

APHA Performance Halter?

WE WANT YOUR INPUT.....

The 2010 Breed Improvement Committee submitted the following Performance Halter Rule Change Proposal for consideration at the 2011 Workshop. Show & Contest voted it down.

The Proposal was developed in collaboration with both halter & performance exhibitors and particularly focused on what we could learn from AQHA's experiences – both good and bad.

We request that you read the proposal below and answer the following 5 questions:

1. I support the Rule Change Proposal as written. Yes ___ No ___
2. I support the Rule Change Proposal BUT would prefer to omit the ROM eligibility requirement.
Yes ___ No ___ (A ROM excludes 33% of performance horses currently being shown.)
3. I support the Rule Change Proposal BUT would prefer a Superior eligibility requirement.
Yes ___ No ___ (A Superior excludes 67% of performance horses currently being shown.)
4. I support Performance Halter BUT would like to see the following changes:

5. I do NOT support Performance Halter under any circumstances.
Yes ___ No ___

Name / Please Print

APHA #

Email Address / Optional: _____

JUSTIFICATION FOR PERFORMANCE HALTER:

1. Today's halter horses have become more and more specialized. The amount of muscle and weight on a competitive halter horse is normally inconsistent with the amount appropriate for those horses whose primary function is to compete under saddle. As a result, exhibitors often choose not to compete in halter classes since they believe this fact alone makes it difficult to be competitive against the specialize halter horse.
2. Earning enough halter points for an APHA Championship at the same time that a horse is competing under saddle is extremely difficult in most regions of the country. This fact increases the cost & time to produce a Champion, and, in many cases, decreases the likelihood of the horse earning its Championship.
3. In shows requiring halter for high point awards, many exhibitors resent being required to show against the specialize halter horse. Offering a Performance Halter Class is an "exhibitor friendly" thing to do.
4. AQHA has successfully offered Performance Halter for several years. Problems previously identified in the AQHA Rule have been addressed in the proposed rule change.

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Overall Benefits of Performance Halter:

1. The number of halter horses being exhibited over the past decade has dramatically dropped due in large part to the increased specialization of the class. Performance Halter will generate renewed interest in halter competition since a much larger exhibitor pool will choose to participate.
2. Performance Halter will normally increase the number of APHA halter points available to be earned. This fact will make all halter exhibitors happy, and, in particular, those exhibitors at smaller shows where point classes are often difficult to obtain.
3. Performance Halter will increase the number of halter entries, which is good for the halter industry in general, and financially beneficial for the Regional Clubs.

Impact If Performance Halter is Not Passed:

1. Lost opportunity to increase exhibitor participation in halter classes.
2. Lost opportunity to address exhibitor frustration at being required to compete against the specialized halter horse for high point awards.
3. Lost opportunity to generate additional revenue for Regional Clubs.

PERFORMANCE HALTER RULE CHANGE PROPOSAL: SC-175 New M.5. to read:

5. Performance Halter
 - a. The purpose of Performance Halter is to allow a horse to compete with other horses that are being ridden as their primary purpose. Horses will be judged on attractiveness, structural correctness, balance and uniform muscle suitable for use under saddle.
 - b. The Performance Halter class is required in the Open & Amateur Divisions when halter classes are held. Only an all-age class will be held and separate classes will be held for stallions, mares & geldings.
 - c. First & second place horses in the Performance Halter classes will be eligible for Grand & Reserve in each sex division. The number of entries in the Performance Halter classes will count toward the total for each sex division in determining points for Grand and Reserve.
 - d. A horse may not show in the age division halter class and performance halter class at the same show in the same division.
 - e. To be eligible to compete in Performance Halter, the following two requirements must be met OR a horse must have earned a Racing Register of Merit:
 - i. A horse must compete in at least one performance class under saddle at the lope or gallop at the same show and in the same division where the horse competes in Performance Halter.
 - ii. A horse must have earned a Register of Merit in an event under saddle requiring a lope or gallop in the same division as the Performance Halter class entered. Proof of the award must be provided to show management.
 - f. If a horse fails to compete in the fore mentioned required performance class at the same show, the horse will be disqualified from its Performance Halter class.

RELATED RULES: AM-090.C.4.

Equivalent Rule Change to be added for Amateur Division as required.

Please forward any comments/suggestions/etc. to:

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