**2019 Paint Horse Championship Program Criteria**

The Paint Horse Championship program is a series of classes held in conjunction with select APHA-approved shows designed to increase participation and provide national recognition to exhibitors who primarily show regionally.

# Show Eligibility

* Each Zone will be given the opportunity to offer one Paint Horse Championship show annually.
* Each Zone Coordinating Committee will be responsible for selecting the APHA-approved show within their Zone in which to offer the Paint Horse Championship series.
* Each Zone Coordinating Committee shall accept bids annually from interested APHA Regional Club sponsored one-, two-, three- or four-judge shows within their Zone that wish to hold the Paint Horse Championship series and be responsible for selecting the show to recommend to the APHA. Final approval by APHA Performance Department required.
* The Paint Horse Championship shall not be held in conjunction with an APHA Zone Show. Exception: Zones 10, 11 or 12.

# Eligibility

* The exhibitor must meet the eligibility criteria set forth to be eligible to compete in the Paint Horse Championship classes.
	+ Amateur and Youth exhibitors must be enrolled in the APHA Amateur or Youth Program and meet the ownership/lease requirements as per Rule AM-020 and YP-015 respectively.
* Both the exhibitor and the horse owner/lessee must be current APHA members to be eligible to compete.
* Both exhibitor and horse owner/lessee must be residents of the Zone in which the show is held.
* Horses must be registered with the APHA and shown in their respective Paint Horse Championship breed registry class – Regular Registry or Solid Paint-Bred.

# Exhibitor Eligibility

* Exhibitor must reside in the Zone in which the show is held per APHA records and be a current member of APHA.
* Halter classes: An exhibitor who has placed in the Top 5 in a halter class at an APHA World Championship Show WITHIN THE LAST TEN (10) YEARS (2009-2018) is NOT eligible to compete in any Paint Horse Championship halter class in any division. In addition, an exhibitor who has won a Paint Horse Championship halter class the previous year is ineligible to compete.
	+ Example: Susie placed 5th at the 2015 APHA World Championship Show in Youth Geldings. Susie is NOT eligible to compete in any Paint Horse Championship Open, Amateur or Youth halter classes.
* Performance classes: An exhibitor who has placed in the Top 10 in a performance class at an APHA World Championship Show WITHIN THE LAST TEN (10) YEARS (2009-2018) is NOT eligible to compete in any Paint Horse Championship performance class in any

division. In addition, an exhibitor who has won a Paint Horse Championship performance class the previous year is ineligible to compete.

* + Example: John was the Reserve World Champion at the 2014 APHA World Championship Show in Amateur Horsemanship. John is NOT eligible to compete in any Paint Horse Championship performance class.
	+ EXCEPTIONS:
		- Amateur/Youth Walk-Trot, Novice Amateur/Novice Youth and Intermediate Exhibitor World Show placings and placings in non-pointed World Show classes such as Sweepstakes, Challenge and Futurities DO NOT impact eligibility in regular division championship classes.
		- Amateur/Youth Walk-Trot World Show placings DO count towards exhibitor eligibility criteria in Amateur/Youth Walk-Trot Paint Horse Championship classes.
		- Novice Amateur/Novice Youth World Show placings DO count towards exhibitor eligibility criteria in Novice Amateur/Novice Youth Paint Horse Championship classes.

# Awards

* APHA will sponsor awards for up to 15 classes per show. This will consist of a championship buckle and 2nd-6th place medallions for each class ($3,000 value). If a show wants to offer additional classes, the show can purchase the additional awards for these classes.

# Additional Show Management Guidelines

* Classes
	+ It is up to show management’s discretion to determine the specific classes to offer with approval by APHA.
* Scheduling
	+ Classes must be offered independently from other APHA-approved classes.
		- Awards presentations must be held in the arena at the completion of the class.
	+ Paint Horse Championship classes must be held prior to the corresponding APHA class and preferably not back-to-back with corresponding APHA class.
* Judges
	+ Classes may be judged by one, two, three or four judges.
* Entry Fees
	+ It is up to show management to determine the entry fee to help offset costs; however, the class entry fees must not be more than $20/class.
	+ There are no show assessment fees due to the APHA for these classes.

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