

## **VQHA Show and Contest Rules- 2016 Rules and Regulations**

1. Competition in the VQHA Points Awards Program is open to all VQHA members in good standing of all ages. In order to be considered for year- end awards, all participating horses must be nominated with the VQHA. There are nine (9) divisions available.
  - a. Open Division
  - b. Amateur Division
  - c. Select Amateur Division
  - d. Rookie Division
    - i. Rookie Youth
    - ii. Rookie Amateur
  - e. Youth Division
    - i. 13 and Under
    - ii. 14-18
  - f. Novice Division
    - i. Novice Amateur
    - ii. Novice Youth
  - g. Dressage Division
  - h. Walk/trot 11 and Under
    - i. Showmanship
    - ii. Walk Trot Pleasure –English
    - iii. Walk Trot Pleasure – Western
    - iv. Horsemanship – Western and/or English
    - v. Trail
  - F. Racing
2. Points may be earned in all AQHA recognized classes at all VQHA approved shows. All owners of record and exhibitors must be VQHA members in good standing. Amateur contestants must be a member with VQHA and VAQHA. Youth contestants must be a member of VQHA and VQHYA. If a horse is registered and owned by a Farm or Corporation, the Farm or Corporation must be a member by purchasing an Individual Membership with VQHA. Any horse shown on a permit will not be allowed to earn VQHA points.
3. The Halter and Performance Open, Amateur, Youth, Novice, Rookie and Walk/Trot points year will be from the first to the last VQHA approved shows – starting November 1 and going through October 31. The Racing points will be reported on a calendar year basis from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.
4. VQHA points may be earned in Racing only in AQHA approved races on AQHA approved tracks. In order to be eligible for points, all owners of record of a horse in competition must be a VQHA member in good standing.
5. VQHA points will be earned according to placing on the following basis:
  - a. First Place – 9 points
  - b. Second Place – 8 points
  - c. Third Place – 7 Points

- d. Fourth Place – 6 points
- e. Fifth Place – 5 points
- f. Sixth Place – 4 points
- g. Seventh Place – 3 points
- h. Eighth Place – 2 points
- i. Ninth Place – 1 Point

Example: In a class having eight or less entries, the points would be scaled down according to the number of entries. In a class having four entries, four points would be awarded for first place, three points for second place, two points for third place and one point for fourth place.

- 6. The Points Committee Secretary will record all VQHA points earned directly from the VQHA official show results, which are supplied by Show management in a format that is satisfactory to VQHA. With regard to the Dressage Division, the Virginia Dressage Association will maintain and report points.
- 7. For award purposes, competition categories will be divided into Junior and Senior providing they were so divided in at least 25% of the VQHA approved shows for that season. Otherwise, an all age award will be given.
- 8. The Points Committee Secretary will prepare a monthly report beginning within 14 days of the receipt of the first VQHA show results. If no show results are received before the cutoff date for the Newsletter, a letter of explanation will be included in the newsletter.
- 9. A final points report will be prepared within two weeks of the final points audit. The audit must be timely in order for the Banquet Committee to have ample time to order awards for the Annual Awards Banquet. VQHA members having any objections, changes or challenges to the final points must submit them in writing to the President of the VQHA within two weeks after receipt of the final points mailing.
- 10. Eligibility for awards by division follow.

## Open Category:

**Eligibility:** Open exhibitors must be members in good standing with VQHA at the time the points were earned. Points will be awarded on a one-owner-one-horse basis. Duplicate awards will be given in the case of ties.

**Class Awards:** Only Champion and Reserve Champions Class awards will be presented annually to the horses accumulating the most VQHA points in each Open class. Duplicate awards will be given in case of ties. A minimum of 15 VQHA points must be earned in each Open performance class and a minimum of 10 VQHA points earned in each Open halter class. Points will be awarded on a one owner-one horse basis. The owner must be a member of VQHA at the time the points were earned.

**All Around Awards:** Champion All Around and Reserve All Around awards will be presented based on total VQHA points earned in the Open Division. To be eligible for an All Around award:

1. A horse must have earned a minimum of 10 VQHA points in any open halter and/or open performance halter class and.
2. A horse must have earned a minimum of 15 VQHA points in each of three Open performance events.
3. AQHA Green classes will not be included in any all around categories. AQHA Green Classes will be eligible to receive a year end class award. A minimum of 15 VQHA points must be earned in each AQHA Green class to be eligible for a class award.

**Open High Point Halter Award:** Champion High point Halter and Reserve Champion High Point Halter Awards will be presented based on total VQHA points earned in the Open Halter classes and/or the Open Performance Halter Classes. The Grand Champion must have one point more than any other horse in its sex division. The Reserve Champion must have as many points as any other horse (other than Grand Champion) in its sex division (see AQHA rules pertaining to Grand and Reserve). Grand and Reserve Championships will count only in accordance with AQHA rules pertaining to the number of horses shown.

## Amateur and Amateur Select Categories

**Eligibility:** Amateurs and Select Amateurs must be members in good standing with VQHA and VAQHA at the time the points were earned. Points will be awarded on a one-amateur-one-horse basis. Duplicate awards will be given in the case of ties.

**Class Awards:** Only Champion and Reserve Champions Class awards will be presented annually to the horses accumulating the most VQHA points in each Amateur or Amateur Select class. Duplicate awards will be given in case of ties. A minimum of 15 VQHA points must be earned in each Amateur or Amateur Select performance class and a minimum of 10 VQHA points earned in each Amateur halter class. Points will be awarded on a one owner-one horse basis.

#### **Amateur and Amateur Select All Around Awards**

Champion All Around and Reserve All Around awards for the Amateur and Amateur Select divisions and will be awarded based on total VQHA points earned in the respective Amateur or Amateur Select Divisions. To be eligible for an Amateur or Amateur Select All Around award:

- 1 A horse must have earned a minimum of 10 VQHA points in any amateur halter and/or amateur performance halter class and.
- 2 A horse must have earned a minimum of 15 VQHA points in the respective Showmanship class and
- 3 A horse must have earned a minimum of 15 VQHA points in each of three additional respective amateur performance events.

**Amateur High Point Halter Award:** Champion High Point Amateur Halter and Reserve Champion High Point Amateur Halter awards will be presented based on total VQHA points earned in Amateur Halter and/or Amateur Performance Halter classes. The Grand Champion must have one more point than any other horse in its sex division. The Reserve Champion must have as many points as any other horse (other than Grand Champion) in its sex division (see AQHA rules pertaining to Grand and Reserve). Grand and Reserve Championships will only count in accordance with AQHA rules pertaining to the number of horses shown.

## **13 & Under/ 14-18 /All Age Youth Categories**

**Eligibility:** AQHA has classes for (a) 13 and under, (b) 14-18 and (c) All Age youth age groups. To be eligible for an award in the 13 and under, 14-18, or All Age Youth category, the Youth must be a member in good standing with VQHA and with the VQHYA at the time the points were earned. Points will be earned on a one-youth one-horse basis. Duplicate awards will be given in the case of ties. Youth age division awards (13 and Under and 14-18) will be provided if they are so divided in at least 25% of the VQHA approved shows for that year. Otherwise an All Age Youth All Around award will be given.

**Class Awards:** A minimum of 10 VQHA points must be earned in the respective youth halter class and a minimum of 15 VQHA points in each youth performance class must be earned to be eligible for a year end class award. Only Champion and

Reserve Champion awards will be presented annually to the youth winning the most VQHA points in each respective Youth class.

**High Point Halter Award:** High Point halter and reserve high point halter awards will be based on Total VQHA points earned in the Youth Halter and/or Youth Performance Halter classes. The Grand Champion must have one point more than any other horse in its sex division. The Reserve champion must have as many points as any other horse (other than Grand Champion) in its sex division (see AQHA rules pertaining to Grand and Reserve). Grand and Reserve Championships will count only in accordance with AQHA rules pertaining to the number of horses shown.

**All Around Awards** Champion All Around and Reserve All Around awards will be presented based on total VQHA points earned in the (a) 13 and under or (b) 14-18 or (c) All Age Youth division. To be eligible for an All Around award:

1. A minimum of 10 VQHA Youth Halter and/or Youth Performance Halter points must have been earned.
2. A minimum of 15 VQHA points in the respective showmanship (13 and under, 14-18 or all age)
3. A minimum of 15 VQHA points in each of three respective additional youth performance categories.
4. Each additional youth performance category can contain a combination of the 13 and under with all age youth or the 14-18 with all age youth points.

## **Novice Youth, Novice Amateur, Rookie Youth, Rookie Amateur Categories**

**Eligibility:** The Novice Youth and Rookie Youth must be a member in good standing with VQHA and with the VQHYA at the time points were earned. / . The Novice Amateur and Rookie Amateur must be member in good standing with VQHA and VAQHA during the year in which points were earned. Points in these categories will be earned on a one-person-one-horse basis. Duplicate awards will be given in the case of ties. .

**Class Awards:** Champion and Reserve Champion Class awards will be presented annually to the Novices and Rookies winning the most VQHA points in each respective Novice or Rookie class. Duplicate awards will be given in the case of ties. A minimum of 15 VQHA points must be earned in each respective performance class to be eligible for a class award.

**All Around Awards:** Champion All Around and Reserve All Around awards will be presented based on total VQHA points earned in the respective Novice or Rookie divisions. To be eligible for an All Around award:

1. A minimum of 15 VQHA points in the respective showmanship class must have been earned in the show season and
2. A minimum of 15 VQHA points in each of three respective additional respective performance classes must have been earned in the show season.
3. Halter classes are not required; however, VQHA halter points will count in the calculation for Novice and Rookie All Arounds. The Novice or Rookie must show in Amateur halter classes (for Rookie or Novice Amateurs) or Youth halter classes (for Rookie or Novice Youth). .

## **Walk/Trot Division**

Eligibility:

1. Walk/Trot exhibitors must be 11 years of age and under. Age as of January 1 is the determining factor.
2. The animal used by the Walk/Trot exhibitor may be a pony or a horse and does not have to be a registered Quarter Horse.
3. Points will be awarded to the exhibitor regardless of how many mounts they exhibit. Duplicate awards will be given in the case of ties.
4. The horse or pony may be exhibited in either English or Western attire.
5. Exhibitor must determine whether they will compete in walk/trot classes or AQHA performance classes for any given day. Cross entering from walk/trot to AQHA performance classes and vice versa is prohibited. Halter classes do not make you ineligible for walk/trot classes.
6. The exhibitor must be a member in good standing with VQHA.
7. Each walk/trot class is considered separately for year end awards. A minimum of 15 VQHA points in each class is required. Year end awards will be given from first through fifth place. In the case of the 11 and under horsemanship, where a show offers both English and western horsemanship, those points will be combined for the horsemanship year end award calculation.
8. When the walk/trot English and western pleasure is a combined class, it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to contact the VQHA Points secretary stating whether the exhibitor showed in English or Western attire. This must be done within 30 days of the show.

## **Racing Division**

Eligibility: It will be the owner's responsibility to inform the Point Committee Secretary of all points earned in Racing. Points should be submitted in a letter containing the date of the race, the Track name, the Horse's name, the Jockey's name, the number of entries in the race and the placing. This letter must be postmarked within 30 days of the race in which the points were earned. The Racing points will be from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **Dressage Division**

Eligibility:

1. Point will be awarded for each AQHA approved dressage class. A minimum of 15 VQHA points must be earned in each class.
2. Youth members must be current members of both VQHA and VQHYA. Points for youth will be earned on a one-horse-one-rider basis.
3. Amateur members must be current members of both VQHA and VAQHA. Points for Amateurs must be earned on a one-horse-one-rider basis.
4. Open members must be current members of VQHA. Points for Open members will be awarded to the owner of the horse for that year

**Minimum Points Required to be Eligible for All Around Awards  
In each Show Year**

	Open	Am	Sel Am	Rookie Am	Nov Am
Halter	10	10	10	NA	NA
Showmanship	Na	15	15	15	15
*Additional Performance Classes	3-15 ea	3-15 ea	3-15 ea	3-15 each	3-15 each

	13&Und	14-18	Nov Yth	Rookie Yth	Yth All Age
Halter	10	10	10	NA	10
Showmanship	Na	15	15	15	15
*Additional Performance Classes	3-15 ea	3-15 ea	3-15 ea	3-15 each	3-15 each

\*Note Regarding Additional Performance Classes --- A member must earn a minimum of 15 VQHA points in each of three additional performance classes in the respective division.

Novice and Rookie divisions do not require halter points; however, halter points will count in the all around calculations.

**Updated February 2016**

