Associated Horse Shows
Bylaws

Mission Statement: To encourage, foster, and promote equestrian activities. It is the intent of the AHS and its Board to maintain the fundamental values as the reason for our existence; that sportsmanship, and the competition as it relates to the equestrian sport, be experienced and embraced both in and out of the ring by the entire membership, young and old.

I. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
   A. Governing body of activities of the Associated Horse Shows.
   B. Consists of:
      i. Four (4) Directors elected at the Annual Meeting.
      ii. One (1) Director appointed by the elected board.
   C. TERMS OF OFFICE:
      i. Each Director shall serve a two (2) year term. A Board member may succeed themselves if they are nominated; but for no more than three (3) successive terms.
      ii. Rotating elections:
         (a) Two (2) Directors shall be elected annually.
         (b) The appointed Director shall change every other year.
         (c) Any Director may be removed for cause by unanimous vote of the members of the Board of Directors.
      iii. Newly elected officers:
         (a) Newly elected officers of the AHS shall take Office at the first meeting of the AHS Board following the Annual Meeting.
         (b) Retiring Officers complete their term at the end of business at the Annual Meeting, but may remain working with the Board of Directors in an unofficial capacity until the Awards Banquet and may attend all interim Board meetings regarding the Awards Banquet.
   D. Board Meetings
      i. A majority constitutes a quorum for voting purposes.
      ii. A minimum of three (3) meeting per year is mandatory. Additional meetings shall be called whenever necessary.
      iii. A meeting of the Board of Directors must be held after the last show of the season and within two (2) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting
   E. Duties of the Board
      i. Formulate and enforce the policies of the AHS.
         (a) Amendments, revisions, or additions to the Bylaws requires a unanimous vote unless otherwise stated.
         (b) Act as a steward at all horse shows; helping maintain the quality of shows by answering all questions and concerns about the rules.
         (c) Respond to grievance that have been submitted in writing to the AHS.
      ii. To provide a copy of the current Bylaws to show management and update Bylaws on website annually.
      iii. To appoint interim directors to fill vacancies.
      iv. To elect annually from their members a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Membership/Points Officer, and a Banquet Officer.
         (a) Elections to be held at the first meeting of the Board following the Annual Meeting consisting of the newly elected Board.
         (b) Board to elect replacements for the above stated officers if vacancies occur.
      v. To determine penalties when shows of individuals are found guilty of violation(s) of the rules.
   F. Duties of the Officers
      i. President
         (a) To preside at all meetings.
         (b) To provide an agenda for all meetings.

(c) To provide direction for conducting business of the AHS.

ii. Secretary
   (a) To keep minutes of all meetings and email typed minutes to all Board members within two (2) weeks after the meeting. A copy of bank statements to be kept with minutes.
   (b) To be responsible for all written correspondence of the AHS, including:
      (1) Late dues/results notices
      (2) Sponsorship requests/thank you notes
   (c) To notify members of all meetings.

iii. Treasurer
   (a) To be responsible for all AHS funds.
   (b) To sign and deliver checks when authorized by the Board.
   (c) To submit a financial report at the Annual Meeting.
   (d) To record payment of secretarial dues, membership fees, and sponsorships.
   (e) To mail out secretarial/sponsorship dues invoice no late than one week after last show of season.
   (f) To maintain insurance for AHS.
   (g) To verify horse shows insurance policies as stated in Section II.d.i.12

iv. Membership/Points Officer
   (a) To keep and record all points for year-end standings.
   (b) To collect membership applications/fees.
   (c) To keep points updated on AHS website.
   (d) To maintain a current list of all professionals, riders, horses and owners.

v. Banquet Officer
   (a) To appoint committees as needed.
   (b) To order ribbons by December 1st.
   (c) To select prizes for Banquet with majority Board approval and collect member selections.
   (d) To mail banquet packet one (1) month before Banquet.
   (e) To secure location of Banquet with majority Board approval.

vi. All Officers of the Board shall
   (a) Call meetings of the Board when necessary according to the rules.
   (b) Promote public awareness of AHS in the community.
   (c) Review prize lists when submitted by show managers.
   (d) Brainstorm fundraising ideas.
   (e) Coordinate special events dates during AHS show season.

II. HORSE SHOWS

A. New Horse Shows
   i. A new horse show must apply in writing to the Board at least two (2) weeks before the Annual Meeting.
   ii. New dates will be given to those who support the existing calendar and adhere to all provisions within these bylaws.
   iii. New horse shows will be serviced after all existing horse shows are satisfied.
   iv. If there are multiple requests they will be serviced according to the date received.
   v. The date for a new show will become permanent after completing a trial year according to AHS rules.
   vi. If horse show dates are full, an existing date must be relinquished for a new show to be acquired.

B. Existing Show Dates
   i. Rotation of the AHS show calendar will correspond to the USEF show calendar. Show managers have been assigned to these weeks:

      Week #1 – Devon Juniors' Weekend
      Week #3 – Jen Ramins/Lisa Sonntag (Taylor Made)
      Week #4 – Claire Harris (Fox Heath)
      Week #5 – Amanda Enwright (Black Horse Stables)
      Week #9 – Julie Veneziale (Three's A Charm)

Week #10 – Amanda Enwright (Black Horse Stables)
Week #13 – Jen Ramins/Lisa Sonntag (Taylor Made)
Week #16 – Jen Ramins/Lisa Sonntag (Taylor Made)
Week #17 – Linda Satterfiled (Sommerfield)
Week #18 – Jenn Post (Jentri)
Week #19 – Claire Harris (Fox Heath)
Week #22 – Jenn Post (Jentri)
Week #23 – Claire Harris (HVH)
Week #24-45 – Open
Week #46 – Jenn Post (Jentri)
Week #47 – Claire Harris (HVH)
Week #48 – Jenn Post (Jentri)
Week #50 – Linda Satterfield/Royce's Rescue (Sommerfield)

ii. Priority in assigning show dates:
   (a) A Member in good standing has priority to retain a horse show date each year.
   (b) A Member in good standing has priority to select a new date.
   (c) Any written requests sent prior to the Annual Meeting have priority in date selection.
      (1) If more than one horse show has a request, priority goes to the senior show unless otherwise determined by the Board.
      (2) If a single horse show manager has multiple date requests, only one show date gets senior position. All other requests are serviced after all other horse show managers have been serviced.
iii. A Member not in good standing by the Annual Meeting relinquishes their show date for the upcoming year.
iv. Total number of shows on the calendar will not exceed twenty-five (25).
v. A horse show may cancel, with extenuating circumstances, with written notice to the Board and approval by a majority vote. However, neither secretarial fees nor sponsorship dues will be refunded. If a horse show cancels for two (2) consecutive years, for reasons other than weather, their right to that date will be relinquished. Shows may be rescheduled up until November 30 of the current show year.
vi. Any changes agreed upon by both parties to swap dates is acceptable to the Board.

C. Dues
   i. Secretary fees of seventy-five ($75.00) dollars per show date; plus sponsorship of at least one division at the Banquet at seventy-five ($75.00) dollars per show manager; subject to change annually.
   ii. Dues are payable within thirty (30) days from presentation of invoice, or by the Annual Meeting, whichever occurs first.
   iii. Horse Show Managers are also required to be members of the AHS.
   iv. Delinquent dues:
      (a) Horse show dates will not appear on the horse show calendar until dues are paid in full.
      (b) Unpaid invoices that are thirty (30) days after the Annual Meeting will receive a written reminder.
      (c) Unpaid invoices that are forty-five (45) days after the Annual Meeting will results in a one-hundred ($100.00) dollar fine.
      (d) Unpaid invoices that are sixty (60) days after the Annual Meeting will result in loss of show date(s).

D. Horse Show Management
   i. Duties
      (a) To enforce all AHS rules.
      (b) AHS recommends the use of recognized judges.
      (c) To provide a Veterinarian on-call.
      (d) To provide in attendance:
         (1) First Aid (EMT recommended)
         (2) Blacksmith

(e) To have AHS rules available. USEF rules will apply when AHS rules do not apply.
(f) To submit results, by email or mail, to the AHS Membership/Points Officer within two (2) weeks following the show.
(1) FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS RULE WILL RESULT IN THE FOLLOWING:
(i) Written notice if not received within two (2) weeks after show.
(ii) Fine of fifty ($50.00) dollars if not received within three (3) weeks after show.
(iii)Show will be brought before the Board for possible loss of show date if results are not received one (1) month after show date.
(2) Results must indicate rider's name in equitation classes, and horse's name and rider's name in hunter, jumper, and pleasure classes.
(3) Results should only be sent for AHS point classes or AHS point divisions.
(4) To submit, in writing to the President, the name(s) of any exhibitors who fail to pay entry fees within two (2) weeks after a show.
(5) To prohibit anyone, or any horse, suspended from the AHS from show at an AHS show.
(6) To prohibit anyone, or any horse, suspended from the USEF from show at an AHS show.
(7) To provide adequate liability insurance coverage for the show and send a copy of the certificate to the Treasurer each year at least three (3) weeks before first horse show date.
(8) To assume responsibility for providing safe showing conditions for exhibitors, staff, and spectators.
(9) To provide a working telephone which can receive and send calls for emergency purposes.
(10) To provide two (2) individuals with stopwatches for all jumper divisions. One may be the judge, and the other can be any non-participating person over the age of sixteen (16).
(i) Electronic timers are available to borrow from the AHS and will count as a "stopwatch."
(g) AHS horse show managers may not run a non-USEF rated show in conflict with an AHS show date.
(h) Violation of AHS Rules
(1) Shows that are in violation of the AHS rules shall be given a warning letter from the AHS Board of Directors for their first offense.
(2) Future violation(s) will ne reviewed by the Board and are subject to a one-hundred ($100.00) dollar fine

E. Awards
i. Ribbons
(a) Six (6) ribbons shall be awarded in each class when possible.
(b) Ribbons shall have a minimum of two (2) streamers.
(c) Champion and Reserve Champion should be awarded in all AHS divisions that had at least three (3) competitors
(1) Points are to be calculated by a 10, 6, 4, 2, 1, ½ system
ii. Prizes
(a) Prizes may be given at the discretion of show management.
(b) If prizes are NOT to be given, it must be stated as such in the prize list.

F. Prize List
i. A copy of the prize list and insurance must be sent via email to board@associatedhorseshows.com three (3) weeks prior to the show to be reviewed by the Board. If the Board does not receive a copy of the prize list with copy of insurance, there will be a fine of seventy-five ($75.00) dollars.
ii. Any changes required on the prize list must be sent back to the Board before prize list will be posted to the website.
iii. If updates are made to the prize list at least twelve (12) hours before the show, member must be notified by email from board@associatedhorseshows.com
iv. Contents:
(a) Name of Judge(s)
(b) Complete class descriptions and judging specifications as per the AHS Bylaws

(c) Clear indication of AHS point classes and divisions
(d) Inclusion of a minimum of twelve (12) point classes.
(e) Prize list may include classes or divisions not sponsored by the AHS but these will not count toward AHS standings, and should be clearly notated as non-AHS.
(f) Prize list may indicate any number of point classes, up to and including four (4) in any division
(g) Anything marked point class of a division will count, regardless of minor wording inaccuracies.
(h) If a schooling fee is to be imposed at a horse show, it must be marked in large type and prominently displayed in the prize list.
(i) There must be at least two (2) different courses of at least eight (8) jumps in all hunter classes, unless otherwise noted.
(j) Any combined special classes (i.e.: Classics, Derbies, etc.) will not be eligible for points in any division.
(k) A statement must be included in the prize list saying all riders must be wearing an ASTM approved helmet while mounted.
(l) To facilitate online registration, horse shows will use the assigned class numbers listed below, but may put them in any order:

1-3. LEAD LINE EQUITATION
4-7. MINI-STIRRUP EQUITATION
8-11. SHORT STIRRUP EQUITATION
12-15. SHORT STIRRUP HUNTER
16-19. LESSON MOUNT EQUITATION
20-23. WALK/TROT EQUITATION
24-27. PLEASURE HUNTER
28-31. BEGINNER EQUITATION
36-39. MODIFIED EQUITATION
40-43. MODIFIED HUNTER
44-47. DEVELOPING HUNTER
48-51. BABY GREEN HUNTER
52-55. SCHOOLING HUNTER
60-63. LOW JUNIOR/ADULT HUNTER
64-67. THOROUGHBRED HUNTER
72-75. OPEN EQUITATION
76-78. LOW SCHOOLING JUMPERS
79-81. HIGH SCHOOLING JUMPERS

G. Entry Blank
i. Date of birth of rider must be included. Age is as of December 1 of the preceding year for all exhibitors

III. ANNUAL MEETING
A. The Annual Meeting shall be held in November of each year, conditions permitting.
B. Purpose of the Annual Meeting:
i. To serve as a clearing house for horse show dates.
ii. To discuss and make suggestions for the current and upcoming year.
iii. To (re-)elect Board Members as appropriate. Each show manager and professional in good standing has one (1) vote per open seat.
C. Each show date must have representation at the Annual Meeting unless otherwise arranged before the Meeting.

IV. ANNUAL AWARDS
A. Eligibility
i. Annual membership fees:
(a) Twenty ($20.00) dollars per rider for all classes and, twenty ($20.00) dollars per horse/pony and owner (if not the same as rider) for hunter, jumper, and pleasure classes/divisions.
(1) Equitation divisions require only the rider to have active memberships to accrue points. Points

will be displayed under the rider name.

(2) Hunter, Jumper, and Pleasure divisions require the rider, horse/pony, and owner (if not the same as rider) to have active memberships to accrue points. Points will be displayed under the horse/pony name.

(b) All fees must be paid in order for points to count toward annual awards. Points will not be made retroactively.

(c) Fee subject to change annually.

(d) Memberships must be done through the online portal. By doing so, every member agrees to these AHS Bylaws.

B. Points

i. Points will be awarded as 7, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 for all classes that run with at least three (3) exhibitors. If there are two (2) exhibitors in a class, 1st place will receive three (3) points and 2nd place will receive two (2) points.

ii. Points will only count from the date of receipt of dues by the Membership/Points Officer.

iii. A letter of protest must be received by the Membership/Points Officer within three (3) weeks of the disputed date being posted to the website for point discrepancies to be corrected.

iv. In the spirit of competition, if a division has less than six (6) competitors by September 1st of that show season, the division may be combined at the discretion of the Board with another division with like specifications. If it is a stand-alone division the Board can opt to give Champion and Reserve Champion awards only.

v. For divisions with 20 or more competitors, a California split will be run for awarding ribbons. No other splits for ribbons will be permitted. Splitting a class for safety (i.e. splitting classes at the canter) is always allowed.

C. Sponsors

i. Eligibility

(a) Any individual or organization may sponsor a division or class.

(b) All member shows are required to sponsor a minimum of one (1) division or class annually.

ii. Cost

(a) Seventy-five ($75.00) dollars, subject to change annually by the Board of Directors.

V. SPORTSMANSHIP AND GRIEVANCES

A. Sportsmanship

i. A violation is any act prejudicial to the best interests of the AHS, including but no limited to the following:

(a) Acting or inciting or permitting any other to act in a manner contrary to the rules of AHS, or in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, unsportsmanlike or intemperate, or prejudicial to the best interests of the sport and AHS.

(b) Any act committed or remark made in connection with the competition considered offensive and/or made with the intent to influence or cast aspersions on the character or integrity of the licensed officials, approaching a judge before or after a decision without first obtaining permission from the show committee or steward, inspecting a judges' card without the judge's permission, or public verbal abuse of competition officials or AHS members.

B. Grievances

i. When a grievance occurs, it is to be brought to the attention of the Board in writing and within three (3) weeks of the occurrence.

ii. When there is a grievance at a horse show, it is to be taken up with the stewards before the end of that particular show.

iii. It is up to the discretion of the Board as to punishment of any person in violation of the rules including, but not limited to:

(a) Written notice

(b) Fines

(c) Removal from the organization

VI. AHS POINT DIVISIONS

A. Wording and Descriptions

i. Equitation Divisions

Leadline: Open to children six (6) years of age or under. To be judged on manners and suitability of mount to rider. Two classes will be offered. One must be walk/trot. The other class is left to show managers discretion such as walk, command, off-lead, or pleasure. Not eligible for any other non-leadline classes.

Mini-Stirrup: Open to juniors eight (8) years and younger. Riders may not cross enter into any jumping classes at the same horse show. Riders are eligible for any appropriate flat class. One class of four (4) cross rails or poles may be offered in this division. Poles or cross rails must be specified in prize list.

Short Stirrup Equitation: Open to children twelve (12) years of age and under on horses and ponies who have not competed in any show over fences exceeding 2'. Judged on hands, seat, general appearance, and control of mount. Recommended classes; 1. walk/trot; 2. walk/trot/canter; and 3. A simple course of 4-8 cross rails at 18".

Lesson Mount: Open to all riders on horses or ponies used solely in lesson programs. Judged on hands, seat, general appearance, and control of mount. Rider may not have shown higher than x-rails at any show. Recommended classes: 1. walk/trot equitation; 2. walk/trot pleasure; 3. walk/trot/canter; 4. a simple course of four (4) poles or x-rails (at riders discretion). May use any tack used in a schooling program.

Beginner Equitation: Open to all juniors and adult amateurs. The division will include a walk/trot; walk/trot/canter and two (2) jumping classes of 4-8 fences at x-rails. Riders cannot jump more than 2' in any horse show. Rider may not ride in division for more than two (2) years.

Modified Equitation: Open to all Junior and Adult amateur riders on horses and ponies. Rider may not have shown higher than 2'3" in any show. May only cross enter into Pleasure at same show. Simple changes NOT to be penalized. Fences not to exceed 2'. Rider may not ride in division for more than two (2) years.

Open Equitation: Open to Junior and Adult Amateur riders on horses or ponies. To be judged on hands, seat, and control of mount. Fences at 2’3” or 2’9” at riders discretion.

Walk/Trot: Open to **beginner** junior and adult amateur riders on horses or ponies. Riders may not cross enter into any cantering or jumping classes. To consist of one walk Eq. class, one walk, trot Eq. class, and one walk, trot pleasure class.

ii. Hunter Divisions

Short Stirrup Hunter: Open to riders twelve (12) years of age and under. Riders to jump a simple course of eight (8) fences at 18". Horse/pony/rider combo may only cross enter into Short Stirrup Equitation and Pleasure at the same show.

Modified Hunter: Open to all Junior and Adult amateur riders on horses and ponies. Rider may not have shown higher than 2'3" in any show. May only cross enter into Pleasure at same show. Simple changes NOT to be penalized. Fences not to exceed 2'. Horse and rider combination may not ride in division for more than two (2) years.

Baby Green Hunter: Open to horses or ponies who are in their 1st or 2nd year of showing over fences. Ponies to jump 2'. Horses to jump 2'3". Trotting corners will not be penalized.

Developing Hunter: Open to all horses and ponies in their first or second year of showing. Division to have walk/trot, walk/trot/canter, and two simple crossrails over fences classes. Simple changes and trotting corners not penalized. May cross enter into Baby Green. To be run in the same ring and prior to Baby Green Hunter.

Schooling Hunter: Open to all riders on horses or ponies. Judged on performance, way of going, manners and

soundness. Fences at 2' or 2'6" or 3' at rider's discretion, to be designated on entry form.

Thoroughbred Hunter: Open to all full Thoroughbred horses/ponies. Judged on performance, way of going, and soundness. Fences to be at 2'3" or 2'9" at riders' discretion. Not to be combined with any other division.

Low Junior / Adult Hunter: Open to all Junior and Adult Amateur riders on horses or ponies. May not cross enter into any Children/Adult Hunter classes on same mount. Fences 2' or 2'6" at riders discretion. Simple changes not to be penalized.

Pleasure: Open to any type of pony or horse suitable for use as a pleasure mount. To be ridden by a junior or adult. Judged on performance, manners, and suitability of mount to rider. Division to have three (3) classes; 1) Walk/Trot, 2) Walk/Trot/Canter, 3) A simple course of four (4) poles or x-rails (must be specified on prize list).

iii. Jumper Divisions

Low Schooling Jumpers: Open to all riders on horses and ponies. Tables to be chosen by show manager. Jumps to be at 2' or 2'3" at riders' discretion. Time allowed will be generous (350m/min). (See USEF Rulebook for Table descriptions).

High Schooling Jumpers: Open to all riders on horses and ponies. Tables to be chosen by show manager. Jumps to be at 2'6" or 3' at riders' discretion. Time allowed will be generous (350m/min). (See USEF Rulebook for Table descriptions).

iv. AHS Classics (on hold for the 2024 season)

(a) AHS Classics will be an additional over fences class, open to any horse or pony entered in a full division, held as an open card throughout the day with open numerical scores to determine placings. Classics will be a two-score total, with the third over fences class of a division counting towards the first round score of the Classic. Entrants must declare their intent to enter the Classic before entering their third round of the division to receive a score. All entrants of the Classics may compete in the second round course (no cutoff for competing) and ribbons to be awarded 1st through 6th place. AHS members will accrue year-end points for the Classics, with ribbons awarded at the Year-End Awards Banquet 1st through 10th. Formal attire welcome, but not required.

(b) Classics will be restricted to the ring they are designated to run (i.e. only divisions running in the same ring as the Classic will be eligible at that show to enter the Classic). Prize list to designate with an Asterix (*) the division class that will count as the first round of the Classic.

(1) AHS Low Classic (2' and 2'3" divisions): Open to horses and ponies that have shown in a full division. Horses/ponies can be ridden by any rider. Only horses/ponies that have been competing up to 2'3" are eligible.

(2) AHS High Classic (2'6", 2'9", and 3' divisions): Open to horses and ponies that have shown in a full division. Horses/ponies can be ridden by any rider. Only horses/ponies that have been showing at 2'6" or higher are eligible.

v. AHS Helping Hooves Hunter Derby Classes (on hold for the 2023 season)

(a) Hunter Derby classes are open to all horses and ponies who enter and pay in full for at least one division at the hosting show. Horses and ponies may be ridden by any rider in the derby, regardless of the rider for their regular division. Only riders and Horses/Ponies who are Registered riders and Registered Horses/Ponies will be eligible for year-end awards. Horses/Ponies that have been competing this season at 2'3" or eligible for the 2' Derby and those who have been showing at 2'6 or higher are eligible for the 2'6" Derby. There will be no separate schooling for the Derby courses. Formal attire is encouraged, but not required.

(b) The Hunter Derby will run as a two-round class. The first round to be judged as a Classic Hunter course. The second round to be judged as a Handy Hunter with an emphasis placed on style, brilliance, and rideability. Each course should include at least two height option fences. Course

designers are encouraged to include walk or trot jumps, hand gallops, halts, rollbacks and more challenging tracks with varying approaches in the handy round. Each round will be numerically scored with one (1) bonus point(s) added to the score for each high option taken. Only the top 8 competitors will be called back to ride in the second round at the judge's discretion. Up to ten (10) handy bonus points will be awarded in the second round and added to the base score along with high option point(s). For the AHS 2' Derby, fences will be set at 2' with high options set at 2'3". In the AHS 2'6" Derby, fences will be set at 2'6" with high options set at 2'9". Please note that there will be a posted order to go for each of the derbies, exhibitors failing to enter the ring within two minutes of their call to compete will forfeit their trip.

(c) Each Derby will award ribbons through eight place with prizes awarded to first place exhibitors. Ribbons and prizes will be provided by AHS. A Year-End Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the horse/pony who accumulates the most points throughout the six Derby events. First through sixth ribbons will be offered for both height sections at the awards banquet to the horses/ponies who accumulates the most points throughout the three Derby events.

(d) ALL DERBIES MUST BE JUDGED BY AN "R" JUDGE.

(e) Entry fees of $20 will be collected for the derbies in support of the AHS HELPING HOOVES FUND, payable to AHS the day of the event by the host show.

AHS 2' Derby: Open to horses and ponies that have shown in a division at the host show. Horses/ponies can be ridden by any rider. Only horses/ponies that have been competing up to 2'3" are eligible. Fences to be at 2' with 2'3" high options.

AHS 2'6" Derby: Open to horses and ponies that have shown in a division at the host show. Horses/ponies can be ridden by any rider. Only horses that have been showing at 2'6" or higher are eligible. Fences to be at 2'6" with 2'9" high options.

LAST REVISED: MARCH 2026