

JUDGES RULES COMMITTEE

2017 NCHA Convention Recommendations

During its meeting at the NCHA Annual Convention, the committee made the following recommendations, which will be forwarded to the Executive Committee for review. Agenda items are not listed if the committee took "No Action" or "Tabled" the item or were discussion items.

1. Recommend the following changes to Standing 24 Rule having a NCHA Monitored System Rule and a separate Self-Adjusting Monitor System (SAM) Rule.

Standing Rule 24. **These rules are applied while judging within a NCHA monitored event (in part):**

*A judge may not judge ~~his~~**their** parents, children, spouse, spouse's parents, relatives of either the judge or ~~his~~**their** spouse if they live in the same household; ~~or~~**nor** may they judge ~~his~~**their** employer or employees. A judge may not judge a horse that ~~he~~**has they have** owned, exhibited, trained, managed or sold for direct or indirect remuneration within the thirty (30) day period immediately preceding any NCHA approved or sponsored event at which said judge is officiating either in full or in part.*

Standing Rule 24: **These rules are applied while judging within the Self-Adjusting Monitor System (SAM) (in part):**

*A judge may not judge ~~his~~**their** parents, children, spouse, spouse's parents or relatives of either the judge or ~~his~~**spouse** if they live in the same household, ~~or~~**nor** may they judge ~~his~~**their** employer or employees. A judge may not judge a horse that ~~he~~**has they have** owned, exhibited, trained, managed or sold for direct or indirect remuneration within the thirty (30) day period immediately preceding the NCHA approved or sponsored event at which said judge is officiation in full or in part.*

2. Recommend to add the following examples to Judging Rule 1.

Example 6: After quitting a cow a horse starts to lie down, but the rider is able to keep the horse up on its feet. Ruling: No Penalty, but run content may be reduced in herd work depending upon the severity it takes to get the horse back to its feet.

Example 7: As the cutter enters the herd, the horse kicks out at the rider's spur with a hind leg. Ruling: No Penalty, however run content will be reduced in herd work.

Example 8: After the cutter quits a cow, the horse lays down with its legs underneath itself. Ruling: The run content may or may not be reduced.

3. Recommend adding an Example #7 on Judging Rule 11, "A horse slips during a run to a point its stomach is on the arena floor, but maintains its working position. Ruling: No Penalty

4. Recommend restructuring the wording on Standing Rule 6.L, to clarify how many horses a judge is permitted to judge daily, and when a replacement judge is allowed.
5. Recommend changing the wording for Standing Rule 29.c, to clarify the maximum amount of horses a judge is permitted to judge daily to 160 maximum per day and when a substitute judge is allowed.
6. Recommend adding the phrase, "*and the rider has put their hand down*" to Judging Rule 10, Example 7.
7. Recommend to remove the word "*leaves*" and replace it with the word "*passes*" to Judges Rule 9, – Example 6 – Note.
8. Recommend adding "*up to \$1,000 added by themselves*" to Standing Rule 27.A.
9. Recommend removing under Judging Rule 1, page 109, Example 5 – Note: *While making a cut, no credit shall be given to the horse which is reluctant to take an indicated cow or which obviously resists its rider's choice.*
10. Recommend replacing the verbiage "*horse abuse*" to "*excessive training*" on Standing Rule 29.g and on Judging Rule 5.C.
11. Recommend removal of wording in Judging Rule 8:
"While working, a horse will be penalized one (1) point each time the reins are used to control or direct (to rein) the horse. Regardless of whether the reins are held high or low.
12. Recommend removing verbiage "*similar device*" and replace with "*or any other mechanical device*" to Standing Rule 35.A.1, page 62.
13. Recommend to make the following changes to Standing Rule 34 to clarify the responsible parties to monitor this rule:
A contestant shall not enter any part of the arena (Working Area or Warm-up Area) at a cutting horse contest approved or sponsored by the NCHA with any kind of training device, tack or equipment not permitted by the Rules for Judging Cutting Horse Contests Rule 16 on a horse.
 - a. A JUDGE must disqualify a contestant if they enter the arena (WORKING AREA) with any such equipment, and all entry fees and/or premium payments to said contestant shall be forfeited. *The bit may be inspected at the judge's discretion; and in the event a violation of the rules is discovered, the violator MAY be subject to a fine and/or one (1) year suspension.*

- b. No Horse shall enter the warm up area with any such equipment. All riders showing horses are deemed responsible for that horse under these rules. Enforcement of this rule is the responsibility of show management and NCHA directors. Failure to comply will result in:*
- 1. First offense: \$200 Fine*
 - 2. Second Offense: \$500 Fine*
 - 3. Third and subsequent offenses within 12 months- 90 day suspension.*
- c. After the buzzer sounds, the cutter will discontinue working and ride his/her horse forward past the judges stands before dismounting, except to retrieve a lost article. Failure to comply will result in:*
- 1. First offense- \$200 fine*
 - 2. Second offense- \$500 fine*
 - 3. Third and subsequent offenses within 12 months- 90 day suspension.*
- The bit may be inspected at the judge's discretion; and in the event a violation of the rules is discovered, the violator MAY be subject to a one (1) year suspension.*
- d. All cutting horses must be ridden astride.*
- e. No rider nineteen (19) years of age or younger may be strapped into or tied down onto a saddle in any manner while on the show grounds without special permission from the Executive Director.*

14. Recommend requiring the judges to sign the Zero Tolerance Policy Agreement for all Challenge Shows.
15. Recommend to offer ten free Judges Workshops as a way of educating the judges on the Zero Tolerance Policy, Rule 35. The workshops would be held across the country during major LAE shows beginning with the 2017 Summer Show.
16. Recommend requiring videographers attend an annual workshop or webcast hosted by Ted Petit to ensure there will be quality DVD's produced to enable all judges and monitors to review runs efficiently.
17. Recommend that guidelines be created (by Ernie Beutenmiller, Russell McCord and Ted Petit) for videographers to advise on creating those quality DVD's. These guidelines will be presented to the Executive Committee for approval.
18. Recommend offering eight applicant clinics over the next two years aimed at getting new judges applicants who have earned a minimum of \$50,000. Russell McCord would teach at these clinics.
19. Recommend adding a 1A judges rating as a way to promote more interest in applying for a judges card. The requirements: minimum of \$10,000 in earnings; able to judge all Challenger shows; and able to judge added money classes up to \$300.

20. Recommend that any 2A judge that is to be dropped due to a valid protest will become a 1A pending the passage of that recommendation.

Chair elected was Ernie Beutenmiller
Vice Chair elected was Rock Hedlund.