemen Committee for review.

1. One reference from an APHA Judge or APHA Professional Horsemen
2. One reference from an APHA Judge, APHA Professional Horsemen or APHA State Director
3. Two additional references of choice. Can be former employers, former and current equine clients, or other professionals in the horse industry.

For all applicants in Zones 13 and 14; two references are required for your application to be sent to the Pro Horsemen Committee for review.

1. One reference from an APHA Judge, APHA Professional Horsemen, or APHA State Director
2. One additional reference of choice. Can be former employers, former and current equine clients, or other professionals in the horse industry.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Professional Horsemen Fees

Please indicate the Professional Horsemen certification fee you wish to obtain:      1-year...\$25      5-year...\$100  
*\$25 of the application fee is non-refundable.*

### APHA membership - Professional Horsemen candidates MUST maintain a current APHA membership

Are you a current APHA member?      Yes      No      List your membership ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

If not a current member, please indicate the APHA membership you wish to obtain:

1-year.....\$89\*      5-year.....\$199\*      3-year.....\$319\*

\* Discounted fees available when you join/renew online: [apha.com/join](http://apha.com/join)

Payment method:      Check enclosed      Visa      MasterCard      American Express

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_


Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment must accompany any work submitted to APHA. By providing payment details, I am authorizing all charges necessary to complete this work.**

Please return with payment to:

 **American Paint Horse Association**  
Attn: Markel Professional Horsemen Program  
122 East Exchange Ave., Suite 420 • Fort Worth, Texas 76164  
817.222.6436 • Fax 817.834.3152 • [sandyj@apha.com](mailto:sandyj@apha.com)