

APHA Convention San Diego
Sept 30 – Oct 6, 2008

Judges Committee – Since there have been some questions with regard to how judges are carded and how complaints are handled, I gave a brief outline at the Sierra meeting in Sept.

First applicants must submit an application outlining their prior experience and knowledge – do they hold other cards, how many shows have they judged, have they completed the apprentice program, references, etc. These applications are reviewed by the Judges Committees and applicants are invited to test based on these applications. Invited applicants then attend the April Judges Testing. They first take a written rule book test. If they pass with 85% they move on to the live and video testing of a broad range of classes. The following day they are individually interviewed. Those that pass all phases of the testing are given their judges card and become temporary judges. They stay on this status for 2 years and must judge a minimum number of shows of which reviews are submitted. They are then reviewed by the Judges Committee and either are given regular status, kept on temporary status or have their cards removed.

Judges then are reviewed after receiving regular status throughout their judging careers. If complaints are not submitted on judges, the committee does not know of any problems. Just complaining at the show does no good and is usually looked at as sour grapes. Legitimate complaints must be submitted to be considered.

Other highlights

Long Range Planning – looking into bringing in new people, offering green classes, considering combo shows (QH/Paint), specialty shows, influence the legislative process – email

Recreational Riding – Ride America is slowly growing

Registration - coat color genetics on papers, new ideas for SPB horses

Youth – Breeders Trust type program – scholarship, Novice Youth, one day pass to show Youth classes on school days – regional issue. APHA will write a letter to school.

Foundation – Heritage Tree

Amateur – World Show awards split, performance halter and hunter in hand new proposed rules

Breed Improvement – all horses DNA tested by 2011, lower reg for white on leg, want one paint parent rule left

Show and Contest – Novice Youth move to front of show, want split World Show, qualify - participation

International – met in Germany

Judges – rules on logos and clients

All rules submitted for vote this year passed.

Lynn Titlow