**NORTHWEST ARKANSAS**

**HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION**

**AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS & RULES**

**FOR 2025**

**SHOW SEASON**

**THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION**

**2025**

**BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this organization shall be The Northwest Arkansas Horse Show Association, hereinafter called the Association.

**ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Northwest Arkansas Horse Show Association is to promote better horse shows, better horsemanship, and better sportsmanship in the Northwest Arkansas area and to encourage more family participation in horse-oriented activities.

**ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1. Eligibility**

Any person interested in promoting better horse shows, better horsemanship and better sportsmanship in the Northwest Arkansas area among exhibitors, judges, and show committees, may join the Association. Any person who joins shall there by become subject to the By-Laws and Rules then in force or later adopted by the Association, and shall be subject to expulsion from the Association as provided in the By-Laws.

**Section 2. Dues**

The annual dues shall be $50.00 for a family membership and $30.00 for an individual membership. Membership for each year will begin January 1 and end December 31. A family shall mean married persons or grandparents and any unmarried children under the age of 21, living in the same household. No dues will be returned for any reason.

**Section 3. Expulsion**

The following acts, when proof of their commission shall be established, by evidence satisfactorily to the Executive Board of the Association, shall in themselves be full and sufficient grounds for expelling any person from membership.

1. Any person, or persons, displaying poor sportsmanship at a show or conducting themselves in such a manner to reflect a bad impression upon NWAHSA. This includes using profane and abusive language at an approved show to a judge or other person.
2. Failure to pay, when due, an obligation owing to NWAHSA.
3. For giving a worthless check for entry fees, or other fees, connected with the Association, or with the exhibition of horses.

**Section 4. Voting Privileges**

Any person age 19 and over who is a paid member, in good standing, of the Association shall have one (1) vote. The membership and voting year will be from January 1 through December 31.

**ARTICLE IV - EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Section 1. Composition**

The Executive Board shall consist of the officers, whom shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. There will be a minimum of (4) four and a maximum of six (6) Directors., with one (1) Board Member-Emeritus position, plus the retiring President from the previous year, if one. By majority vote of the members a person who has consistently supported the Northwest Arkansas Horse Show Association with their time and service may be elected to the position of “Board Member-Emeritus”. The nomination for the Emeritus status shall be at the sole discretion of the then current Board of Directors. In the event an individual shall be elected to the position of Board Member-Emeritus, they shall hold that position for life or until they resign. The membership may, by majority vote, remove an individual from the Emeritus position only in the event that individual performs such acts that negatively affect the Northwest Arkansas Horse Show Association or its members.

**Section 2. Election**

**A. Officers**

The Officers of the Association shall be nominated either by the Nominating Committee and/or the membership at large and elected by plurality vote at the Annual Election of Officers Meeting. It is recommended that the President be nominated from the Executive Board. One person may hold more than one office at a time.

**B. Directors**

The Directors of the Association shall be nominated either by the Nominating Committee and/or the membership at large and elected by plurality vote at the Annual Election of Officers Meeting. The retiring President shall automatically become a Director for one year.

**Section 3. Term of Office**

1. **Officers**

The officers of the Association shall be elected for a one year term. The terms of office will begin in October to the next year in October.

**B. Directors**

The Directors on the board shall be elected for a one year term. The terms of office will begin at the elections in October to the next year in October.

**Section 4. Vacancies, Resignations, and Suspensions**

All vacancies in the elective officers of the Association shall be filled by appointment by the President with board approval for the unexpired term and those so appointed shall serve until the election and acceptance of their duly qualified successors. All resignations shall be submitted to the board by means of a written statement. Any board member who voluntarily misses three consecutive board meetings could be subject for suspension from the board upon the situation not being resolved.

**Section 5. Power and Duties**

**A. President**

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall preside at all board meetings. The President shall see that the By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of the Association are enforced, and shall perform all other duties as required from time to time by the Association’s members and Executive Board. He shall be the Ex-Officio member of all committees, with the exception of the Nominating Committee. He shall be a member of, and the Association’s representative to, The Arkansas State Horse Show Board of Directors. The President’s duties shall include all correspondence and communication to the members, club or public.

**B. Vice President**

In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall have the powers and shall perform the duties of the President and such other duties as required by the Association’s members and Board of Directors.

**C. Secretary**

The secretary shall record all meeting minutes, prepare the minutes for the official records of NWAHSA, and read the minutes of the previous meetings, keep the points for Year-End Awards in each class and for All-Around Awards, and shall keep points for the State Show qualifications.

**D. Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall keep all records of the Association, a simple set of books, financial statements, and records on any special projects.

**E. Directors**

The directors shall exercise all powers of the Association and do all such lawful acts and things as are provided by the By-Laws and Rules of this Association.

**F. Executive Board**

The Executive Board shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of at least two members whom shall present a slate of officers and directors to the membership at large at each annual election meeting in October. In order to be nominated for elected position, the nominee must be a paid member for at least three (3) months prior. They may also appoint other special committees to perform such duties and to have such powers as shall be prescribed by the resolutions of the Executive Board. They shall have the power to approve show dates and locations. All committee members must be a member in good standing of the Association.

**Section 6. Voting**

All members of the Executive Board, including the Vice President and Secretaries, are

allowed a vote at board meetings, with the exception of the President, who shall only votes in the event of a tie**.**

**ARTICLE V - MEETINGS**

**Section 1. Annual Meetings**

Each year an Annual Meeting will be held in October to elect the officers and directors of the Association. Any amendment of the By-Laws and/or Rule changes will be voted upon before February. Ten days prior written notice must be given to all members of the Association.

**Section 2. Special Meetings**

Special meetings may be called by the President, Executive Board, or upon written request of 25% of the voting membership. Ten days prior written notice should be given to all members of the Association.

**Section 3. Executive Board Meetings**

The President, as deemed necessary in order to conduct the business and affairs of the Association, shall call Executive Board meetings. A majority of members of the board may also call a board meeting.

**Section 4. Monthly Member Meetings**

Regular member meetings will be held every third *Thursday* of each off show season month. (August, September, October, November January, February and March). Unless the President deems that content is not sufficient to conduct a meeting. The president should notify members in advance of any cancellations.

**ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS**

These By-Laws and Rules, excluding Article XII, may be amended or altered only by a majority vote of the members present at the Annual Rule and By-Law meeting. All members must be a paid member in good standing of the Association. The board shall have the authority to amend or alter Article XII Show Rules with a 75% approval of the current seated board members.

**ARTICLE VII - QUORUM**

At any board meeting, the majority present shall constitute a quorum.

**ARTICLE VIII - PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

The Roberts Rules of Order shall govern this Association

**ARTICLE IX - NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

The Association does not have capital stock or shares and shall never be privately owned. The Association shall never pay any individual or profits to any individual, and no part of the net earnings shall benefit any one individual. All funds acquired by the Association shall be used to pay expenses and for the extension and maintenance of its purposes and assets. In the event of any liquidation, dissolutions, or winding up of all obligations of the Association and in conformity with the status herein described, the Association shall adopt a plan of liquidation pursuant to the Arkansas Non-Profit Act as amended.

**ARTICLE X - CONTRACTS**

Any contracts, agreements, checks, notes, deposits, and funds executed by the Association shall be approved by the Executive Board, the Directors, and signed by the President and the Secretary or Treasurer.

**ARTICLE XI - ARKANSAS STATE HORSE SHOW**

**Section 1. Membership**

The Association is a member of the Arkansas State Horse Show Association and shall pay its annual dues of $100.00 when due. The Association’s mandatory classes will include 75% of the State Show Classes. The Association shall pay the Arkansas State Show Association $300.00 for Annual Sponsorship dues by June 15th to the State Show Secretary or Treasurer. NOTE:(No longer necessary)

**Section 2. State Show Director**

The Association President will be a member of the Arkansas State Horse Show Directors and our representative. He/She shall attend the directors meetings, usually held in Little Rock, as necessary or required. The Association will reimburse him/her $65.00 for expenses for each trip to Little Rock to a meeting.

**Section 3. State Show Entries**

The Secretary will keep points on the riders in the classes that are State Show Classes to determine the top five in each class that will be eligible to compete in the Arkansas State Championship Horse Show. The Treasurer will pay five place entries in each class to the State Show Secretary. Each member electing to compete in the Arkansas State Horse Show shall be required to pay for their class entry expenses. NWAHSA will pay for the class entry expenses for any entry in any class not filled by a qualifying member to the Arkansas State Horse Show.

**Section 4. Arkansas State Horse Show Meeting**

All qualified exhibitors, or the parents of qualified minor exhibitors, must attend the State Show meeting in order to complete the required paperwork to compete at the Arkansas State Horse Show. Any exhibitor who fails to attend this meeting, or who fails to make arrangements with the President or the Secretary to complete the necessary paperwork prior to this meeting if you absolutely cannot attend, will be banned from competing at the Arkansas State Horse Show for that year. Any exhibitor who completes the paperwork but subsequently cancels their request to compete will be banned from competing that year. The President shall set the date of the State Show meeting, notify all club members in advance and allow sufficient time after the meeting to correlate the documents required by the Arkansas State Horse Show Association.

**Section 5. Arkansas State Horse Show Scratches**

Any Arkansas State Horse Show competitor who knows at least 24 hours in advance of their class that they will not be able to or willing to compete and who fails to notify the President that they will be scratching a class will be subject to sanctions. These sanctions may include but are not limited to forfeiture of any Year End Awards for that year and/or repayment of the Arkansas State Horse Show class fee(s). The extent and form of sanctions will be determined by the Executive Board. This 24-hour notice will allow another exhibitor to compete in that scratched class.

**ARTICLE XII - SHOW RULES**

**Section 1. Entry Fees & Classes**

**A. Entry Fees**

An individual can show in as many classes as they choose in any one show for a maximum of $50 ($100 if double judged)-excludes office charge. A family can show in as many classes as they choose in any one show for a maximum of $75.00 ($150 if double judged)- excludes office charge. All fees are double for double point shows except office charge. Timed event entries are $6.00 ($12 if double judged) each with a $5.00 office fee per exhibitor. Contestants ages for all classes are as of January 1, 2025, Entry fees are double for double point shows. Jackpot classes are not included in the all day fee. Exhibitions are not part of all day fee.

Other individual show fees are:

1. All Youth, Senior, Open, and Halter Classes = $6.00 each
2. Office Charge = $5.00 per contestant
3. Trail Fee=$5.00 per horse/rider
4. No entry fee or office charge for Lead Line Equitation.
5. Exhibition fees $5.00 (Not covered in all day fee)
6. Timed Event exhibition fee is $4.00 each or 3 runs for $10.00 per class
7. 4D Barrels or pay out classes are $30 each and must be paid in cash.
   1. Jackpot Barrels will follow BBR payout schedule for 2025.
8. **AQHA rules will apply where not otherwise specified in listing below.**
9. **NWAHSA Show Classes for 2025 Not in order or run of show.**
10. Open Halter Ponies (All Ages)
11. Open Halter Geldings- Stock Type
12. Open Halter Mares- Stock Type
13. Open Halter Color
    1. Any color & breed to be judged on 80% color and 20% conformation
14. Senior Showmanship
15. Youth Showmanship
16. Walk Trot Showmanship (All Ages) #
    1. May not cross over to lope classes
17. Lead Line (7yrs & younger)\*
18. Exhibitor to be ages 3-7.
19. A person, called the “Handler” will lead exhibitor. This person is not being judged but should be neat and suitable for showing in the ring.
20. Exhibitors are asked to walk only in both directions of the ring and may not be asked to back.
21. Western or English attire.
22. Exhibitors who compete in leadline cannot compete in any riding class. Halter classes are acceptable.
23. Points will count on the rider.
24. All contestants will be judged with points accumulating for state show qualification
25. State Show rules are more specific, be advised prior to signing up for State in Leadline
26. Walk Trot (11 & over)\*
27. Walk Trot Western Pleasure#
    1. May not cross over to lope classes
28. Walk Trot (10 & under)\*
29. Exhibitors are asked to walk and trot both directions of the ring and may be asked to back.
    1. No canter.
    2. Only horses over 54" may be shown
30. Senior Western Pleasure\*
31. Youth Western Pleasure\*
32. Pony Under Saddle, PeeWee\*
33. Jr. Horse Western Pleasure (horse 5 yrs & under)
34. Horse 5 years old and younger
35. Exhibitors of any age.
36. Two hands may be used if the horse is being shown in a snaffle bit or bosal.
37. Only horses over 54" may be shown
38. This class will not count towards high point.
39. Open Discipline Rail
40. Disciplined Rail is an advanced class which test the skills of both horse and rider, as they execute specific gaits, transitions and movements as requested by the judge.
41. Senior Horsemanship\*
42. Pony Walk Trot\*
43. Youth Horsemanship\*
44. Walk Trot Horsemanship All Ages#
    1. May not cross over to lope classes
45. Open In-Hand Trail
46. Senior Ranch Horse Pleasure\* (No Pattern)
47. Junior Ranch Horse Pleasure\*
48. Open Trail *(English or Western Attire)*
49. Walk Trot Ranch Trail (all ages)#
    1. May not cross over to lope classes
50. Senior Reining\*
51. Junior Reining\*
52. Junior Ranch Riding\*- Pattern
    1. Following AQHA regular Ranch Riding rules
53. Senior Ranch Riding\* - Pattern
54. Following AQHA regular Ranch Riding rules
55. Senior Ranch Trail
    1. AQHA Ranch Horse Versatility Rules
56. Junior Ranch Trail
57. AQHA Ranch Horse Versatility Rules
58. Open Ranch Halter
59. AQHA Ranch Horse Versatility Rules
60. English Walk Trot (All Ages) #
    1. May not cross over to lope classes
61. Open Hunter Under Saddle\*
62. Open Hunt Seat Equitation
63. Walk Trot Hunt Seat Equitation#
64. Senior Poles\*
    1. Exhibition Poles first
65. Junior Poles\*
66. Buckaroo Poles\*
67. Pony Poles\*
68. Senior Barrels\*
69. Junior Barrels\*
70. Buckaroo Barrels\*
71. Pony Barrels\*
72. Youth Flags\*
73. Senior Flags\*
74. Walk Trot Ranch Riding# (may not cross over to lope classes)
75. Walk Trot Ranch Rail# (may not cross over to lope classes)
76. Non-AQHA/Stock Style Western Pleasure
77. Non-AQHA/Stock Style HUS (All Ages)
78. Flags will be 18" long with 8" by 9" cloth flag. Soft wood (broom handle) should be used. Flag is to be marked 3" from the bottom for guideline for placement in the bucket.
79. Buckets will be plastic five (5) gallon size, filled to within three inches of the top with sand.
80. Buckets will be placed to the inside of barrel. The flag shall be placed in the center of the bucket, except in pony flags where the flag will be placed on the closest side of the bucket center to the arena.
81. Upon completion of ride, barrels and buckets must be standing upright. Flag must be stuck in the bucket.
82. If any barrel or bucket is knocked over, rider will be disqualified.
83. In the event of malfunction of the timer, the rider must run again, making a bonafide attempt in the re-ride and will receive a time even though the rider fails to stick the flag. NOTE: deliberate and intentional illegal procedures executed in order to receive a faster time will not be tolerated and the decision of the Judge will be final.
84. For re-ride time due to timer failure, see Timer Failure, State Rule Book.
85. End barrel must be set in the same position as for barrel race.
86. Barrels may be moved back or forth a certain distance to alleviate the area around the barrels becoming dug out and dangerous.
87. One Judge will stick the flag in the pick-up bucket.
88. Exhibitors who break pattern or have to turn around to pick up or stick the flag will be disqualified.
89. Junior Flags\*(18 and under)
90. Pony Flags\*
91. Senior Speed\*
92. Rider will be disqualified if barrel is knocked over during a run.
93. In the event of malfunction of the timer, the rider must run again, making a bonafide attempt in the re-ride to receive a time. NOTE: deliberate and intentional illegal procedures executed in order to receive a faster time will not be tolerated and the decision of the Judge will be final.
94. For re-ride time due to timer failure, see Timer Failure, Section 20.
95. Junior Speed\* (18 and under)
96. Open Stakes Race
    1. Follow Appaloosa Rules
97. Open Keyhole\*
98. Keyhole shall consist of a 12 foot circle with a 10 foot long by 5 foot wide throat.
99. Horse may enter pattern with a flying start. This is a timed event. Keyhole used will be outlined in white powder.
100. Horse must turn in circle - not in throat or approach to circle.
101. If a horse steps on or over a line, it will be disqualified, and no time will be given on the ride.
102. Judge must stand behind the keyhole or to the side at a safe distance.
103. In the event of malfunction of the timer, the rider must run again, making a bonafide attempt in the re-ride to receive a time. NOTE: deliberate and intentional illegal procedures executed in order to receive a faster time will not be tolerated and the decision of the Judge will be final.

\*Arkansas State Show qualifying class.

+Exhibitor cannot have placed first in over 3 classes of this type one (1) year prior. The year-end winner from previous year is not eligible.

#Walk Trot Highpoint- can not cross over to lope classes.

**C**. Age Divisions

Pony 0-10 years (except Open Pony Halter)

PeeWee 10 years and under (pony or horse)

Buckaroo 13 years and under

Junior 14 years- 18 years OR 18 and under if age group is not specified

Senior 19 years and older

Open All ages

**Section 25. Open Jackpot Barrels Series (if applicable)**

1. Open Jackpot Barrels
   1. Riders may ride more than one horse in the Jackpot Barrels and in exhibition classes.
   2. Exhibitions will be in a draw format, you will draw your numbers at the entry table.
   3. 4D Barrel format payouts will be ½ ½ ½ second splits
   4. Payouts are dependent on entries per class. Following BBR payout schedule
   5. Payouts will be 80% payout and 20% reserved for club expenses. (80/20)
   6. A $5.00 Office fee per exhibitor will apply
   7. Riders in the Jackpot Barrels Class can designate horse to count time towards for age appropriate NWAHSA class for state qualification. An additional $5.00 will be added for the entry. You can only roll over one time for one horse per class that applies.
2. Timed event classes will have “year end” awards and points to qualify for the Arkansas State Show.
3. High Dollar Series Award Winner
   1. Participants must be NWAHSA members to qualify for series award
   2. Participants must ride in 3 out of the 4 shows where the class is offered
   3. Winner will be based off one horse one rider combination
   4. Winner will be the top money earner for the series.

**Section 2. Judges**

The maximum fee per judge will be at the Board’s discretion. A Judge for a NWAHSA approved show must be selected by the Executive Board. Designation as an Association approved Judge is a privilege, not a right bestowed by the Executive Board, according to procedures formulated by it, to individuals whose equine expertise and personal character merit the honor. An individual’s conduct, as a member, exhibitor, and Judge and his ability must be exemplary, and is subject to continual board review. Such designation is revocable by the Executive Board with or without notice or hearing.

1. A Judge shall not appear on the show or contestant grounds more than fifteen minutes before the judging. A Judge shall not visit the horse’s stall area, nor visit with owners, trainers, exhibitors, or owner’s representatives. The Judge shall not inspect or discuss any horse entered in the show or contest before the judging, nor shall he review the program until after the judging has been completed. The Judge shall be furnished a schedule of events by the show management prior to the judging.
2. The Judge, at his discretion, may refuse an entry into the arena or remove an entry from a class for lameness, improper attire and/or equipment.
3. The Judge shall have the authority to place a horse in whatever position in a class he/she thinks the merit of the horse justifies. His/her decision shall be final in all cases affecting the merits of the horse. Each Judge is responsible for tallying the correct number of entries actually exhibited in each class he/she judges, and marking the correct figure on the form for this purpose supplied by the NWAHSA. When an exhibitor makes a request, through the Ring Steward, or other show official, for the Judge’s opinion concerning that exhibitor’s horse, it is urged that the Judge will give his/her opinion courteously and sincerely in the presence of the Ring Steward, or other show official. There will be no fraternization between the exhibitor and the Judge during the show.

**D.** The Judge may order any person or horse from competition for bad conduct of one or both, or may disqualify any contestant for excessive abuse of the horse.

**Section 3. Show Manager**

Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Show Manager who can furnish proof that he/she is capable through ability or experience.

1. The Show Manager shall be the person in charge of the NWAHSA show. In the absence of a designated Show Manager, the President shall serve as the designated Show Manager.
2. The Show Manager shall have the sole authority to enforce all rules referring to the show.
3. The Show Manager may excuse any horse or exhibitor from the show prior to or during the judging.
4. The Show Manager, at the close of the show, will receive from the Ring Steward a marked copy to the judging program, signed by the Judge, or Judges, and Ring Steward. (The show management for at least one year will retain this copy so that they will be available upon request by NWAHSA).

**Section 4. Ring Steward**

1. A competent Ring Steward will be required at all approved shows. Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Ring Steward who can furnish proof that he/she is capable through ability or experience, and is familiar with NWAHSA rules. A good Ring Steward makes the work of the Judge easier by relieving the Judge of unnecessary details. By assembling the class promptly, he will be able to keep the judging program on schedule and eliminate long delay between classes.
2. The Ring Steward will notify the Judge when all the horses are present for each class and call his attention to those horses which are absent. This information will be placed on the record, which the steward marks after each class has been judged.
3. The Ring Steward must have in mind that he has been selected to help the Judge, not advise him. He shall carefully refrain from discussing the horses or the exhibitors with the Judge. Ring Stewards shall not take part, or seem to take part, in any of the judging. When he is not actively engaged in his duties, he shall place himself in such a position so as not to interfere with the Judging and the view of the spectators. He must not allow the exhibitors to crowd up in the ring or arena and should at all times endeavor to keep the possibilities of an accident at a minimum.
4. The Ring Steward has charge of the activity in the ring or the arena. He should act as mediator between the Judge and the exhibitor. The Judge should request the Ring Steward to move and place horses as he advises. When the ring or arena is small in size and the class entries are large, he should survey the situation and take every precaution to keep the horses moving until the Judge is ready for them to be judged. He has the authority to ask an exhibitor to remove his horse for the safety of other horses or the spectators. It is necessary that a competent Ring Steward be used; one who can control the conduct of the horses and exhibitors in the ring, and one who can competently keep the classes progressing and who is familiar with the rules and regulations of the NWAHSA.
5. The Ring Steward has the authority to remove unsportsmanlike exhibitors from the arena.

**Section 5. Secretary**

Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Secretary who can furnish proof that he/she is capable through experience. The Secretary is in charge of the entry desk at an approved NWAHSA show.

**Section 6. Announcer**

Any reputable person may act in the capacity of announcer who has the ability and experience. This person must be familiar with the NWAHSA rules and horse show terms used in announcing the show. This person is responsible for announcing the correct placing of each class.

**Section 7. Challenges**

In the event any contestant of a show desire to lodge a complaint in connection with the show, he/she shall make that complaint to the Ring Steward who shall resolve that matter by referring to the rules and/or members of the Executive Board present at that time.

**Section 8. Year End Award and State Show Qualification**

1. **Point Distribution For NWAHSA Classes**

Points for Year End Awards and State Show qualifying will be for the first through fifth place as follows:

1st 5 Points

2nd 4 Points

3rd 3 Points

4th 2 Points

5th 1 Point

One set of points is kept for NWAHSA Year End Awards and one for State Show qualifying.

The points will be kept on the exhibitor. Membership must be paid for points to start count.

Provided there are 5 exhibitor in the class, if there are less than 5 exhibitors in the class, one point should be awarded for each entry in the class, unless there are only two entries then three points will be awarded for 1st and 2 points for 2nd. For example: 4 entries 1st 4 points, 2nd 3 points 3rd 2 points 4th 1 point. If only one exhibitor enters the arena 1st= 3 points. Entries are those who enter the arena.

1. **Year End Awards**

The success of the NWAHSA Year End Awards is dependent upon the full participation and support of the members. A budget for Year End Awards will be voted on. An awards committee will be assigned to manage the year end awards distribution, procurement of awards and banquet location and date. The Awards Committee can be comprised of any current member. The Awards Committee will submit a proposal to the board of award value and distribution and other information pertaining to the awards banquet. Budgets will be contingent upon the financial availability at the end of each show season. NWAHSA shall maintain a minimum balance at year ending to properly finance starting show fees for the follow year. Each member must be in good standing with NWAHSA to receive a year end award. Number of awards given and type of award given out is at the discretion of the awards committee pending awards banquet budget.

1. **Year End Award Qualification**
2. Membership: Exhibitors must have a paid membership in order to start point count.
3. Sponsorships: Each member/family shall be required to support NWAHSA and the sale of sponsorships and/or advertisements for the NWAHSA Program sponsorships and/or advertisements. In order to be eligible for Year End Awards, each member must sale a minimum of $50 of donations or advertisements. The deadline for receipt of these funds shall be received by the association executive board by the 2nd show of the season.
4. Work Requirement: Each member family will be responsible for working 5 hours per member or member family.
5. Show Participation: Exhibitors must show in 50% of the shows and 50% of each class to be eligible for points to count toward Year End Awards. Speed series exhibitors must participate in 3 out of the 4 shows or 50% of all shows.
6. Points Distribution: Top point earning member in each class. Financial availability of the year will determine how many places will be awarded and determined by the Awards Committee.
7. Exhibition rides do not count towards year end awards
8. Exhibitors must ride in correct age division for points to count for year-end awards.
9. **High Point Awards**
   1. High Point Awards will be presented for Exhibitors in each of the applicable age divisions in each discipline (speed or performance), based on a 1 horse and 1 exhibitor points status in that discipline. If an exhibitor needs to change horses during the course of a show season and is running for a High Point award, the change must be cleared through the Executive board.
   2. Points from Open classes may count toward any Age division High point,
   3. Points from age division specific classes may only count towards that specific High point award, if your age division is also offered.
      1. Ex. If you are 9 and ride in Buckaroo horsemanship it will only count toward Buckaroo High point since 10 and Under Horsemanship is also offered. However, if your age division is not offered, such as there is no 10 and under or Buckaroo Reining those points may also count toward your Age division High point. Age as of January 1st of the current year.
   4. PeeWee 10 and under (including but not limited to pony classes)
   5. Buckaroo 11-13
   6. Junior 14-18
   7. Senior 19 +
10. Exhibitors must have paid membership in order for points to start point count.
    1. Points must be awarded in at least two classes to be eligible for a High Point Award.
    2. Points for the following classes will not count towards High Point Awards:
       1. Junior Horse Western Pleasure
    3. 50% show participation is required to be eligible for points to count towards high point.
    4. Tie Breaker: In the event of a tie for High Point, the contestant will be declared the winner who, 1) earned the most points in the greatest number of events on one horse, 2) earned the most points in the riding (Performance) events, and 3) winning over the greatest number of horses (or contestants) in that order.
    5. An individual can only be awarded high point awards in one age division in both performance and speed. The highest awards the individual qualifies for will be the category awarded. (This primarily applies to contestants that are ten years of age due to the overlap possibilities in age divisions.)

**Class Qualification by Age Group:**

**Pony**

Any class listed below that both 10&under and pony compete in 10 & under/Open or age division that is available to them in case of no 10&under division. Ponies are not allowed to enter rail classes with horses.

Open Pony Halter

Open Color Class

Youth Showmanship

Open Hunt Seat Equitation

Pony Western Pleasure/PeeWee

Open Trail

Open In-Hand Trail

Youth Horsemanship

Pony Walk/Trot

**10&Under**

Any class listed below that both the 10&under and same horse division is being given competes in 10 & under/Open or age division that is available to them in the case of no 10&under division.

Open mares Halter

Open Gelding Halter

Open color class

Pony Walk Trot

PeeWee Showmanship

10&Under Walk Trot

PeeWee Walk Trot Horsemanship

Open Trail

Open Ranch Horse Western Pleasure

Junior Reining

Open English Walk Trot

Youth Hunter Under Saddle

Open Hunter Under Saddle

Open Discipline Rail

**Buckaroo (Age 11-13)**

Any class listed below that both the Buckaroo and same horse competes in Buckaroo/Open or age division that is available to them in the case of no Buckaroo division.

Open Mares Halter

Open Gelding Halter

Open color class

Youth Showmanship

Open walk trot 11 and Over

Youth Western Pleasure (13 under)

Youth Horsemanship (13 under)

Junior Ranch Horse western pleasure

Junior Ranch Riding

Open Discipline Rail

Open Trail

Open Reining

Open English Walk Trot

Youth Hunter Under Saddle

Open Hunter Under Saddle

Open Hunt Seat Equitation

Open Ranch Halter

**Junior (Ages 14-18)**

Any class listed below that both the Junior and same horse competes in Junior/Open or age division that is available to them in the case of no Junior division.

Open mares Halter

Open Gelding Halter

Open color class

Youth Showmanship

Open walk trot 11 and Over

Junior Horse Western Pleasure

Youth Horsemanship (18 and under)

Junior Ranch horse pleasure

Junior Ranch Riding

Open Trail

Open Reining

Open Discipline Rail

Open English Walk Trot

Youth Hunter Under Saddle (18 and under)

Open Hunter Under Saddle

Open Hunt Seat Equitation

Open Ranch Halter

**Senior (Ages 19 +)**

Any class listed below that both the Senior and same horse competes in Senior/Open .

Open mares Halter

Open Gelding Halter

Open color class

Senior Showmanship

Open walk trot 11 and Over

Senior Western Pleasure

Senior Horsemanship

Senior Ranch Pleasure

Open Trail

Open Reining

Open Discipline Rail

Open English Walk Trot

Senior Hunter Under Saddle

Open Hunter Under Saddle

Open Hunt Seat Equitation

Open Ranch Halter

**Walk Trot Ranch Highpoint classes (all ages)**

Walk Trot Ranch Trail

Walk Trot Ranch Riding

Walk Trot Ranch Rail

Open Ranch Halter

**E. Individual Class Year End Award Qualification**

Class winners who meet qualifications outlined in section A of Year End Award Qualifications. The top point earning eligible Lead Line Participants will receive a year end award. The value of the award may be less than that of other awards. Lead Line participants must be members to receive a year end award.

1. **Other Awards**

Based off financial availability, other awards such as Sportsmanship, Rookie of the Year One Horse One rider High Point Traveling trophy may be offered.

The Awards Committee will determine/propose what other awards should be offered from year to year.

**G. Arkansas State Horse Show**

The top five exhibitors in each qualifying class will qualify for the State Horse Show.

Membership: Must have paid Membership for points to start count.

Work Requirement: Each member family will be responsible for working 5 hours per member or family.

Exhibitors must show in 50% of the shows each year to be eligible to show at the Arkansas State Show. Exhibitors who wish to participate in a Lottery Draw for a State class, must show in that particular class 50% of the show year.

Each exhibitor must be in good standing with NWAHSA.

In case of a tie for State Show qualifications, the contestant winning over the greatest number of exhibitors will be declared the winner of the tie. If contestants are still tied, the final decision will be referred to the Board of Directors.

**Section 10. Miscellaneous Show Rules**

1. No assistance may be provided to a rider inside the arena for performance events and past the timer for speed events, unless necessary for emergency or safety situations.
2. All NWAHSA sanctioned events are alcohol and illegal drug free.
3. No Dogs are allowed.
4. Unless otherwise stated, AQHA rules will be used to govern our classes and the current AQHA handbook used for reference. Changes adopted each year by the AQHA will also be adopted by NWAHSA.
5. Exhibitors Numbers: All contestants in performance classes must prominently display the exhibitor number. Speed class contestants will not be required to display an exhibitor number.
6. Any contestant withdrawing from a class after entering shall forfeit his entry fee.
7. Classes are open to any “Stock” type horse. No registration with any breed is required. Proof of age will be required if formally questioned.
8. Negative Coggins - The Arkansas State Law required every horse to have proof of negative Coggins test (EIA). The original test must accompany every horse. A copy of the test can be kept in the NWAHSA Coggins notebook for proof of negative Coggins.
9. Challenges: In the event any contestant of a show desire to lodge a complaint in connection with the show, he/she shall make that complaint to the Ring Steward who shall resolve the matter by referring to the rules and/or members of the Executive Board who are present at that time.
10. Youth Age: Stated as of January 1st of the current year.
11. Irregularities: AQHA rules.
12. Equipment and Attire: AQHA rules. During extreme weather and special events relaxed dress code may be in effect at the discretion of the judge and club president.
13. Speed Events: The hat rule, along with the long sleeve rule, has been waived. If you choose to wear a hat or cap and you lose it, you will receive a five (5) second penalty.
14. Any exhibitor disqualified from a class for any reason will not receive a placing for that class and no points shall be awarded to that exhibitor.
15. If an exhibiter wishes to show a different horse/pony in a class than the one that was listed upon registration, the change must be made with the registration desk prior to entering the arena for the class. ( For High Point)
16. All ponies that are competing in pony classes must be measured prior to showing in the class using “The Cowboy Way” by NWAHSA Executive Committee. Ponies must be 54 inches or under. Once the pony is measured the name of the pony will be listed as approved for future shows in the current show season. Due to safety concerns and to conform with State Show Guidelines, ponies cannot compete with horses in any rail work judged classes. Classes such as Showmanship, Horsemanship and Reining are permissible.
17. All horses that show in Junior Horse Western Pleasure must have their age verified by either registration papers or Coggins papers. Once the horse’s age has been verified, the horse will be listed as approved for future shows in the current show season. Northwest Arkansas Horse Show Association rules apply.
18. No Stallions permitted in any 18 & Younger classes.
19. The Northwest Arkansas Horse Show Association, its members, or any persons associated with producing these shows are not responsible for injury, accident, or loss of any type occurring before, during, or after these shows.

**Section 20. Timer Failure**

In the event of time failure, a contestant may have his choice regarding time for his re-ride, he may run immediately or at the end of the class. Should he be the last rider in the event, when the timer fails, he will then be given five minutes to rest his/her horse.

If a rider makes a qualified run in any speed event and the timer fails to work properly, the rider must make a bonafide attempt, in the re-ride. NOTE: deliberate and intentional disqualifications to achieve a faster time will not be tolerated and the decision of the Judge will be final.

All penalties from the first run will be assessed on the second run.

**Section 22. Show Locations**

Members of the Executive Board and area riding clubs, individuals, and other organizations by verbal agreement shall negotiate the show location.

**Section 23. Hot Checks/Unpaid Tabs**

The secretary of the Association shall notify individuals who do no pay their tabs, or who have an insufficient check returned to the Association. If after seven (7) days from the date of notification, the account has not been satisfactorily settled, the individual could be suspended from membership in the Association if that person is a member and the person shall not be permitted to enter any NWAHSA approved shows until the debt has been settled. The individual who submits an insufficient funds check must pay any service charges that the club incurs.

**Section 24. Exhibition Rides**

1. Exhibition rides will be allowed.
2. A $5.00 fee will be charged per ride for judged events.
3. Timed event exhibitions are 3 rides or $10 per class.
4. Exhibition Entries are not part of the all day fee
5. No exhibitor who exhibition will be issued an exhibitor number nor shall any points for Year End awards be counted.
6. All exhibition rides will be run in the timed events at the end of the class and if there are any exhibition rides in any other classes
7. The Judge is to be made aware of the exhibition contestants and they are not to be judged.

**Section 26. Scholarship**

1. Applicant must be a current NWAHSA member pursuing at least a two year course of study with an institution of higher learning to be eligible for this scholarship.
2. Scholarship is awarded without regard to race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, political beliefs, marital status, family or parental status, sexual orientation or income.
3. Applicants will need
   1. A copy of high school transcript
   2. A copy of most recent college transcript, if at least one semester has been completed.
   3. An essay on ‘’Why I think I deserve the scholarship’’
   4. Two letters of recommendation (non- family members)
   5. Signed application
4. Applications will be submitted to the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, or the NWAHSA President by posted deadline.
5. The winner will be voted on by board members by ballot only.
6. Preference will be made to undergraduates, students seeking graduate classes will be considered if there are not any undergraduate applicants.
7. Annual budget for the scholarship will be $500 or unless voted on differently by the board due to financial restrictions.
8. Applicant must show 50% of the show year unless there extenuating circumstances that will be reviewed by board members.
9. Scholarship Applications are due by noon of the last show of the current season.