



JUDGES QUARTERLY

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR APHA JUDGES



A NOTE FROM SANDY

I hope you are doing well! As we gear up for another exciting year, I am writing to express my gratitude for your continued support and involvement in our judge community. Your insights and experiences are invaluable, and I'm thrilled to announce that we'll be rolling out our newsletters quarterly to keep the conversation going!

We also need to say a huge thank you to Elizabeth Lawhorn. She is the organizational queen of the APHA judges program.

Lastly, *APHA Rule Books* will be mailed in late December/early January. We are eager to get these to you to kick off 2024. We wish you a fantastic holiday season and an even more exciting year ahead!

Sandy Jirkovsky

APHA Director of Judges & Professional Horsemen



COMING EVENTS

- APHA & AjPHA Leadership Gathering
 - February 29 - March 3, 2024, Fort Worth, TX
- APHA World Show
 - June 21 - July 7, 2024, Fort Worth, TX
- APHA Eastern National Championship
 - August 22-25, 2024, Wilmington, OH
- APHA Western National Championship
 - October 3-6, 2024, Las Vegas, NV
- APHA/WCHA Halter Million
 - September 21-29, 2024, Fort Worth, TX

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

- NRCHA Judging Seminar
 - December 16-18, 2023, Fort Worth, TX
- CBC International Equine Judges Seminar
 - January 29 - February 1, 2024, Tulsa, OK
- NRHA Applicant School
 - January 10-11, 2024, Oklahoma City, OK
- horseIQ Live
 - April 5-7, 2024, Fort Worth, TX
- APHA/AQHA/WCHA Applicant Testing
 - May 20-22, 2024, Pilot Point, TX



QUICK REMINDERS

- Make sure your information is up-to-date on the online judge directory [here](#). You should verify and ensure the accuracy of your judging credentials. Email your updates to [Elizabeth Lawhorn](#).
- The annual APHA Judges' Fee and online rulebook test will be available in early January on horseIQ. Keep an eye out for more information!
- Penalty reference sheets for all scored classes will be added [here](#) and can be used at shows and to prepare for judge testing.



JUDGE RECERTIFICATION

2024 marks the next three-year rotation of in-person judge recertifications for U.S. judges. These recertifications can be completed either at CBC or at the AQHA/APHA Judges Seminar. Click [here](#) for more info.

- Check your judge directory profile for your last testing year.
 - Those who were due to retest in 2020 but tested in 2021 because of COVID-19 are due to retest in 2024.
- The classes that will be covered in the test will be Ranch Riding and Hunt-Seat Equitation.

SHARE WITH US

[Email us](#) with your feedback on the following items:

- Are you bilingual? Let us know which languages you speak! We are looking to utilize our bilingual judges for future international educational seminars.
- Want to see specific topics covered in future newsletters?
- Have feedback on judge applicants? View the current applicants [here](#).
- Know any opportunities we should explore?



FAST FACTS

Of the 244 APHA Judges:

- 157 APHA/AQHA
- 167 APHA/NSBA
- 26 APHA/NRCHA
- 50 APHA/NRHA
- 81 APHA/PtHA
- 108 male, 136 female

Consider adding additional judging cards to your resume!



JUDGE PROFILE

Patty Campbell is from Whitesboro, Texas, where she and her husband, Butch, own and operate Campbell Ranch Horses. Patty is a carded APHA, AQHA and NSBA judge.

Her advice to new judges:

“Enjoy what you do. Do not overlook talent for turn-out, and follow your instinct. Be positive when you judge. We need to appreciate all levels of competition and remember that everybody started somewhere!”

HORSEIQ CORNER

The new NRHA reining course is now available on horseIQ for you to review! Click [here](#) to see more.

Score these penalties and see how you do! A horse begins his right circles and trots four steps. He then crossfires for one stride and continues to run his circles correctly. Which is correct?

- A) 2-point penalty for trotting and ½-point for out of lead for one stride
- B) 1-point penalty for trotting and 1-point penalty for out of lead.
- C) ½-point penalty for trotting, 1-point penalty for out of lead and lower maneuver.

Find the answer at the bottom!



IN MEMORIAM

We recently lost APHA Judge's Emeritus Conrad Caines. Connie had judged the APHA World Show several times. Our prayers are with his family and wife, Ellen.

We lost several greats this past year—Bruce Walquist and Rusty Dare. They would all want us to remember to live life to the fullest!



ROAD WARRIOR TIPS

1. Don't book the last flight of the day. Flights are canceled often.
2. Wear your boots and carry your hat. Luggage gets lost!
3. Keep the phone numbers of the show manager and other judges for the show. You never know when you'll need them.
4. Read and review your rulebook. Perfect preparation makes perfect performance!
5. Don't book a flight to come home on the last day of the show unless your show manager suggests to do so.

THRIFTY TRAVEL

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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

The answer was C! A judge would apply a ½-point penalty for departing a circle and jogging less than 2 strides. Walking would reduce the maneuver if poorly executed. The horse would then receive a 1-point penalty for being out of lead for one stride.

Questions? Contact me any time—I'm happy to help!

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