

## Article 9: Guidelines and Specifics for FOSH Sanctioned Shows

### General

#### 901 Privileges

All competitions sanctioned by FOSH qualify to receive certain privileges which include national advertising, participation in the regional high point and versatility programs, access to qualified gaited horse judges, a low cost USDA certified inspection program, the availability of low cost insurance, access to FOSH medallion design for ribbons and awards, and assistance from FOSH staff with competition details.

#### 902 Procedure for Sanctioning an Event with FOSH

- Requests for sanctioned events must be forwarded to the FOSH Director of Show Sanctioning at Friends of Sound Horses, Inc. 6614 Clayton Road #105 St. Louis, MO 63117 or [Shows@friendsofsoundhorses.org](mailto:Shows@friendsofsoundhorses.org).
- FOSH will **not** sanction any show or organization that includes on its program classes for Performance Tennessee Walking Horses or that endorses their exhibition.
- The show must agree to print on both the premium and the program, if one is available, that the show is intended for the exhibition of sound flat shod gaited pleasure horses only, and must include a display of the FOSH sanctioning seal. Artwork for the FOSH sanctioning seal is provided when the show is sanctioned.

#### 903 Judges and Guest Judges

A current list of IJA Judges may be found on the FOSH web site.

- FOSH sanctioned shows may hire judges from outside the IJA program upon payment of a \$50 guest card fee to cover the cost of training materials to be sent to the judge. This guest judge must agree to use the IJA Rule Book and standards for evaluating horses.
- FOSH **will not sanction** a show that hires a guest judge who holds a license with another TWH judging Association.
- A FOSH sanctioned show that has been granted Regional Championship status must hire an IJA judge.

#### 904 Mandatory Requirements for Sanctioned Shows

- FOSH sanctioned shows are intended to reward the exhibition of genuine pleasure horses. All exhibitions of any gaited breed at a FOSH sanctioned show must be done in a manner consistent with that understanding.
- All FOSH sanctioned shows must adhere to the rules and regulations set out in the IJA rulebook which pertain to presentation, tack, attire and shoeing as well as the humane treatment of all horses presented for exhibition.
- All FOSH sanctioned shows must agree that the maximum allowable shoe for any horse on the show grounds is the 1inch shoe. This shoe is not allowed on any horse under the age of four.

#### 905 Enforcement of Rules

- Competitions sanctioned by FOSH agree to adopt the standards of FOSH, as applicable, to the various divisions designed for the promotion and exhibition of gaited horses.
- Every person who competes, exhibits, or participates in any way at a FOSH sanctioned event is subject to the administrative rules of FOSH as published. Rules will be changed, modified, or added to, only at the conclusion of the FOSH official competition year that ends on October 31. Signature on an entry form at any FOSH sanctioned event indicates an acceptance of all provisions in the Rules of FOSH.

#### 906 Abuse of Animals at any Sanctioned Event

Abusive practices of any sort will not be tolerated on the grounds of any FOSH sanctioned event. Competition management must notify FOSH of any case of abuse that has been brought to their attention during the course of an event and to provide information concerning the incident, to include the name and address of the alleged violator and witnesses if that information is available. Actions taken by competitors, trainers, or exhibitors in violations of this section of the rules which are deemed excessive by an IJA judge, veterinarian or DQP, either in the show ring or the competition grounds, may be the subject of action by show management on the grounds of the event, as well as separate disciplinary action by the FOSH Hearing Committee.

The following activities are considered to be cruel, abusive or inappropriate for FOSH sanctioned events. **The list is not all-inclusive:**

- Any violation of the Horse Protection Act determined by an HIO DQP, veterinarian, or VMO.
- Excessive use of a whip in a stall, barn aisle, schooling area, show ring, or at any place on the competition grounds. This provision includes activity before, during and after the conclusion of a competition. Striking the horse on the head, either on the poll or forward of the poll, is automatically considered to be excessive, as is lashing the horse about the legs.
- Rapping of the legs to induce animation or to encourage jumping
- The use of any electric device to shock a horse either to modify behavior or to gain compliance, including stewarding a horse for inspection, or loading or unloading a horse on the competition grounds.
- Use of explosive devices or noisemakers to hype the horse in an attempt to make him showier.
- Withholding of feed and water for prolonged periods in order to "calm a horse" or failure to provide adequate feed, forage, and water while on competition grounds.
- Removing blood from a horse for anything other than diagnostic purposes or for drug tests held in conjunction with the competition
- Excessive spurring of the horse, to include spurring in front of the girth or spurring so that blood is drawn
- Work at speed on hard surfaces in such a way to create low levels of inflammation as a means of enhancing animation.
- Any form of shoeing that results in pressure being applied to the sensitive tissues of the foot or attempts to contract the heel in order to create a pressure situation that results in higher animation.
- Altering natural tail set by surgery, mechanical tail sets or gingering of the rectum.
- Killing, crippling, abandoning, mistreating, neglecting, or other forms of cruelty or abuse to the horse are included in this article.

#### Competition and Competitors

##### 907 Recommendations for Sanctioned Shows

FOSH has both requirements and non-binding recommendations concerning shoeing, tack and attire, registration requirements, amateur and professional status, juvenile qualification and other issues not directly related to the exhibition of horses in competition insofar as gait and type of class are concerned. Show managers are encouraged to provide stewards or staff at the show ground to ensure that tack and attire regulations are observed and that shoeing and biting requirements are met.

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### 908 Prohibited Conduct

Unsportsmanlike or intimidating language or conduct is prohibited at any Sanctioned Show. Conduct at any time that in any manner appears directed at influencing judging or the outcome of any competition, other than pursuant to FOSH rules and procedures and the provision of training materials and information approved by the FOSH Board of Directors for such purposes, is prohibited.

### 909 Participant/Exhibitor Responsibility

- Knowledge of the rules that govern FOSH events is the responsibility of all participating exhibitors, trainers, and owners.
- Competition participants assume the obligation and responsibility to be fully aware of the guidelines and enforcement provisions of the IJA Rulebook and to remain current with changes made in subsequent editions.
- All individuals who participate in FOSH sanctioned competitions agree by their participation and entry to be bound by these Rules and interpretations and enforcement provisions with respect to the Rules contained herein.
- Owners and lessees of entries have ultimate responsibility for the condition of the entry and the eligibility of persons to exhibit his or her horse.

### 910 Responsible Party

When the owner of the entry is a juvenile, a business entity or any entity other than a natural person, a Responsible Party who is a natural person must be identified on the entry sheet. The Responsible Party will be responsible for all financial obligations associated with the entry; is the Party who must file complaints or protests on behalf of the juvenile arising out of the competition; and will be the individual held responsible for violations of any rule or regulation, including HPA violations, pertaining to the FOSH sanctioned event.

### 911 Recognition of Suspensions

Individuals and horses appearing on USDA or HIO suspension lists for violation of the Horse Protection Act are automatically ineligible for competition at FOSH sanctioned shows. Show management may establish other criteria for eligibility for competition and these restrictions must be publicized at least 60 days in advance of the show.

### 912 Classes and Division for Competition

- Show management is encouraged to include a wide variety of classes for amateur exhibitors. Show management may elect to divide classes by age and sex of both exhibitors and equines. Classes may be offered for combined Gaited Horses of all breeds or classes may be breed specific.
- Championship classes may be offered as combined classes, using breed specific classes as qualifiers.

### 913 Championship and Grand Championship

In order to compete in any Championship or Grand Championship class offered at a FOSH sanctioned event, the entry must first have been shown and judged in a qualifying class in order to enter the championship or grand championship round. Show management may further restrict entry into championships and grand championships by requiring that entries have been placed at certain levels in qualifying classes. In **Championship** classes horses may, at the discretion of the judge, be stripped for conformation judging. In **Grand Championship** classes horses must be stripped for conformation judging. Two groups are allowed in the ring with each entry if horses are to be stripped.

### 914 Protests, Complaints and Disciplinary Actions

In the event Show Management believes that a violation of IJA Rules has occurred, it has the authority to warn, reprimand, disqualify from further competition and/or remove any individual it believes to be

violating IJA Rules from the show grounds. Show Management may also direct that an entry be disqualified from the remainder of the Sanctioned Show and/or that all awards in question be returned and the classes retied. Show Management will immediately forward to the Hearing Board a report of all actions taken under this Rule. Conduct alleged to be in violation of IJA Rules may be the subject of a separate proceeding by the Hearing Board. See Article 7 for more information on Protests, Complaints and Disciplinary Actions.

### 915 Communication Devices

Communication devices are prohibited at all FOSH sanctioned shows with the exception of those required to allow a physically challenged rider to compete. Medical conditions requiring the use of a communication device, or other prosthetic help, must be documented by a medical certificate of need presented to the show manager. See **Article 210**

### 916 Removal of Shoes and Casting of Shoes

If a shoe is cast or removed and the shoe is in violation of the FOSH regulations for shoeing, the entry will be disqualified for the remainder of the competition and all entry fees, prizes and awards will be forfeited. The cost of removal of any protested or contested shoe, or of any shoe found on a horse suspected by the DQP or VMO of being pressure shod, is the responsibility of the owner. If the protest is not upheld, the individual filing the protest will reimburse the owner or agent up to \$25 to cover the replacement of the contested shoe. The owner will bear the cost of removal and replacement of a shoe challenged by a DQP or VMO regardless of the outcome of the challenge. If the owner or agent refuses to allow a shoe to be pulled, the entry is disqualified from any further participation at the competition, all awards and prizes in the competition are forfeited, and all fees are forfeited.

### 917 Situations Not Specifically Addressed

Regardless of how complete the rules may be, they will never cover every situation that arises at a horse show. In the event of a dispute that is not specifically addressed in the rules, the IJA judge will interpret the existing rules to the letter and extrapolate a ruling based on the logical extension of the existing rules to cover a particular situation.

### Responsibilities of Show Management

#### 918 Miscellaneous Responsibilities of Show Management

Show management is responsible for the operation of the horse show, which includes enforcing IJA Rules and other local options that may apply. Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- The decision whether or not to employ a USDA approved HIO as an inspection program for compliance with the Horse Protection Act. If managers do not employ an HIO, the responsibility for the exhibition of any horse found to be in violation of the HPA by USDA personnel who might chose to attend the show rests solely with the show manager and/ or the sponsoring organization. FOSH suggests that show managers in at risk areas of the country seriously consider the employment of an approved HIO. The hiring of a veterinarian does not satisfy the definition of a USDA approved HIO.
- To publish a premium and to keep exhibitors informed if changes are made to the schedule, the fees, or any other published aspect of the show.
- To ensure that no DQP, Judge or member of their immediate family compete at any show in which they participate in an official capacity. No horse trained or owned by the Judge or DQP may be exhibited for competition at this show with the exception of horses that are part of a bonafide lease agreement.
- To ensure that no manager, secretary, announcer, ringmaster or any member of their immediate family compete at any show in which the manager, secretary, announcer or ringmaster receive compensation for their services at said show.

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- To maintain a copy of the current IJA Rule Book in the show office.
- To provide a judges card for each class for the judge.
- To provide a number for each horse being exhibited.
- To arrange for transportation of judges and DQPs to the show grounds and from the show grounds as necessary.
- To provide either on site or on call ambulance service and qualified EMT personnel.
- To eliminate even if no protest has been filed, any horse, rider or entry that show management has reason to believe is ineligible for competition in a particular class.
- To provide access to a telephone at shows where horses are stabled overnight.
- To arrange for a veterinarian on call for the show.
- To cooperate in whatever actions or activities may be requested by USDA personnel.
- To abide by all of the decisions made by either the judge(s) or the DQP (s).
- To arrange for the prompt payment of fees to DQPs and Judges as well as all other officials.
- To pay for any an all expenses incurred for the benefit of the show, including but not limited to awards, ribbons, vendors and facility fees.
- To pay premiums and other show expenses, including refunds, in a timely manner, usually within 60 days of completion of the show.

### 919 Changes in Competition Schedules

- The order of classes may not be changed at a competition without giving a minimum of two hours notice to exhibitors. This provision does not apply to classes cancelled for lack of entries.
- If a sanctioned event, already in progress, is cancelled due to inclement weather or some other unforeseen circumstance, show management may elect to continue the event at another time during the regularly scheduled program, reschedule the remaining classes on another day, or cancel the remainder of the event.
  - If the competition is cancelled, show management must refund entry fees for the classes that have not been held within 30 days of cancellation of the competition.
  - If a show or classes are rescheduled, exhibitors are entitled to a refund of entry fees and are under no obligation to show at the rescheduled event.
- Requests for refunds must be made by exhibitors at the office.
- Show management has up to 30 days after the cancellation to return all monies owed.

### 920 Warm-Up Areas

Adequate areas for warming up or schooling of horses must be provided at FOSH sanctioned events. If "over fences" are offered, competitions must provide a practice fence in a section of the warm-up area for at least one hour before the class is called.

### 921 Classes Requiring Patterns

When patterns are a required element of any class, the patterns must be posted in a visible location at least one hour prior to the start of the class.

### 922 Controlled Areas

- When show management elects to employ an HIO for inspections, show management must provide a controlled area for horses that have completed DQP inspection for compliance with the Horse Protection Act. The area must be directly adjacent to the inspection area. The horse, the rider, and one handler are the only people allowed in the controlled area.
- Show management must provide personnel to oversee the controlled area, which must be marked off in a visible way and must be adequately lighted.
- Show management must also provide a record keeper for the DQP, a table, chairs, traffic cones, shelter and adequate lighting if the show is to take place in the evening hours.

### 923 Prize Money

Prize money may be awarded in any class at the discretion of show management with the exception of youth classes and equitation classes. Show managers are encouraged to award appropriate prizes in youth classes that would correspond in value to the prize money offered in other classes.

### 924 Drugs and Medications

All horses shown in FOSH sanctioned competition will be considered to be in a "no foreign substance" drugs and medication category.

### 925 Drug Testing

Show management reserves the right to have horses tested for the presence of prohibited substances if a judge, DQP, or exhibitor request that such testing be done: or if an exhibitor files a protest accompanied by the appropriate fee alleging that the horse is in violation of the No Foreign Substance rule.

### 926 Post Show Responsibilities of Show Management

- **If a DQP was hired:** at the conclusion of the show provide the DQP a class sheet for each class, showing all entries with breed identified, winners identified and a copy of the show bill or premium.
- **If a DQP was not hired:** within 5 days after the conclusion of the show, forward to USDA the form included with the Show Sanctioning Package. **Federal Regulations (9CRF, Part 11, Section 11.24)** require management of any horse show, exhibition, sale or auction containing Tennessee Walking Horses or Racking Horses to file a report with the USDA.
- Forward a copy of the prize list to FOSH Director of Show Sanctioning.
- Forward to FOSH Director of Sanctioned Shows within 30 days of the show, entry sheets (listing winners and scratches or corrections, the name and address of the owner, identification by breed and registration numbers if available)
- Forward to IJA Director of Judges a completed IJA Judges Evaluation Form.