VIOLATIONS

V10100. No person shall refuse to assist AQHA, its officers, committees or agents 1) in locating, identifying and inspecting, or to answer promptly and truthfully any inquiry concerning a horse or an ancestor thereof, that has been registered with AQHA, or for which application to register has been made; or 2) to promptly and truthfully give information, in form requested, concerning any AQHA matter of which the person has or may have knowledge.

V10101. In the furtherance of their official duties, all AQHA representatives shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect, and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct or language toward them.

V10102 No person or entity shall bribe, or attempt to bribe, an AQHA representative, AQHA-approved judge or any other official of an AQHA-approved event.

V10103. Any member may be suspended and denied AQHA privileges and any non-member may be denied AQHA privileges by AQHA's Executive Vice President for failure to timely file with AQHA any report required by the rules of AQHA or submit a response to an AQHA inquiry; provided, however, that fifteen (15) days before action by the Executive Vice President, written notice of the delinquent report/response and the intention to suspend and/or deny AQHA privileges shall be mailed to such member or non-member. Upon suspension and/or denial of AQHA privileges by the Executive Vice President, the name, address, city and state of such member or non-member and description of disciplinary action may be published in *The American Quarter Horse Journal* or on AQHA's official web site, *aqha.com.* Any suspension and/or denial of AQHA privileges under this rule shall terminate upon the filing of the requisite report/response.

V10104. A member or nonmember shall not conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate AQHA rules, or to knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons, either by affirmative action or inaction, to violate AQHA rules.

V10105. All information furnished AQHA as a basis for any action by AQHA or any of its officers shall be true and correct.

V10106. Ownership of an issued registration certificate remains with AQHA; it is issued in reliance on a written application submitted and attested by the owner at time of foaling and upon the express condition that AQHA has the privilege to correct and/or cancel the certificate for cause under its rules and regulations.

V10107. No change or alteration of a registration certificate shall be made except by AQHA or its official representative upon proper showing of the necessity for such change or alteration, by reason of change in color or markings, or mistake; nor shall any person display or advertise, or have in his possession, a certificate that has been changed or altered otherwise than by AQHA or on its authority.

V10108. No person or entity shall:

V10108.1 refuse an AQHA request for the return of a registration certificate, either before, after or pending hearing to determine registration or participation privilege in AQHA-approved events. AQHA may retain possession of a certificate until resolution of the matter for which the return of the certificate was requested;

V10108.2 issue, sell, exchange, give away or receive, or offer a false or fraudulent certificate, representing the same to be a genuine official certificate issued by AQHA;

V10108.3 represent any horse owned or managed by him to be AQHA registered unless the same be registered in the official Stud Book;

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V10108.4 represent as a registered American Quarter Horse any horse other than the horse for which the registration certificate was issued;

V10108.5 advertise or enter in any American Quarter Horse event or competition any AQHA registered horse by a name other than that by which the horse is registered;

V10108.6 represent, by advertisement, claim or otherwise, that a horse registered with AQHA has earned or is entitled to any official AQHA designation or honors prior to actual recording of such designation or honor in the records of AQHA;

V10108.7 alter, in any way change, or attempt to hide or alter natural markings of a horse by surgery, dye or in any other manner.

V10200. INHUMANE TREATMENT. No person shall treat any horse in an inhumane manner. This prohibition against inhumane treatment applies to AQHA members and nonmembers. Inhumane treatment shall include, but not be limited to, the prohibited conduct specified below. Inhumane treatment to horses other than American Quarter Horses and other animals used in competition is included in this prohibition as it indicates a general course of dealing with horses which is unacceptable to AQHA.

V10200.1 For purposes of this rule, a person responsible for the care of a horse is also responsible for and may be disciplined for the inhumane conduct of their trainers, agents, representatives and employees. For violation of this rule, an individual may be disciplined, suspended, fined, denied AQHA privileges, disqualified, expelled from show grounds and/or expelled from AQHA.

V10201. Inhumane treatment of any horse or any other animal on show grounds is strictly prohibited. Treatment of any horse will be considered inhumane if a person, educated or experienced in accepted equine training techniques, would perceive the conduct of an individual to be inhumane.

V10202. For purposes of this rule, a fines and penalty system has been established based on the severity of the offense. All offenses per V10204 below will be assigned a minimum level of offense (level 1 = mild; level 2= moderate; level 3 = severe). Depending on the facts of a situation, the level of offense may be increased.

V10203. Warning or Show Ground Removal cards will be issued based on the frequency and level of offense.

V10204. Inhumane treatment includes, but is not limited to:

V10204.1 placing an object in a horse's mouth so as to cause undue discomfort or distress (minimum level 2);

V10204.2 leaving a bit in a horse's mouth for extended periods of time so as to cause undue discomfort or distress (minimum level 1);

V10204.3 tying a horse's **head up (above withers), back** or around in a stall or anywhere at an AQHA event in a manner as to cause undue discomfort or distress (minimum level 2);

V10204.3.1 Tying a horse in a stall without access to food or water for an extended period of time. (minimum level 1)

V10204.4 lounging or riding a horse in a manner as to cause undue discomfort or distress to the horse (minimum level 1);

V10204.5 tying or fastening any foreign object onto a horse, halter, bridle and/or saddle in order to de-sensitize the horse (minimum level 2);

V10204.6 use of training techniques or methods such as poling or striking a horse's legs with objects (minimum level 2);

V10204.7 excessive spurring or whipping (minimum level 1);

V10204.8 excessive jerking of reins (minimum level 1);

VI0204.9 excessive fencing (minimum level I);

VI0204.10 excessive spinning (defined as no more than eight (8) consecutive turns in either direction) (minimum level I);

VI0204.11 schooling over ramped oxers in reverse order (i.e., from highest to lowest instead of lowest to highest) (minimum level I);

VI0204.12 schooling using rails higher than four (4) feet (minimum level I);

VI0204.13 use of prohibited equipment, including, but not limited to: saw tooth bits; hock hobbles; tack collars; **curb strap with tack/rivets** or tack hackamores; whips used for showmanship; war bridles or like devices; riding in a curb bit without a curb strap; wire or solid metal curb straps no matter how padded; wire cavesson; wire or cable tie-downs; bumper bits; metal bosals (no matter how padded); **metal loungeing hackamores;** chambons; headstalls made of metal (no matter how wrapped or padded), twisted rawhide, or rope may not be used on a horse's head (3/8 inch rope may be used with a slip/gag bit **or a bonnet**); running martingales with curb bits without rein stops; **excessively tight cavessons;** draw reins attached between or around the front legs; side reins **(direct rein from bit to cinch or surcingle)**, will not be allowed at AQHA-approved events (minimum level 2);

VI0204.14 use of any item or appliance that restricts movement or circulation of the horse's tail (minimum level 3);

VI0204.15 exhibiting a horse which appears to be sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired (minimum level I);

VI0204.16 intentional or negligent treatment which results in any bleeding – intentional (minimum level 3); unintentional (minimum level I);

VI0204.17 applying excessive pressure on or excessively jerking of a halter lead shank or an allowed lip chain (minimum level 2);

VI0204.18 any other treatment or conduct deemed by a show official to be inhumane or abusive (minimum level I).

VI0205. AQHA may accept (I) an individual's conviction, no contest plea, or deferred adjudication or (2) judicial confiscation of a horse under state, federal, provincial or international law, for an offense of cruelty to or inhumane treatment of a horse, whether or not an American Quarter Horse is involved, as a presumptive violation of this rule, the effect of which is to automatically suspend the individual from AQHA membership privileges, or deny such privileges, for a period of no less than two (2) years after AQHA receives notice of the conviction, no contest plea, deferred adjudication or judicial confiscation. After the expiration of the two-year suspension, the individual may apply for reinstatement.

VI0206. AQHA may accept suspension rulings pertaining to cruel or inhumane treatment of horses from other recognized equine related associations and state racing commissions, the effect of which is to automatically suspend the individual from AQHA membership privileges, or deny such privileges, for a length of time equal to the suspension for which reciprocity is given.

VI0220. UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT or any other form of misconduct that is irresponsible, illegal, indecent, profane, intimidating, threatening or abusive is prohibited. This provision applies to:

VI0220.1 AQHA members, nonmembers, exhibitors, trainers, owners, owner representatives, spectators and all other persons on the show grounds of an AQHA-approved event; and

VI0220.2 AQHA members on the show grounds of an event held in conjunction with an AQHA-approved event; and

VI0220.3 AQHA members on the show grounds of an event during which an AQHA-approved class is held regardless of whether the con-

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duct is associated with or occurs during an AQHA-approved class.

VI0221. Show management may immediately expel individuals exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct from show grounds and shall file a written report with AQHA concerning the conduct in question.

VI0230. INHIBITING COMPETITION. Any form of conduct that inhibits competition at AQHA-approved events 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:

VI0230.1 padding classes by entering a horse(s) not otherwise qualified for the competition to fill a class to increase points;

VI0230.2 paying another's entry fee, directly or indirectly; or

VI0230.3 encouraging a potential competitor to refrain from entering the class.

VI0231. For inhibiting competition, an AQHA member may be disciplined, suspended, fined and/or expelled from AQHA, and a nonmember may be denied AQHA privileges. Furthermore, violation of this rule shall be grounds for AQHA to disqualify the horse(s) entered by the persons that participate in the scheme or plan prohibited by this rule.

VI0232. To assist AQHA 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 AQHA in writing within 10 days, failing which, the person approached may be subject to disciplinary action by the Executive Committee, the same as the person or persons suggesting the scheme or plan.

VI0233. AQHA Stewards may immediately issue a warning or removal cards (from show grounds) to individuals whose conduct is in violation of AQHA rules and shall file a written report with AQHA concerning the conduct in question. Individuals receiving two warning cards from AQHA Stewards in a 12-month period may be cited to appear before an AQHA hearing committee in accordance with AQHA's disciplinary procedures. Regardless of whether an AQHA Steward is present at the show in question or whether an AQHA Steward takes action regarding violations of AQHA rules, nothing herein prevents show management or AQHA from taking appropriate action with respect to individuals who violate such rules.

VI0240. PROHIBITED ASSISTANCE. If a contestant, while inside the show arena or show ring, is assisted in any manner by another person or provides assistance in any manner to another person, the contestant shall automatically be disqualified. This rule does not apply to co-contestants assisting each other in team events such as dally team roping, cutting, team penning or ranch sorting. Furthermore, this rule does not apply to a contestant who assists another contestant if such assistance was necessitated for the safety of competing exhibitors or horses as determined by the judge--however, the contestant in need of such assistance shall be disqualified.

VI0250. RESPONSIBLE PARTY. The exhibitor, Absolutely Responsible Person and owner (collectively referred to as "Responsible Parties") are each responsible for a horse's condition, presumed to know all AQHA rules and regulations and are eligible for disciplinary sanctions for violation of AQHA rules and regulations according to AQHA's disciplinary procedures.

VI0251. An individual is an Absolutely Responsible Person if:

VI0251.1 he/she designates himself/herself on the entry blank as exhibitor, or authorizes another to designate him/her as exhibitor on

the entry blank;

VI0251.2 he/she signs the entry blank on behalf of himself/herself or another, or causes an agent or representative to sign it;

VI0251.3 he/she physically participates in the event by riding or showing the horse; or

VI0251.4 he/she is the actual trainer, having presented or caused to be presented the horse at the show grounds for exhibition.

VI0252. Both the exhibitor designated on the entry blank and one having actual possession of the horse while physically participating with the horse in the event are conclusively presumed to be authorized by the owner to execute all documents, necessary or convenient, to allow the horse's participation in an AQHA-approved event, including documents pertaining to drug testing and the use of Lasix. If an individual is prevented from performing his/her duties, including absolute responsibility for the condition of the horse, by illness or otherwise, or is absent from the show, he/she shall immediately notify the show secretary, and appoint a substitute, and such substitute shall place his/her name on the entry blank. The exhibitor and owner acknowledge an exhibitor represents the owner in regard to his/her horses entered in an approved show.

VI0253. Upon request of show management or AQHA representative, every Responsible Party shall:

VI0253.1 permit examination of a horse for determination of the presence of prohibited surgery, mechanical device, artificial appliance, foreign drug or substance;

VI0253.2 permit examination of a horse for determination of normal tail function; and

VI0253.3 permit a specimen of urine, saliva, blood or other substance to be taken for testing.

VI0253.4 Refusal to comply with such request shall constitute grounds for immediate disqualification of the horse from further participation at the show, the horse being barred from participation in future AQHA-approved events or shows for such period as determined by the Executive Committee or other appropriate committee and suspension of the Responsible Party's AQHA membership.

VI0300. PROHIBITED MEDICATION, DRUG, SUBSTANCE. No person shall cause to be administered internally or externally to a horse, either before or during an approved event, any medication, drug, or substance which could affect its performance or appearance at that event, **EXCEPT FOR THOSE CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED THERAPEUTIC MEDICATIONS, THE USE OF WHICH IS SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED FOR IN THE THERAPEUTIC MEDICATION ADDENDUM AND NOT OTHERWISE PROHIBITED BY GOVERNMENTAL REGULATIONS.**

VI0301. Upon discovery of administration of such prohibited medication, drug or substance, show management shall immediately report the matter to AQHA. Any substance, administered internally or externally, whether drugs or otherwise, or action which may interfere with the testing procedure or mask or screen the presence of a prohibited medication, drug or substance is forbidden.

VI0302. It is presumed the sample of urine, blood, saliva or other substance tested by the approved laboratory is the one taken from the horse in question, its integrity is preserved, and that all procedures of such collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory, and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate, and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the

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horse in question and correctly reflects the condition of the horse during the show in which it was entered, with the burden on the exhibitor or other Responsible Party to prove otherwise at any hearing in regard to the matter conducted by AQHA.

VI0303. If the laboratory report on the chemical analysis of urine, blood, saliva or other sample taken from the horse indicates the presence of a forbidden medication, drug or substance, this shall be taken as prima facie evidence such forbidden medication, drug or substance has been administered to the horse either internally or externally.

VI0304. The Responsible Party is eligible for disciplinary sanctions, whether or not they had actual knowledge of the presence of a prohibited medication, drug or substance, directly participated in the administration thereof, innocently miscalculated its retention time in the horse's system, or any other reason for which its presence is established.

VI0305. Presence of a prohibited medication, drug or substance in a horse participating in an AQHA-approved event shall be grounds for the Executive Committee to take the following action if it is determined that the use of said medication, drug or substance was not within the guidelines set forth in the Therapeutic Medication Addendum:

VI0305.1 disqualify the horse from all classes in which it participates at the show;

VI0305.2 bar the horse from participation in further AQHA-approved events or shows for such period as determined appropriate, and, upon request, the owner shall deliver the horse's registration certificate to AQHA to either be held during the period of the horse's suspension from participation or for purposes of AQHA to prominently notate the horse's ineligibility to participate in AQHA-approved events on the face of the registration certificate. Although ownership of such horse may, thereafter, be transferred to another party, the transfer of ownership will not dissolve or shorten the terms of a suspension/ineligibility to participate; and

VI0305.3 discipline the Responsible Party(ies) under AQHA's general disciplinary procedure or offer an administrative penalty as determined appropriate by the Executive Committee.

VI0305.4 Pending final hearing by the Executive Committee or such other appropriate hearing committee, the Executive Vice President may, by giving written notice of its action to the owner of record at his current address as shown on AQHA records, temporarily suspend such horse from further participation in an AQHA-approved event or show.

VI0320. PROHIBITED SURGICAL PROCEDURE, MECHANICAL DEVICE OR ARTIFICIAL APPLIANCE. Any surgical procedure, mechanical device or artificial appliance that could affect a horse's performance or alter its natural conformation or appearance is prohibited unless it meets one of the following exceptions:

VI0320.1 surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the horse;

VI0320.2 use of a pacemaker or prosthetic eye if the owner files a written request for permission and requests it be reviewed and considered by AQHA's Executive Committee (approval, if granted, will be noted on the horse's registration certificate);

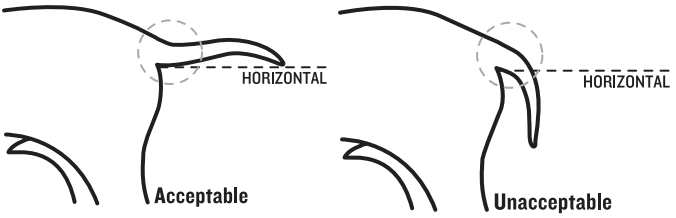
VI0320.3 tails lengthened by hair to hair attachment only with no attachments of any kind to the tailbone. The use of weighted tails is legal; or

VI0320.4 earplugs or cotton in the horse's ears.

VI0321. Upon discovery of the existence of prohibited surgery, mechanical device or artificial appliance, show management shall immediately report the matter to AQHA.

VI0322. The Responsible Party is eligible for disciplinary sanctions, whether or not they had actual knowledge of the surgical procedure, mechanical device or artificial appliance, or directly authorized the surgical procedure or administration of prohibited devices. Purchase, and subsequent exhibition of a horse with such condition in an AQHA approved show makes an individual a Responsible Party under this rule. Violation of this rule is grounds for the Executive Committee, or an appropriate committee of AQHA, to take disciplinary action according to AQHA's disciplinary procedures.

VI0330. ALTERATION OF TAIL FUNCTION. For the purpose of this rule, normal tail function is defined as "being able to raise the tail to or above the horizontal plane." See diagram below. A horse's inability to raise its tail to or above the horizontal plane in response to



a tail test conducted on-site by an AQHA-approved veterinarian shall be considered a violation of this rule. An AQHA-approved veterinarian may examine any registered American Quarter Horse for an altered tail if entered in any event held in conjunction with an AQHA-approved show, whether or not said event is approved by AQHA.

VI0330.1 The above prohibition includes application or administration of any drug, chemical, foreign substance, surgical procedure, or trauma, accidental or intentional (as to trauma, this prohibition applies to horses foaled after January 1, 1990), which results in, or could result in, alteration of normal tail function, carriage, conformation or overall appearance of the horse.

VI0331. The Responsible Party is eligible for disciplinary sanctions, whether or not they had actual knowledge of the trauma, authorized the surgical procedure or directly participated in the administration of any drug, chemical or foreign substance that altered normal tail function. Purchase and subsequent exhibition of a horse with such condition in an approved show makes an individual a Responsible Party under this rule. Violation of this rule is grounds for the Executive Committee, or an appropriate committee of AQHA, to take disciplinary actions according to AQHA's disciplinary procedures.

VI0332. If, upon examination by AQHA or show representative (after obtaining prior AQHA authorization), a horse's tail function or appearance is found to be abnormal, the horse shall be immediately reported to AQHA. Upon written notification to the owner by AQHA, the horse's participation privileges in AQHA-approved events may be temporarily suspended pending hearing.

VI0333. A horse found to have abnormal tail function or appearance may have its participation privileges reinstated if, upon examination by AQHA's approved veterinarians, the tail is found to be normal

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in both appearance and function. Unless otherwise specified herein, a minimum of one year from the time of suspension of privileges must elapse before the horse is eligible for re-examination at the owner's expense. After such examination, participation privileges of the horse will remain suspended until reconsideration by the Executive Committee or any appropriate committee of AQHA, which the owner must request in writing. The owner shall have the burden of persuasion to prove normal tail function and appearance.

VI0334. In the case of trauma to a horse's tail which does alter or could result in alteration of tail function, to shorten the stipulated one-year period prior to consideration for reinstatement provided above, the owner shall file a written report concerning the injury and its circumstance with AQHA within 30 days of the occurrence.

VI0334.1 Upon receipt of this report, at the owner's expense, AQHA may require a veterinarian examination that becomes a part of the horse's file. The veterinarian must be approved by AQHA.

VI0334.2 Within one year from the filing date by the owner of the trauma report, if the Executive Committee has, in the meantime, barred the horse from participation in AQHA-approved events, or if an owner's report has been filed, after one year from the date of Executive Committee action barring the horse, the owner may request, in writing, a re-examination of the horse and rehearing before the Executive Committee for a determination as to whether the horse's tail function, carriage, conformation and overall appearance is normal. If the Executive Committee's determination is adverse, the owner may repeat his request for reinstatement at the expiration of one year from the date of the latest hearing. The owner shall have the burden of persuasion to prove normal tail function and appearance.

VI0400. THERAPEUTIC MEDICATION ADDENDUM

VI0400.1 Does not apply if prohibited by governmental regulations.

VI0400.2 Exhibitors, owners, trainers and veterinarians are cautioned against the use of medicinal preparations, tonics, pastes and products of any kind, the ingredients and quantitative analysis of which are not specifically known, as many of them may contain a forbidden substance.

VI0400.3 A Therapeutic Medication Hotline is available by calling 1-800-633-2472.

VI0401. Forbidden drugs or substances include:

VI0401.1 Any drug or substance considered a Class I or Class II substance as defined in the most recent edition of American Racing Commissioners International Uniform Classification Guidelines for Foreign Substances.

VI0401.2 Any stimulant, depressant, tranquilizer or sedative which could affect the performance of a horse (stimulants and depressants are defined as substances that stimulate or depress the cardiovascular, respiratory or central nervous system).

VI0401.3 Any substance, regardless of how harmless or innocuous it might be, that might interfere with the detection or quantitation of any substance defined in VI0401.1 or VI0401.2.

VI0401.4 Any anabolic steroid in halter classes, VI0402 – VI0403 do not apply.

VI0401.5 Any nonsteriodal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) other than those listed in VI0405.1 – VI0405.8 below.

VI0401.6 Any metabolite and/or analog of any of the above described forbidden drugs or substances.

VI0402. Conditionally Permitted Therapeutic Medica-

tion: Any drug, medication or substance that could affect the performance of a horse that is used for the legitimate treatment of illness or injury and is not specified as a forbidden substance as defined in VI0401.1 or VI0401.5 above shall be considered a conditionally permitted therapeutic medication. However, conditionally permitted therapeutic medications are forbidden and use thereof subjects the person to disciplinary action, unless all conditions of their administration are met.

VI0403. Each of the following requirements is a condition to authorize administration of conditionally permitted therapeutic medications, which shall be verified in a written medication report, available from AQHA or show management, completed in its entirety, and filed with show management before exhibition of the horse per VI0403.3 – VI0403.10 below:

VI0403.1 Administration by a veterinarian who is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the state, province or country where the event is being held ("Licensed Veterinarian") or from a written prescription (written instructions) by a Licensed Veterinarian which documents administration of medication is necessary for the legitimate treatment of illness or injury. The administration of a conditionally permitted therapeutic medication for the purpose of transport, grooming, training, etc. is not therapeutic under this authorization rule.

VI0403.2 The horse must be withdrawn and kept out of competition for not less than 24 hours after the medication is administered.

VI0403.3 Identification of the medication: the name, amount, strength/concentration and mode of administration.

VI0403.4 Date and time of administration.

VI0403.5 Identification of the horse: name, age, sex, color and entry number.

VI0403.6 Diagnosis of illness/injury, reason for administration, and name of administering and/or prescribing AAEP veterinarian.

VI0403.7 Signature of veterinarian or person administering the medication. If by prescription (written instructions), a copy must be attached to the medication report.

VI0403.8 The medication report must be filed with show management within one hour after administration of the medication or one hour after show management is available, if administration occurs at a time other than during competition hours.

VI0403.9 The medication report must be signed by show management and time of receipt recorded on the report.

VI0403.10 While the medication report must be filed only if the administered medication will be present in amounts detectable in blood and/or urine samples at the time of competition/sampling, exhibitors are hereby cautioned it is their responsibility to determine whether or not such medication has had time to clear the horse's system. If there is any doubt, a medication report should be filed.

VI0403.11 Regardless of whether the medication report requirements described above are met, laboratory detection of concentration levels of an otherwise conditionally permitted therapeutic drug that are inconsistent with the administration of a therapeutic dosage of such drug (including, but not limited to, inconsistencies regarding reported dosage and time constraints) shall constitute presumption of a violation of this rule, and the Responsible Party has the burden of persuasion to establish that the drug was administered in a therapeutic dosage and not less than 24 hours prior to competition.

VI0403.12 Regardless of whether all of the conditionally permit-

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ted therapeutic medication requirements listed in VI0403 are met, it shall be considered a rule violation if the same plasma or urine sample contains more than one (1) of the permitted NSAIDs listed in VI0405.1 - VI0405.8

VI0404. Restrictions concerning the use of conditionally permitted therapeutic medications that may be administered within 24 hours of showing:

VI0404.1 Subject to the specified restrictions, only those thirteen (13) drugs or medications listed in VI0405.1 – VI0405.13 below may be administered within 24 hours of showing. The provisions in VI0405.1 – VI0405.13 below contain rules concerning maximum allowable plasma concentration levels followed by "Guidelines".

The Guidelines are applicable to most horses. Nevertheless, reliance upon the guidelines does not guarantee compliance with the rules, since the response of individual horses may vary. Exhibitors, owners, and trainers should consult the drug manufacturer and knowledgeable veterinarians for up-to-date information and more specific advice concerning the therapeutic use of a drug or medication for a particular horse.

The Guidelines, if heeded, will minimize the chances of positive drug tests. However, all Responsible Parties are cautioned that the guidelines are only general guidelines, and it is their responsibility to see to it that conditions prevail for full compliance with all AQHA rules. Reliance upon the Guidelines will not serve as a defense to a charge of violation of the rule in the event of a positive drug test.

Should the testing laboratory report the presence of one of the drugs or medications listed in VI0405.1 – VI0405.13 below in an amount greater than what would be consistent with the Guidelines or at a level higher than a specified maximum permitted plasma concentration, the matter will be reviewed and disciplinary action may be taken.

V0404.2 Regardless of whether all of the conditionally permitted therapeutic medication requirements for a specific NSAID listed in VI0405.1 – VI0405.8 below are met, it shall be considered a rule violation if the same plasma or urine sample contains more than one (1) of the NSAIDs listed in VI0405.1 - VI0405.8 below.

VI0405. CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED THERAPEUTIC MEDICATIONS. Only those 13 drugs or medications listed below may be administered within 24 hours of showing:

VI0405.1 Phenylbutazone (an NSAID) - The maximum permitted plasma concentration of phenylbutazone is 15.0 micrograms per milliliter.

Guidelines: When phenylbutazone is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 2.0 milligrams per pound of body weight should be administered, preferably less. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 2.0 grams, which equals two 1.0 gram tablets, or two 1.0 gram units of paste, or 10.0 cc of the injectable (200 milligrams per milliliter). Neither a total daily dose nor part of an injectable dose should be administered during the 12 hours prior to competing. In the event the phenylbutazone is administered orally, half of the maximum daily dose (1.0 gram per 1,000 lbs) can be administered each 12 hours (i.e., 12 hours apart) during a five day treatment program even if such oral administration occurs within 12 hours of competition. Phenylbutazone should not be used for more than five successive days.

VI0405.2 Diclofenac (Surpass) (an NSAID) - The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Diclofenac (Surpass) is 0.005

microgram per milliliter.

Guidelines: Every 12 hours, not more than 73 mg of diclofenac liposomal cream should be administered (not more than 146 mg per 24 hour period) to one affected site. This 73 mg dose equals a 5-inch ribbon of cream not greater than 1/2 inch in width, which should be rubbed thoroughly into the hair over the joint or affected site using gloved hands. Administration of diclofenac cream should be discontinued 12 hours prior to competing. Do not apply diclofenac cream in combination with any other topical preparations including DMSO, nitrofurazone or liniments, and do not use on an open wound. Diclofenac cream should not be administered for more than 10 successive days.

VI0405.3 Flunixin (an NSAID) - The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Flunixin is 1.0 microgram per milliliter.

Guidelines: When Flunixin Meglumine (Banamine®) is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 0.5 milligram per pound of body weight should be administered. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 500 milligrams, which equals two 250 milligram packets of granules, or one 500 milligram packet of granules, or 500 milligrams of the oral paste (available in 1,500 milligram dose syringes), or 10.0 cc of the injectable (50 milligrams per milliliter). No part of a dose should be administered during the twelve (12) hours prior to competing. Any medicated feed must be consumed and/or removed at least twelve (12) hours prior to competing. The medication should not be used for more than five successive days.

VI0405.4 Ketoprofen (an NSAID) - The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Ketoprofen is 40.0 nanograms per milliliter.

Guidelines: When Ketoprofen (Ketofen®) is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 1.0 milligram per pound of body weight should be administered. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 1.0 gram, which equals 10.0 cc of the injectable (100 milligrams per milliliter). No part of a dose should be administered during the twelve (12) hours prior to competing. The medication should not be used for more than five successive days.

VI0405.5 Meclofenamic Acid (an NSAID) - The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Meclofenamic Acid (Arquel®) is 2.5 micrograms per milliliter.

Guidelines: When Meclofenamic Acid is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 12 hours, not more than 0.5 milligram per pound of body weight should be administered, preferably less. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum 12 hour dose is 0.5 gram, which equals one 500 milligram packet of granules. The medication should not be used for more than five successive days.

VI0405.6 Naproxen (an NSAID) - The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Naproxen is 40.0 micrograms per milliliter.

Guidelines: When Naproxen is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 4.0 milligrams per pound of body weight should be administered. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 4.0 grams, which equals eight 500 milligram tablets. No part of a dose should be administered during the twelve (12) hours prior to competing. Any medicated feed should be consumed and/or removed

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at least twelve (12) hours prior to competing. The medication should not be used for more than five successive days.

VI0405.7 Firocoxib (Equioxx) (an NSAID) - The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Firocoxib (Equioxx) is 0.240 microgram per milliliter.

Guidelines: When Firocoxib (Equioxx) is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily does is 45.5 milligrams, which equals 0.1 milligram per kilogram of body weight once daily. No part of a dose should be administered during the 12 hours prior to competition. Firocoxib (Equioxx) should not be administered for more than 14 successive days.

VI0405.8 Eltenac (an NSAID) - (PENDING FDA APPROVAL – SEE BELOW) The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Eltenac is 0.1 microgram per milliliter.

Guidelines: When Eltenac is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 0.25 milligram per pound of body weight should be administered, preferably less. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 250 milligrams, which equals 5.0 cc of the injectable (50 milligrams per milliliter). No part of a dose should be administered during the 12 hours prior to competing. Eltenac should not be administered for more than five successive days. Eltenac has been approved for use pending FDA approval. This medication may not be used until AQHA notified members and exhibitors of the FDA approval. Please watch for statements in AQHA publications and on AQHA's web site at aqha.com under the Showing section.

VI0405.9 Acetazolamide – This medication may only be administered to horses documented through DNA testing to be positive (N/H or H/H) for HYPP (Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis). While these rules do not contain a maximum allowable plasma concentration level for Acetazolamide, laboratory detection of levels of Acetazolamide that are not consistent with administration in accordance with the following guidelines may result in prosecution of a rule violation.

Guidelines: When Acetazolamide is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 3 milligrams per pound of body weight should be administered. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 3 grams.

VI0405.10 Furosemide or Lasix® - When used must be administered intravenously at least four hours prior to competition.

VI0405.11 Isoxsuprine - **Guidelines:** When administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 1.6 milligrams per pound of body weight should be administered (usually divided in two equal doses given 12 hours apart). For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 1,600 milligrams, which equals 80 20-milligram tablets. No part of a dose should be administered during the four hours prior to competing. Any medicated feed should be consumed and/or removed at least four hours prior to competing.

VI0405.12 Lidocaine/Mepivicaine - This medication may only be used under actual observation of event management (or designated representative) and/or the official show veterinarian, either of which must sign the medication report form, to aid in the surgical repair of minor skin lacerations which, by their very nature, would not prevent the horse from competing following surgery. Medication report form

must be filed with show management as required in V10103 above.

V10405.13 Dexamethasone - The maximum permitted plasma concentration is 3.0 nanograms per milliliter at the time of competition.

Guidelines: In order to help trainers, owners and their veterinarians achieve compliance with this rule in connection with the therapeutic use of dexamethasone, it should be administered in accordance with the guidelines below. These guidelines include several alternative scenarios for dose time and route of administration. Whenever dexamethasone is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Alternative Number 1. (2.0 mg or less per 100 pounds IV or IM at 12 or more hours before competition). Each 24 hours, not more than 2.0 milligrams of dexamethasone injectable solution per 100 pounds of body weight should be administered intravenously or intramuscularly, preferably less. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily intravenous or intramuscular dose of dexamethasone injectable solution is 20.0 milligrams, which equals 5.0 milliliters of the injectable solution (4.0 milligrams per milliliter). No part of this dose should be administered during the 12 hours prior to competing. Dexamethasone should not be administered for more than five successive days. Alternative Number 2. (0.5 mg or less per 100 pounds IV at 6 or more hours before competition). Each 24 hours, not more than 0.5 milligram of dexamethasone injectable solution per 100 pounds of body weight should be administered intravenously, preferably less. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily intravenous dose of dexamethasone injectable solution is 5.0 milligrams, which equals 1.25 milliliters of the injectable solution (4.0 milligrams per milliliter). No part of this dose should be administered during the six hours prior to competing. Dexamethasone should not be administered for more than five successive days. Alternative Number 3. (1.0 mg or less per 100 pounds orally at 6 or more hours before competition). Each 24 hours, not more than 1.0 milligram of dexamethasone powder per 100 pounds of body weight should be administered orally, preferably less. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily oral dose of dexamethasone powder is 10.0 milligrams, which equals one packet of dexamethasone powder (10.0 milligrams per packet). No part of this dose should be administered during the 6 hours prior to competing. Any medicated feed should be either consumed or removed at least six (6) hours prior to competing. Dexamethasone should not be administered for more than five successive days.

V10406. Administration of these conditionally permitted therapeutic medications does not require that the horse be withdrawn and kept out of competition for a period not less than 24 hours after the medication is administered, nor is there a requirement that a medication report be filed with show management, except when Lidocaine/Mepivicaine is used per V10405.12 above.

V10500. SUSPENSION: Any member may be suspended and denied AQHA privileges and any nonmember may be denied AQHA privileges by AQHA's Executive Vice President for:

V10500.1 failure to pay when due any obligation owing to AQHA, including, but not limited to, obligation(s) owed to *The American Quarter Horse Journal* and *America's Horse;*

V10500.2 failure to pay when due any obligation owing to an AQHA-approved affiliate; or an AQHA-approved show; or

V10500.3 giving a worthless check for entry fees, stall fees, office charges, stock charges or any other fees or charges including bank charges for returned check connected with the exhibition of horses.

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VI0501. Prior to a suspension or denial of privileges, AQHA will provide written notification to the member or nonmember of their outstanding obligation per VI0500.2-3. Unless within 31 days after date of such notice, the member or nonmember disputes the validity of the obligation or any portion thereof, AQHA will assume the obligation to be valid and may proceed with a suspension or denial of AQHA privileges. If, within 31 days of date of such notice, a member or nonmember notifies AQHA in writing that the obligation or a portion thereof is disputed, AQHA will obtain a verification of the obligation, and AQHA will mail to the member or nonmember a copy of such verification. If the member or nonmember does not fully pay the obligation within 15 days of date of such verification of the obligation, AQHA will assume the obligation to be valid and may proceed with a suspension or denial of AQHA privileges.

VI0502. Upon suspension and/or denial of privileges by the Executive Vice President, the name, address, city and state of such member or nonmember and description of disciplinary action may be published in *The American Quarter Horse Journal* or on AQHA's official web site, aqha.com." Any suspension and/or denial of AQHA privileges under this section shall terminate upon full payment of the obligation due.

VI0505. DISCIPLINARY AND APPEAL PROCEDURE. Executive Committee Jurisdiction: The Executive Committee is the forum within AQHA that, initially or ultimately, hears or reviews evidence of alleged violation of rules and regulations by members or nonmembers, decides all matters pertaining to registration of horses, and hears appeals from other committee action. A member may be disciplined, suspended, fined and/or expelled from AQHA and any nonmember may be denied any or all AQHA privileges. Registration certificates may be altered or cancelled and registration applications denied. Proof necessary to establish a rule violation or registration ineligibility is that quantum of proof that would lead a reasonable person to believe the matter alleged in the notice of hearing is established by the credible evidence admitted before the Executive Committee. A majority vote of the Executive Committee shall determine guilt, and its decision and action shall be final and binding on all parties.

VI0510. EXTENT OF SANCTION: In regard to any violation of AQHA rules and regulations, the Executive Committee shall have jurisdiction to invoke sanction, including revocation or denial of membership privileges, revocation of participation privileges in all AQHA-approved events for a definite or indefinite period, denial of privilege of access or presence on show grounds of an AQHA-approved show, and in addition, assessment of fine not to exceed $10,000. Executive Committee sanction may include denial of privilege to advertise in AQHA's official publications.

VI0515. ADMISSIBILITY OF EVIDENCE AND SUFFICENCY OF PROOF: Proceedings before the Executive Committee shall be informal, and rules of evidence, both at common law or provided by Texas rules of civil or criminal evidence, need not be strictly observed. The standard by which admissibility is determined is whether the evidence is such that an ordinarily prudent person is willing to rely upon it. As an AQHA member, the owner or lessee of an American Quarter Horse, or participant at an AQHA-approved event, and a person appearing before the Executive Committee, a standing committee or any subcommittee, agrees that all witnesses and participants in such hearing shall be immune from any civil liability whatsoever, including, but not limited to, libel, slander, invasion of privacy, defamation or product disparagement, for testimony given in the

course of the preparation for or at the hearing.

V10520. ABSOLUTE RESPONSIBILITY: AQHA rules pertaining to prohibition of drugs or surgical alteration provide for absolute responsibility for a horse's condition by an exhibitor, trainer, or Absolutely Responsible person or Responsible Party as affirmed by AQHA rules, whether or not such person was actually instrumental in, or had actual knowledge of, the administration of such drug or surgery, thereby making such person eligible for possible disciplinary action upon proof of the presence of such drug by laboratory analysis or existence of surgical alteration. This rule of procedure for disciplinary action pertains to drug or surgical alteration cases in regard to notice, hearing and effect of suspensions or other sanctions, but burden of proof and presumptions as contained in said drug or surgical alteration rules specifically govern such cases.

V10521. An owner or lessee of a registered American Quarter Horse may be held responsible for the actions of all third parties in whose care the owner or lessee places his/her horse, including, but not limited to, trainers, agents, representatives, exhibitors and employees. When such third party is convicted of a violation of AQHA rules involving an owner or lessee's horse, or if an owner or lessee acquires personal knowledge of such rule violation by the third party, the owner or lessee is responsible to take such prompt and reasonable action as to protect his/her horse. An owner or lessee may be disciplined in accordance with the rules contained herein, including the enhancement of penalty rule, for failure to take such prompt and reasonable action.

V10600. NOTICE OF HEARING: Anyone accused of any violation shall be given not less than 15 days notice of a time and place for hearing such accusation by the Executive Committee at which hearing he shall have the opportunity, in person and by counsel, to present evidence in his own behalf and to hear and refute evidence against him. Such notice is deemed received when delivered according to AQHA's general notice procedure.

V10610. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION: Pending final hearing by the Executive Committee, the Executive Vice President may, by giving written notice of his action:

V10610.1 temporarily suspend such member, the effect of which shall be to deny him further AQHA privileges until the Executive Committee can hear the matter and take the appropriate disciplinary action; and

V10610.2 temporarily suspend the registration of the horse in question, and upon AQHA request, the owner or lessee shall return the registration certificate to the Executive Vice President, pending final determination of its validity, the effect of which shall be to suspend participation privileges in AQHA-approved events.

V10620. PUBLICATION: When a member is disciplined, suspended or expelled, or a nonmember is denied membership privileges, or when a member or nonmember is temporarily suspended by the Executive Vice President pending hearing, the name and address (city and state) of such member or nonmember and description of the disciplinary action may be published in *The American Quarter Horse Journal* or on AQHA's official website, aqha.com. A current list of suspended or disciplined persons shall be maintained at AQHA's office, with the responsibility of each member, horse owner or those involved in transactions concerning American Quarter Horses, to contact AQHA for information regarding the membership status of a particular individual or legal entity.

V10630. CERTIFICATE CANCELLATION: Upon determina-

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tion that a horse is either ineligible for registration or eligible only upon fulfillment of certain conditions, the registration certificate shall be cancelled or amended upon fulfillment of those conditions. If cancelled, the horse shall not participate in AQHA-approved events. If registration is conditional, the horse shall not participate in AQHA-approved events until those conditions are fulfilled and the registration certificate is reinstated.

VI0640. ENHANCEMENT OF PENALTY: The Executive Committee may enhance suspension, penalty and/or fine of repeat offenders of AQHA rules and regulations and include owners or lessees who have repeatedly placed the care or custody of their horses with such repeat offenders, according to guidelines that it may, from time to time, set to a maximum of indefinite suspension of membership privileges and/or fine to a maximum of $5,000. Such disciplinary actions are enhancements of those disciplinary actions listed in VI0510.

VI0641. An owner or lessee of a registered American Quarter Horse is responsible for the actions of all third parties in whose care the owner or lessee places his horse, including, but not limited to, trainer or exhibitor. When such third party is convicted of a violation of AQHA rules involving owner's or lessee's horse, or if an owner or lessee acquires personal knowledge of such rule violation by the third party, the owner or lessee is responsible to take such prompt and reasonable action as to protect his horse and AQHA from repeat offenses. Failure by the owner or lessee to take such action, or repeat offenses by such third parties involving the owner's or lessee's horse or horses, constitutes the owner or lessee eligible for inclusion in enhancement of penalty under AQHA disciplinary rules.

VI0650. EFFECT OF MEMBERSHIP SUSPENSION: On or after such time as any person has been suspended, expelled or denied AQHA privileges, in addition to other provisions of the AQHA Official Handbook or policy of AQHA, the following restrictions set forth below shall apply. For purposes of this subsection, the term "Family" shall mean the person that has been suspended, expelled or denied AQHA privileges, that person's spouse and that person's child.

VI0650.1 That person shall not participate, and shall be ineligible to participate, in any AQHA-approved event. Such person shall be ineligible to hold approved judges credentials or any other AQHA accreditation.

VI0650.2 No horse that is recorded in the name of such person is eligible to participate in any AQHA-approved event such as shows or races. No horse that is recorded in the name of such person's Family is eligible to participate in such AQHA-approved events unless waived by the AQHA Executive Committee.

VI0650.2.1 UNREGISTERED HORSES: In the case of the sale by a suspended person to an innocent third party purchaser not the owner at time of foaling, when accompanied by written transfer from the suspended owner to the registration applicant; or

VI0650.2.2 REGISTERED HORSES: In the case of the sale by a suspended person, ownership which has not been recorded in the suspended person's name, to record ownership into the suspended person and transfer to the innocent third party purchaser.

VI0650.3 That person, that person's Family or entity owned in whole or part by that person's Family shall not register any horse with AQHA. Transfers to that person, that person's Family or entity owned in whole or part by that person's Family shall not be pro-

cessed. To prevent hardship on innocent third parties, AQHA has discretion to waive procedural requirements if all other registration or transfer requirements of AQHA are fulfilled.

VI0650.4 Signatures will be honored on registration applications, transfer reports and bills of sale for the purpose of allowing that person, that person's Family, or entity owned in whole or part by that person's Family to transfer horses recorded in their ownership at the time of the disciplinary action to innocent third parties.

VI0650.5 No horse shall be registered that is either sired by a horse or out of a mare owned by such suspended person or their Family if such person is under suspension at time of breeding.

VI0650.6 AQHA shall not accept the signature of such person, such person's Family member or entity owned in whole or part by that person's Family on registration applications, breeder's certificates or stallion breeding reports evidencing breeding taking place on or after date of such disciplinary action.

VI0650.7 Written leases filed with AQHA prior to the time of disciplinary action and covering horses owned by the disciplined person or their Family shall remain valid, and the signature of the lessee shall be accepted during the term of such lease, but for no renewal thereof.

VI0651. During the period of expulsion, suspension or denial of AQHA privileges, failure to comply with these restrictions and any other express conditions or restrictions of said disciplinary action may constitute grounds for further disciplinary action.

VI0655. EFFECT OF SUSPENSION ON PRIVILEGES IN AQHA-APPROVED EVENTS: On or after such time as any person has been denied participation privileges in AQHA-approved events, but his membership privileges are not affected, the following restrictions shall apply:

VI0655.1 That person shall not be eligible to participate in any AQHA-approved event;

VI0655.2 Horses that are recorded in the name of such person, or owned in whole or in part by such person, are not eligible to participate in any AQHA-approved event;

VI0655.3 That person shall not be eligible to hold approved judges credentials or any other AQHA accreditation.

VI0656. During the period of denial of AQHA privileges, failure to comply with these restrictions and any other express conditions or restrictions of said disciplinary action may constitute grounds for further disciplinary action.

VI0657. If denial or revocation of show privileges includes denial of access or presence on show grounds, the person shall refrain from entry or presence on show grounds of any AQHA-approved show grounds during the term of his or her suspension. **Failure to comply with such restriction may result in (1) further disciplinary action against such person and (2) disqualification of exhibitors and horses that such person helped prepare for the show or assisted at the show.**

VI0658. Every person who is suspended or otherwise disciplined by one of the below specified associations may be suspended or disciplined by AQHA, upon official notice to AQHA by the disciplining association, for the following offenses:

VI0658.1 unsportsmanlike conduct at a show or contest;

VI0658.2 inhumane treatment of horses; or

VI0658.3 prohibited surgical procedure or injection or administration of foreign substances or drugs that could affect a horse's performance or alter its natural conformation or appearance.

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VI0700. The following associations for which reciprocity shall be given and which have enacted and have effected the same rules, are:

American Paint Horse Association
Barrel Futurities of America
Federation Equestre International
International Buckskin Horse Association
National Cutting Horse Association
National Reined Cow Horse Association
National Reining Horse Association
National Snaffle Bit Association
Palomino Horse Breeders of America
United States Team Penning Association
United States Equestrian Federation
World Conformation Horse Association