

REINING

“To rein a horse is not only to guide him, but also to control his every movement. The best reined horse should be willingly guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance and dictated to completely. Any movement on his own must be considered a lack of control. All deviations from the exact written pattern must be considered a lack of or temporary loss of control and therefore a fault that must be marked down according to severity of deviation. After deducting all faults, set here within, against execution of the pattern and the horse’s overall performance, credit should be given for smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness and authority of performing various maneuvers, while using controlled speed which raises the difficulty level and makes him more exciting and pleasing to watch to an audience”

---NRHA Rulebook

MRHA MISSION STATEMENT

The Montana Reining Horse Association (MRHA) is a non-profit organization that was formed in 1988. The Association intends: (1) to encourage the showing of reining horses in Montana, (2) to encourage the participation of riders at all levels of skills and experience at reining horse shows, (3) to encourage cooperation and collegiality among all reiners within the state, (4) to sponsor and promote reining horse shows at a variety of locations within the state, and (5) to encourage sportsman-like conduct at all reining horse events in Montana.

This booklet contains By-Laws and Show Rules for the members of the Montana Reining Horse Association and the Montana Reining Horse Youth Association. Please contact a Director or Officer for more information.

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BY-LAWS OF MONTANA REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION (MRHA)

ARTICLE I. TITLE, OBJECTIVES, LOCATION

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Montana Reining Horse Association (MRHA), and shall at all times be operated as a non-profit corporation in accordance with the laws of the State of Montana.

Section 2. The objectives of the MRHA are to promote and encourage the showing of reining horses; the development of suitable and proper standards of performance and judging intended to govern all Reining Horse Contests sponsored and approved by the National Reining Horses Association; and to develop and disseminate informational material deemed desirable to provide contestants and spectators a better understanding of a proper performance of the Reining Horse in the show arena.

Section 3. The principal office of The Association in the State of Montana shall be located in the City of Bozeman, County of Gallatin. The Association may have such other offices either within or without the State of Montana as the Board of Directors may designate or as the business of the Association may require from time to time.

Section 4. Upon the Dissolution of the Association, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the Association, dispose of all the assets of the Association exclusively for the purposes of the Association in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501c(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, as the Board shall determine.

ARTICLE II. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. There shall be a Board of Directors comprised of four (4) officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer), immediate past President, President of the MRHYA, and six (6) other board members.

Section 2. Board of Directors shall have general charge of the affairs, finances and property of the Association, to which they shall report at the annual meeting.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall be empowered to fill vacancies occurring in said Board. Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining Directors of the Board. A Director elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of his predecessor in office.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings at such time and place as they shall determine. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the President. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board of Directors may fix any place, either within or outside of the State of Montana, as the place for holding any special meeting of the Board of Directors called by them. Notice of any special meeting shall be given at least two (2) days previously thereto by written notice delivered personally, mailed, or e-mailed to each Director at his business address. Such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when it is placed in the U.S. Mail, if mailed. Any Director may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a Director at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a Director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of, any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting. A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) members thereof, and a majority of such quorum, shall decide upon any question that may come before the meeting.

Section 5. Any Director who misses more than two (2) unexcused meetings per year may be replaced by majority vote of the Directors.

Section 6. By resolution of the Board of Directors, the Directors may be paid their expenses, if any, of attendance at each meeting of the Board of Directors, and may be paid a fixed sum for attendance at each

meeting of the Board of Directors or a stated salary as Director. No such payment shall preclude any Director from serving the Association in any capacity and receiving compensation therefore.

ARTICLE III. ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominations for the directors due for election will be submitted by a committee appointed by the President from members of the Board of Directors. The nomination committee will submit to the President not less than ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting a list of persons able and willing to stand for the offices due for election.

Section 2. At the written request of ~~ten (10)~~ **two (2)** members, the name of any other candidate shall be placed in nomination and notice shall be immediately given to the membership, provided said written request is placed in the hands of the Secretary not less than ~~ninety (90)~~ **forty-five (45)** days before the annual election.

Section 3. The election of directors shall be by closed ballot at the Annual meeting.

Section 4. Each member in good standing as of December 31 of the year preceding the election (i.e. December 31, 2008 for 2009 election) shall be entitled to one (1) vote. Family memberships shall be entitled to two (2) votes. Absentee ballots bearing the signature of the member ~~in good standing~~ will be accepted provided they are received by the Association Secretary not less than ~~fifteen (15)~~ **five (5)** days prior to the annual meeting. ~~With the exception of the above, at the annual meeting from members in good standing, who are in attendance at the annual meeting, will be accepted.~~ Only ballots received prior to the start of the annual meeting, either by absentee ballot or by members in attendance at the annual meeting, will be accepted for the election. No additional ballots will be accepted once the annual meeting commences. There will be no proxy voting in the Association. In the case of a tie vote for any director position, a second vote will be taken based on the members in attendance at the annual meeting.

Section 5. In order that all directors are not elected in any one year, terms of the directors shall be staggered as follows: five (5) directors shall be elected on even numbered years, and five (5) directors [four (4) officers and one (1) director] shall be elected on odd numbered years. No one director shall be on the Board for more than five (5) consecutive terms, or serve more than three (3) terms in the same position/office.

Section 6. Persons elected as a director will hold office for a term of two (2) years, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

ARTICLE IV. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall: a) preside at all meetings of the Association; b) appoint all special and standing committees and conduct the business of the Association in accordance with the By-Laws, rules and regulations; c) be an ex officio member of all committees; and d) serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors and manage the affairs of the Association.

The President may sign, with the Secretary or any other proper officer of the Association thereunto authorized by the Board of Directors, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments which the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors or by these By-Laws to some other officer or agent of the Association or shall be required by law to be otherwise signed or executed; and in general shall perform all duties incident to the office of President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to perform all the duties of the President, in case of the President's absence or disability.

Section 3. The Secretary shall: a) keep the minutes of the proceedings of the members and the Board of Directors in one or more books provided for that purpose; b) see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these By-Laws or as required by law; c) be custodian of the corporate records and the seal of the corporation and see that the seal of the corporation is affixed to all documents, the execution of

which is duly authorized on behalf of the corporation under its seal; d) keep a register of the post office's address of each member, which address shall be furnished to the Secretary by such member; e) attend to all correspondence and present to the Board of Directors at its meetings all communications received; and f) in general, perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall: a) have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the corporation; b) receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to the corporation from any source whatsoever and deposit all such monies in the name of the corporation in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of Article V of these By-Laws; c) keep accurate books of account of the corporation's business and transactions, which shall be subject to an annual audit by a committee chosen by the President; d) render a report of the condition of the finances of the corporation at each regular Board of Directors meeting and at such other times as required of him and shall make a full financial report at the annual membership meeting; and e) in general, perform all of the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors. If required by the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall give a bond for the faithful discharge of duties in the sum and with such surety or sureties as the Board of Directors may determine.

Section 5. The Officers shall be charged with the daily operational responsibilities of the Association, including, but not limited to, decisions necessary for continuity and those requiring immediate attention. All other matters of concern shall be brought before the Board of Directors at a regular meeting. The officers shall not involve the Association in long-term contractual agreements. On the agreement of not less than three (3) officers, single expenditures of not more than \$175.00 can be made without prior consent of the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Any officer elected by the membership may be removed by the Board of Directors whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Association would be served thereby, but such removal shall be without prejudice to the contract rights, if any, of the person so removed.

Section 7. A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise, may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 8. Should any issue come before the MRHA Board of Directors that might create a financial conflict for a Board member, i.e. a particular decision on the issue would result in financial gain for the member, then the member must: (1) declare to the Board that then potential conflict of interest exists; (2) excuse himself/herself from the discussion on the issue; (3) not vote on the issue; and (4) not attempt to influence the vote of other Board members on this issue.

ARTICLE V. CONTRACTS, LOANS, CHECKS & DEPOSITS

Section 1. The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Association and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 2. No loans shall be contracted on behalf of the Association and no evidences of indebtedness shall be issued in its name unless authorized by a resolution of the Board of Directors. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 3. All checks, drafts or other order for the payment of money, notes, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the Association shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of the Association and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. All funds of the Association not otherwise employed shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Association in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 1. The Annual meeting of the Association shall be at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. Notice will be given to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting together with a form of absentee ballot for the election of officers and Bylaw amendments.

Section 2. Special meetings of the members may be called by the Board of Directors to be held at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. Notice will be given in MRHA's publication or through special mailing to each member at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

Section 3. At any meeting of the members held in accordance with the foregoing provisions as to notice, the members attending such meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. An individual of good character and reputation interested in Reining Horses may become a member of this Association.

Section 2. Members shall be admitted and retained in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Montana Reining Horse Association.

Section 3. Each member shall pay annual membership dues as set by the Board of Directors. Said dues are payable at the commencement of this Association's fiscal year which runs January 1 through December 31. Each membership shall be entitled to one vote. The types of membership shall be:

- A. Individual - a single person.
- B. Family - Husband, wife and their children who are 18 years old or younger as of January 1 of the year in which the membership is purchased.
- C. Life - is a single membership that is available for ten times the annual individual dues in effect at the time the Life membership is purchased.
- D. Owners - is for partnership, corporate or other form of joint horse ownership (as listed on registration papers) where the owner(s) are not eligible for or do not hold another type membership. If any of the persons involved in the joint ownership wish to, compete, they must have an Individual, Family or Life membership.

Section 4. All money paid to MRHA will be required in U.S. funds.

ARTICLE VIII. AFFILIATE ASSOCIATION

This corporation is an affiliate association of the National Reining Horse Association in accordance with Article XII of the NRHA. As such, it will comply with all NRHA rules and regulations.

ARTICLE IX. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

Any member may be disciplined, fined, or suspended from the Association and any member or non-member may be denied all privileges of the Association by the Board of Directors whenever it shall have been established by satisfactory evidence in a hearing conducted by the Board of Directors that such member or non-member has knowingly, willfully, or through gross negligence violated any rules of the Association. Anyone who becomes a member of the Association accepts to be bound by all the rules of the Association and rules of the NRHA and renounces to any recourse which he may have against the Association so long as the latter acts in good faith and in compliance with the rules of the Association

- A. Whenever anyone shall be accused of any violation, he shall be given not less than thirty (30) days written notice of a time and place for hearing such accusation by the Board of Directors or by an appropriate committee, at which time and place he shall have the opportunity, in person or by counsel, to be heard and to present evidence in his own behalf and to hear and refute evidence offered against him.

- B. When a member is disciplined or suspended, or a non-member is denied membership privileges, the name of such member or non-member will be published in the Association publication and its Minutes.
- C. The Show Management or official Judge of any show event shall have the authority to require a member to leave or withdraw from that show for any reason or misconduct, unprofessional conduct or disrespect to the Show Committee or a Judge. In the event that a member of MRHA is asked by the Show Management to leave or withdraw from that show for any reason of misconduct, the Board of Directors shall review the case and all the facts involved and render a decision pertaining to same. This hearing of the Board of Directors must be held within forty-five (45) days from the date the notice is received by the MRHA office provided further that the member involved is given at least thirty (30) days written notice of the time and place of the meeting in order to be heard as hereinbefore provided concerning the misconduct. The member shall be notified of the Board of Directors' decision immediately thereafter.
- D. Any Suspended Member of the MRHA will not be allowed to participate in an MRHA approved reining horse event as an owner of a horse, a rider, or act as agent; and in the event such Suspended Member enters an approved show during the period of his suspension either as owner, rider, or agent; an additional six (6) months will be added to his suspension, and all show winnings will be forfeited.
- E. The decision and action of the Board of Directors shall be final and binding on all parties. Any member may be suspended and denied privileges of the Association and any non-member, approved show or official thereof may be denied privileges of the Association by the Secretary or Treasurer of the Association for the failure to pay when due, any obligation owed to the Association or any MRHA approved show or for giving a worthless check for entry fees, stall fees, office charges, premiums or any other fees or charges connected with the exhibition of reining horses, provided however, that fifteen (15) days before action by the Secretary or Treasurer, written notice of the account due and the intention to suspend or withhold privileges of the Association shall be delivered to such member or non-member any suspension and denial of privileges under this section shall terminate upon full payment of the obligation due the Association. Every notice required by these rules and regulations may be served by delivering a copy of the notice to the person to be served, or his attorney, either in person or by mail, postage prepaid, to his last known address as it appears on the Association's records and upon mailing, such notice shall be deemed received by such person when it is deposited in the United States mail.
- F. There is a \$25.00 charge for all returned checks.
- G. Unsportsmanlike conduct either toward Judges, Show Management or other exhibitors will not be tolerated. Violations will be brought before the Board of Directors for possible disciplinary action or suspension.

ARTICLE X. CONDUCT AND PROTESTS

Any complaint or protest must be in writing and filed with the MRHA Secretary. Upon receipt all complaints or protests will be referred to the MRHA Board for investigation and recommendation. If in the Board's judgments, the matter is sufficiently serious to warrant a full hearing before the Board, appropriate notice will be given to all parties involved. If in the Board's judgment it is not sufficiently serious to warrant a full hearing hereon, it will report the same with a recommendation for appropriate action. Any complaint or protest must be accompanied by a cashier's check, certified check, money order or cash in the amount of \$100 and must be in writing and filed with MRHA within ten (10) days of the incident. If the protest is disallowed, the protest fee will not be refunded. If the protest is allowed, the protest fee may be refunded at the Board's discretion. The person filing the protest will be liable for the costs of such protest and all damages which may result there from, if the protest is not sustained. In the event the board does not uphold the complaint, the exhibitor will be responsible for any cost incurred.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

Amendment to the By-Laws must be presented to the Secretary at least ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting and written notice of the proposed amendments will be given in our publication or by a special mailing

to the membership at least thirty (30) days before the annual meeting. These amendments will be considered and voted on at the annual meeting, and must be passed by a majority of the members voting in person and by absentee ballot.

ARTICLE XII. CORPORATION SEAL

The Board of Directors shall provide a corporate seal which shall be circular in form and shall have inscribed thereon the name of the corporation, the state of incorporation and the words "corporate seal."

ARTICLE XIII. WAIVER OF NOTICE

Whenever any notice is required to be given to any Shareholder or Director of the corporation under the provisions of the Montana Non-Profit Corporation Act or under the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation or By-Laws of the corporation, a waiver thereof in writing, signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

ARTICLE XIV. ELIMINATION OF PERSONAL LIABILITY

The personal liability of each Director or Officer, whether or not then in office shall be eliminated pursuant to the appropriate section of Montana Code Annotated, except:

- A. for a breach of a Director's duty of loyalty to a corporation or its shareholders;
- B. for acts or omissions that constitute willful misconduct, recklessness, or a knowing violation of law; or
- C. for a transaction from which a Director derives an improper personal benefit.

BY-LAWS OF THE MONTANA REINING HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION (MRHYA)

ARTICLE I. MISSION STATEMENT

To enhance the future of reining by encouraging and uniting the youth; and to provide a character and leadership building program that will enable the youth to become the future leaders of the reining horse industry.

ARTICLE II. TITLE AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1. The organization shall be called the Montana Reining Horse Youth Association (MRHYA) and will serve as a division of the Montana Reining Horse Association. The MRHYA shall operate within the NRHA and MRHA By-Laws, Show Rules and regulations.

Section 2. The objectives and purposes of the MRHYA shall be:

1. To improve and promote the sport of reining;
2. To improve and develop youth members, both individually, through group participation, and in the competition of reining horses;
3. To develop and improve youth leadership skills, scholarship opportunities, and participation in the sport of reining;
4. To establish a means whereby youth members may work in conjunction with the MRHYA Advisor and the MRHA Board of Directors; and
5. To acquaint youth members with the structures and functions of the parent organization, the MRHA, as well as the NRHA.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any youth 18 years of age or younger as of January 1 who is a member of the Montana Reining Horse Association is automatically a member of the MRHYA.

Section 2. Any MRHYA member in good standing is eligible to vote in MRHYA elections.

Section 3. The annual meeting shall take place at the MRHA annual meeting.

ARTICLE IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The officers of the organization shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be elected at the annual meeting from those nominated by the MRHYA members. The term of office will be one year.

In case of a vacancy in the MRHYA Executive Committee, the President shall appoint a successor to fill the unexpired term of the vacant position.

Section 2. The MRHYA Advisor is recommended by the MRHYA Executive Committee and approved by the MRHA Board of Directors. If no Advisor is recommended by the MRHYA, one will be appointed by the MRHA Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section 1. The president shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the MRHYA and shall have general supervision of the affairs of the MRHYA subject to the direction the Advisor and the MRHA Board of Directors, and shall preside at all meetings of the general membership and of the MRHYA Executive Committee. The president shall have other duties and authority as may be directed by the Advisor or the MRHA Board of Directors.

Section 2. The Vice President shall perform the duties and activities of the President in his or her absence. The Vice-President may also be appointed duties by the MRHYA or the Advisor as necessary to insure the effective, efficient operation of the group.

Section 3. The Secretary shall record all proceedings of the MRHYA Executive Committee. The Secretary shall perform like duties for all committees when requested to do so. The Secretary shall have the principal responsibility to give notice of all meetings of the MRHYA Executive Committee and the general membership.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall be responsible for examining the financial needs of the projects and the financial needs of the MRHYA and reporting these costs to the Youth Executive Committee. It shall also be the responsibility of the Treasurer to have a true and accurate account of money raised for youth projects and to report that to the Executive Committee, the Advisor and the MRHA Board of Directors.

Section 5. The MRHYA Executive Committee shall have the power and authority to direct the MRHYA concerning the conduct, management, and activities of the MRHYA. The suspension or expulsion of members, removal of officers, expenditure of money, and other details relating to the general operation of the MRHYA shall be subject to the approval of the MRHA Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI. OPERATION OF THE MRHYA

Section 1. The MRHYA shall be managed by the MRHYA Executive Committee with the advice and consent of the Advisor and the MRHA Board of Directors.

Section 2. In addition to the annual meeting, special meetings of the MRHYA Executive Committee may be scheduled by the President or by a majority of the MRHYA Executive Committee, or the MRHA Board of Directors.

Section 3. At least three (3) members and the MRHYA Advisor need to be present to conduct business of the MRHYA.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the By-Laws must be presented to the MRHYA President by the MRHYA Executive Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting for approval, and written notice of the proposed amendments must be sent to the membership of the MRHYA at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. These amendments will be considered and voted on at the annual meeting and must be passed by the majority of the members voting in person or by absentee ballot.

SHOW RULES AND INFORMATION

ALL RIDERS AND OWNERS OF HORSES SHOWING IN NRHA OR MRHA APPROVED COMPETITION MUST BE MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING. Every member is issued a membership card and the card, or a copy thereof, must be used in all official communication with NRHA and/or MRHA as well as when entering NRHA and/or MRHA classes.

- Individual membership dues \$ 30
- Family membership dues \$ 40
- Owner membership dues \$ 30
- Life membership dues \$300

NOTE: Membership descriptions are in Section VII of the By-Laws.

COMPETITION LICENSING

Not required for MRHA classes, but necessary if class is NRHA approved. Refer to NRHA handbook.

CLASSES

The following classes are required of shows that are MRHA approved, and MRHA Year-End Awards are given in each:

NRHA Open	NRHA Non Pro
NRHA Intermediate Open	NRHA Intermediate NP
NRHA Limited Open	NRHA Limited NP
NRHA Novice Horse Open	NRHA Rookie
NRHA Novice Horse Lvl 1	NRHA Rookie Level 1
NRHA Novice Horse Lvl 2	NRHA Rookie Level 2
NRHA Novice Horse NP	Two Handed Rookie
NRHA Novice Horse NP Level 1	NRHA Novice Horse NP Level 2
NRHA Youth 14 – 18	NRHA Rookie Pro
NRHA Youth 13 & Under	NRHA Prime Time NP
NRHA Prime Time Rookie	Two Handed Youth 13 & Under
Two Handed Youth 14 - 18	

C. MRHA YEAR-END AWARDS

NRHA Open	NRHA Non Pro
NRHA Intermediate Open	NRHA Intermediate NP
NRHA Limited Open	NRHA Limited NP
NRHA Novice Horse Open	NRHA Rookie
NRHA Novice Horse Lvl 1	NRHA Rookie Level 1
NRHA Novice Horse Lvl 2	NRHA Rookie Level 2
NRHA Novice Horse NP	Two Handed Rookie
NRHA Novice Horse NP Level 1	NRHA Novice Horse NP Level 2
NRHA Youth 14 – 18	NRHA Rookie Pro
NRHA Youth 13 & Under	NRHA Prime Time NP
NRHA Prime Time Rookie	Two Handed Youth 13 & Under
Two Handed Youth 14 - 18	

All applications for and/or requests for information regarding MRHA show approval and sponsorship shall be made through the MRHA Secretary.

A. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Shows must be NRHA approved to be MRHA approved.
2. A show wishing to be considered for approval to be part of the MRHA Year-End Awards Circuit, or the MRHA Affiliate Circuit, must apply by December 15 of the preceding year (e.g. apply by December 15, 2008 for 2009 shows). Exceptions to this deadline may be granted by the Board if it appears to be in the best interest of the association.

The MRHA also will promote and advertise jackpot and schooling shows around the state, which are not part of the year-end award or affiliate circuits. Applications for these shows should be submitted at least two (2) months prior to their start date.

All approved shows are eligible for MRHA monetary sponsorship.

3. Approvals will give established shows priority, but will also take into consideration the ground, location, added money, facilities, show management and history.
4. Responsibilities of shows to MRHA include the following: a) the results from all classes must be submitted to the MRHA Secretary within two weeks of the said show date; b) a news article and results must be submitted to the MRHA newsletter, the Wrangler, within six weeks of the show date; c) the show must recognize the MRHA and MRHA sponsors in associated advertising, programs and announcements; and d) exhibit MRHA provided banner(s) at the show.
5. All MRHA classes must comply with NRHA rules.
6. Entry fees, percent retained, paybacks, judge fees, awards and other show procedures must follow NRHA rules, unless there is a specific MRHA rule that supersedes for an MRHA class. Awards other than those required by NRHA may not be deducted from the payback.
7. No MRHA show, show committee, or awards committee shall be allowed to raffle or solicit sponsors which are in conflict with the established interests of the MRHA. A list of sponsors can be obtained from the MRHA secretary.
8. For any MRHA classes, a rider can show in that class without having MRHA membership and receive payment, but does not qualify for year-end awards. New memberships are available from the MRHA secretary or the show secretary. Participant must show their current year MRHA membership card or a photocopy to show secretary, or purchase another, non-refundable membership, in order to compete in an MRHA approved class and to be eligible for MRHA year-end awards.
9. To obtain a replacement card at no charge, contact the MRHA secretary at least one week prior to the show.
10. No exhibitor or owner may be required to be a member of any organization other than the National Reining Horse Association to compete in an NRHA class. For earnings to count for MRHA year-end awards, however, both owner and rider must be MRHA members.
11. To qualify as a delegate to NRHA Affiliate regional championships, membership must be purchased prior to points accumulating. Only members of MRHA are eligible to represent MRHA at the NRHA Affiliate regional championships.
12. Abuse or mistreatment of any horse in any manner whatsoever on show grounds will not be tolerated. Abuse is defined as an action, or failure to act, which a reasonably prudent person, informed and experienced in the customs, accepted training techniques and exhibition procedures, would determine to be cruel, abusive, inhumane or detrimental to the horse's health. Individuals will be disciplined if it is determined there was abuse of the horse under any of the following circumstances:
 - A. The individual physically participates in the abuse of the animal or shows the horse in a condition to be considered abuse.
 - B. The individual designates himself or herself as the exhibitor of such horse on the show entry forms. Owners and riders are presumed to know all of the rules, regulations and penalties of the Association. Any horse disqualified for reasons of abuse will forfeit all moneys earned in the particular class. Such monies will be the property of the MRHA.
 - C. The NRHA representative and show management will deal with instances of reported abuse as called for by the situation.
13. The Show Committee and all participants, spectators and others, acknowledge that because these rules have been established on the basis of experience and fairness to all who are interested in the betterment of Reining Horses competition, the MRHA assumes no liability for any injuries, damages or claims of

whatever nature from any Affiliate, Show Committee, participant or spectator arising out of performance conducted under the MRHA Rules and Regulations.

B. CLASS CONDITIONS

All NRHA class conditions conform to the current NRHA rules.

Two Handed Rookie - Subject to the general conditions, this must be a jackpot class for any horse with no restrictions on ownership and any Non Pro rider (including youth) who does not have \$200 lifetime earnings in NRHA and MRHA approved shows, as of January 1 of that year. Two Handed Rookie reining is not to be run concurrently with any other class. Rookie may show holding reins in either one (1) or two (2) hands.

Two Handed Youth - Subject to the general conditions of NRHA Youth except allowed to ride two (2) handed in any legal bit.

Green Rookie – Subject to the general conditions, this class is for beginning Non Pro reiners who have not earned money in reining events. If money is earned in other classes after their initial entry in the program, the rider will not be disqualified from the class and will be allowed to remain in the class until they win 50 points. Points are cumulative from one year to the next. The class will use a modified NRHA pattern so there are no lead changes and rider may show one or two handed in any legal bit or hackamore. The class will run on a point system and when a rider earns 50 points, they will graduate out of the class and earn their Green Reiner belt buckle to be awarded at the annual awards banquet. The number of horses in the class, exclusive of scratches, will determine the number of points available for each place. Point system example: six horses in class – first place receives 6 points, second place 5 points, etc. Rider will also receive ½ point for every horse they place above. No points are awarded for zero score or “no scores”. Rider may earn points on one or multiple horses. The entry fees will go towards the purchase of the belt buckles and will not be paid out.

It is the responsibility of the owner and/or rider to be aware of earnings for entry in Rookie and Novice Horse classes, as well as Limited and Intermediate divisions of the Open and Non Pro classes. If it is found that an entrant was not eligible for a class any prize money will be forfeited.

C. MRHA YEAR-END AWARDS

1. The owner (as listed on the registration papers, bill of sale, and/or competition license) and rider must be current MRHA members in good standing for money earned to count toward year-end awards. Earnings or youth points are not retroactive and only counted from the day of enrollment to the end of the “money earned/point year.”
2. A record for year end awards will be kept for each of the following classes:

NRHA Open	NRHA Non Pro
NRHA Intermediate Open	NRHA Intermediate NP
NRHA Limited Open	NRHA Limited NP
NRHA Novice Horse Open	NRHA Rookie
NRHA Novice Horse Lvl 1	NRHA Rookie Level 1
NRHA Novice Horse Lvl 2	NRHA Rookie Level 2
NRHA Novice Horse NP	Two Handed Rookie
NRHA Novice Horse NP Level 1	NRHA Novice Horse NP Level 2
NRHA Youth 14 – 18	NRHA Rookie Pro
NRHA Youth 13 & Under	NRHA Prime Time NP
NRHA Prime Time Rookie	Two Handed Youth 13 & Under
Two Handed Youth 14 - 18	

3. The money earned will be compiled on a "One Horse - One Rider" basis in all NRHA and MRHA Non-Pro classes.
4. Points earned will be compiled on a "One Horse-One Rider" basis for all Youth classes.
5. Money earned is compiled to the horse in the Open classes.
6. The MRHA "money earned-point year" begins with the first approved reining following the NRHA Futurity and ends with the following NRHA Futurity.
7. Only MRHA members are eligible for MRHA year-end awards, therefore an exhibitor must show a current MRHA membership card or photocopy to the Show Secretary whether they are showing in NRHA or MRHA approved classes to be eligible for MRHA year-end award in that class. A person must show in the class in a minimum of 50% of MRHA approved shows to be eligible for year end award in that class. A disqualified ride will not be considered as participating.
8. In the case of a tie for first place in any of the year-end award categories, the tie shall be broken by comparing the total scores of the tied riders for the class in all MRHA shows of that year. The rider with the highest score total shall receive the first place award and the next highest score/rider will receive the reserve award and so on, if more than two riders are tied. If the total scores of the riders are equal, then the scores of the riders will be compared for each show and the rider winning the most head-to-head competitions will receive the first place award. If neither of these tie breaking methods results in one rider winning first place, then the riders will flip for the awards.
9. To qualify as a Delegate to NRHA Affiliate regional championships, check NRHA rules. The MRHA Affiliate Rep will notify those eligible for the delegate positions as soon after the last MRHA affiliate show in the qualifying period as possible. MRHA will make every effort to allow as many qualified delegates as possible to attend.

D. YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP

- ~~1. Youth must submit an application form and letter of application prior to December 31 of their senior year of high school.~~
- ~~2. Applicants must have a minimum of a 2.0 grade average their junior year. They also must have participated in at least half of the MRHA approved shows during the show season immediately prior to their application.~~
- ~~3. Scholarship will be awarded during the annual MRHA convention.~~
 1. Applicants must submit a letter of application, junior and first semester senior year grade transcripts, and a short essay describing why they should be awarded this scholarship to the MRHA Secretary prior to December 31 of their senior year of high school.
 2. Applicants must be a member of MRHA and have a minimum of a 3.0 grade average their junior year and first semester of their senior year. The applicants must also have participated in at least half of the MRHA approved year-end award qualifying shows during the show season immediately prior to their application.
 3. The scholarship will be awarded during the annual MRHA convention.

E. GENERAL

Any issues not specifically addressed in the MRHA show Rules and By-Laws will be interpreted using the NRHA rule book as it is the expressed intent of the MRHA to parallel the NRHA as closely as possible.