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AMERICAN PAINT HORSE ASSOCIATION

SC-070: EXHIBITOR CONDUCT

- A. **REQUESTING JUDGE'S OPINION.** An exhibitor may make a request through the ring steward or other show official for a judge's opinion concerning an exhibitor's horse which can be stated in the presence of a ring steward or other show official at any time; however, at no time will fraternization between the exhibitor and the judge be permitted during the show.
- B. An exhibitor shall not be placed by any judge who has received from the exhibitor, or his/her immediate family, a salary, commission, or any type of remuneration or consideration, directly or indirectly, within 3 months of the date of the show in question. An exhibitor is to be sensitive to any such conflict and shall report the conflict to the show office prior to competing in any class.
EXCEPTION: Breeding fees, mare care, vet expense, shipping fees or any other fee related to breeding. Any violation of this rule will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct by the exhibitor.
- C. **PROHIBITED CONDUCT.** See also Unsportsmanlike Conduct, Rule GR-065.H. and GR-066.A. When an exhibitor, owner or trainer is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, such person is subject to disciplinary action by the APHA, including but not limited to, fines or suspension. See Rules GR-060.C., GR-070.A. and GR-070.D. In addition, approaching the judge without following the procedure listed in SC-070.A. above may be considered in violation of GR065.H. or GR-066.
1. To promote competition in APHA-approved events, in order that APHA's records will, at all times, reflect the actual quality of equine performance, any form of conduct that inhibits competition is expressly prohibited. This offense includes not only the person suggesting the prohibited conduct, but all who participate in the scheme or plan. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Paying another's entry fee, directly or indirectly; or,
 - b. Encouraging a potential competitor to refrain from entering the class.
 2. Violation of this rule shall disqualify from participation in the event the horse entered by the person paying the fee and the horse entered by the recipient, and shall be referred by the show management to APHA for disciplinary action.
 3. To assist APHA in the promotion of true competition, any person approached by another to cooperate in a scheme or plan to inhibit competition, shall immediately report the matter to show management and then to APHA in writing within 10 days.
 4. A contestant assisted by use of an electronic or two-way communication device by another person outside the show arena or show ring shall be automatically disqualified unless assistance is necessitated for safety of competing horse or horses to be determined by the judge and/or the Executive Committee. (See Rule SC-160. F. for exception.)

GR-066: UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

- A. Conduct by APHA members, non-members, exhibitors, trainers, owners, owner's representatives, spectators, and all other persons present on the show grounds or in show facilities, events where the APHA has approved or sponsored the event, the event is held in conjunction with an APHA approved event or APHA has sponsored added money or awards, shall be orderly, responsible, sportsmanlike and humane in the treatment of horses, such as to promote the implementation of the show or event and promote fair competition.
1. Unsportsmanlike or irresponsible conduct or any other form of misconduct, that is illegal, indecent, profane, intimidating, threatening, harassing, or abusive is prohibited, as is the inhumane treatment of horses.
 2. Further, Show Management may immediately expel offenders from show grounds or show facilities in order to preserve the decorum of the show and shall file a written report with APHA concerning the transaction.