



PUNTA GORDA HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION
"Partners in Promoting Youth Development"
SPEED Rules and Regulations | 2009/2010 Show Season

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1. The By-Laws shall enforce and support the Punta Gorda Horseman's Association. The By-Laws are an incorporation of the Rules and Regulations and the current Show Bills.
2. It is the responsibility of the entire membership to promote good sportsmanship among the competitors.
3. Membership dues are due July 1st and may be paid at the regular meeting or show. Membership dues must be paid before or at the first show to retain continuous eligibility.
4. Annual Membership dues are as follows:
 - Non-Riding/Non-Showing.....\$25.00
 - Single Riding Members.....\$45.00
 - Family Riding Members.....\$65.00
5. Nominations: A current paid member may nominate an unlimited number of horses at \$35.00 per horse. Nomination fee will be waived if your nomination paperwork and your \$50.00 sponsorship for each horse are submitted together. Owner/rider/handler must be a member and horse must be nominated before acquiring points toward year-end awards. A current Coggins test must be included with a nomination form (as required by state law). The horse's name must be the same as the Coggins papers unless specifically marked (AKA) *barn name*.
6. Every Member is required to work a minimum of 15 hours in order to qualify for year-end awards. Fifteen hours can be purchased for \$300.00 within the first three months of each show season. A minimum of seven hours must be worked within three months of joining or January 1st. Any member who fails to meet the requirements, due to personal reasons, may appear to the grievance committee.
7. Any member can work for another member for the 15 required hours. If working for another member those hours **MUST** be designated as such at the time they are worked and may not be later transferred. If working towards 40 hour award ALL hours must be worked by the individual going for the award.
8. Members are required to check in with the designated person at the beginning and at the end of their shift to receive credit for time worked.
9. Only previously designated workers are permitted in the announcer's booth.
10. No one under the age of 18 shall be permitted to handle money without the supervision of an adult.
11. Workers in the registration booths have the right to request the age of any competitor. If questioned and unable to provide proof, the competitor will be permitted to show, however they must provide proof of age within 14 days. If proof is not provided then the competitor will forfeit any points earned at said show.
12. In order to run a tab you must leave a signed check or a \$20.00 cash deposit with the registration booth. If you wish to enter a class, you must do so before the class begins. This can only be done by completing an entry form at the registration booth. The announcer **CANNOT** accept entry forms from anyone other than the registration booth. Once you have entered you may add or drop a class with an appropriate slip filled out and signed.
13. Director or their designated deputies will oversee their portion of the show. They will make sure all rules are followed; all patterns and courses are set up.



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14. The Executive Board or Director present at the show has the ability to cancel the show for lack of volunteers or inclement weather.
15. A current Negative Coggins test is required by State Law. If you fail to produce a current Coggins test you will be asked to leave the show grounds, entry fees will not be refunded.
16. If you have a grievance concerning horse show procedures you must bring that grievance to the Director of that show. During the show the Director's decision is final. If the grievance is not solved you may submit an appeal in writing to the Executive Board.
17. Any abusive or profane language or any type of unsportsmanlike conduct on the show grounds is grounds for disqualification. These actions will result in the loss of points for that show and possible removal from the show grounds.
18. The judge's/announcer's decision is FINAL, Parents, guardians, trainers, etc., who wishes to discuss the judge's decision must approach the Director only. The Director may then approach the judge if necessary. No one, not showing in the called class, is allowed to enter the arena at any time, for any reason during the show and may only approach the judge when finished showing for the day.
19. The Punta Gorda Horseman's Association strongly endorses the policy of humane treatment of horses. No person(s) on the show grounds (including but not limited to the parking area and show area) may treat a horse in an inhumane manner. This includes, but is not limited to, striking the horse above the shoulder with a whip or other instrument, rapping the legs with the butt end of a whip or other instrument and showing a horse with raw or bleeding sores. Failure to comply will result in the immediate disqualification from the show and/or dismissal from the show grounds and may result in the suspension or revocation of membership.
20. Anyone who creates a safety hazard on the show grounds and is asked to stop by an authorized individual of the PGHA, and does not, may lose points for the show and may be asked to leave the show grounds for the duration of the show and possibly the show circuit year.
21. Alcohol or illegal drugs are not permitted at any PGHA show.
22. No Stallion may be shown by anyone under the age of 18 except for the current year colts and fillies class.
23. Delays in starting the shows will be held to a minimum and will be authorized only by a Board Officer, Announcer or Director.
24. All riders are reminded that they ride at their own risk. Helmets are strongly recommended for all riders under the age of 18. Florida Statues 375.251 states an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities.
25. The Announcer and Co-Announcer's responsibility is to reflect good will and sportsmanship during the show as well as expedite the show in a reasonable manner. The Announcer must be 18 years of age or older; however substitutions may be made at the Director's discretion.
26. No rider will be allowed to register for a class after that class has begun. In Performance, Halter and Hunter/Jumper classes an exhibitor may not enter the arena after a class has been called, the gate has been closed and the class has begun unless approved by the Judge. Two minute gate call will be strictly enforced.



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27. Once a class has started, no refunds will be given unless a contestant injures themselves or their horse and cannot compete in the class, or if the horse becomes unsafe. All refunds will be given at the discretion of the Director. Awards or points will not be given in the event of a refund.
28. No contestant shall refund their own money or scratch themselves from a class, this must be done at the registration booth.
29. The registration booth and/or announcer are not responsible for errors made by contestants on the registration/entry forms.
30. Anyone whose check is returned due to insufficient funds will be notified to make it good on or before the next show IN CASH. Failure to make good on the check will permanently nullify membership and year-end awards. There will be a \$25.00 fee for all returned checks.
31. All riders will ride in the order in which they are assigned.
32. All riders must enter and exit through the gate designated.
33. No free exhibition rides will be allowed at any show. In paid exhibition rides, no awards or points will be given. Rider must follow the direction and gait of the class.
34. No arena equipment shall be moved or changed after the first rider completes the course. Exceptions will be made for equipment that has been broken, damaged or deemed unserviceable.
35. A contestant will be automatically disqualified for breaking a pattern or tripping the timer light, once the timer has been started.
36. All competitors will be required to use and maintain reliable, appropriate tack, attire (no tube tops or spaghetti tops are allowed) and must wear boots when performing in the arena (this includes exhibition riders).
37. Lead line participants may not enter any other classes.
38. Each member or member's horse must show in front of a minimum of five judges or five shows in the same classes during the show season to be eligible for year end awards.
39. Open classes have no age limits of rider and/or handler.
40. If a competitor chooses to move up (walk to walk/trot, walk/trot/ to canter/lope, and is unable to compete at the higher level/division, the rider can go back down to the lower level/division providing they have not shown in more than two shows. Any points earned in the higher level/division will be forfeited.
41. All points earned must stay in the classes shown.
42. Walk/trot classes are open to any rider within the designated sage group who has not shown at the canter/lope, in that same discipline, at any horse show. If rider has cantered in English but never in Western then the participant could show walk/trot Western and vice versa.
43. If a member's horse dies or becomes unsound during the show season, prior to the following month's show, the member must notify the President and any other Officer their intentions as to whether a substitute horse or the initial horse will be ridden for the remainder of the show season. If the decision is made to finish the season on the initial horse, points will not be earned toward year-end awards while riding the substitute horse during the healing process. However, horse and



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rider will receive credit for attendance toward the five show/judge requirement. Substitute horse need not be nominated. If the decision is made to finish the season on the substitute horse, points will carry through, however points will not be awarded until the following month's show and proper paperwork submitted - 72 hours prior to the following month's show this decision, accompanied with a Veterinarian's certificate must be presented to the President or Vice-President in writing.

44. Mares more than eight months into their pregnancy may not be shown.
45. Punta Gorda Horseman's Association is committed to the humane treatment of horses, therefore no horse will be permitted to enter the arena (to be judged, compete or do exhibition) more than 15 times a day in any PGHA sponsored event or show. If this rule is broken (whether intentionally or not) ALL points will be forfeited by all riders of that horse for the day. Lead line classes do not count as part of the 15 classes.
46. Pets must be controlled by leashes at all times. Pets must be kept a minimum of 25 feet from the arena fence. Owners of pets who interfere with the performance of a competitor will be charged the entry fee of the class in question.
47. For additional rules and regulations, please consult each discipline's show bill/prize list and rules specific to that discipline.
48. The Board has the authority to make changes to the show bills/prize list within the first three months of the show season.
49. Points will be awarded as follows:
 - 1st Place 6 Points..... *If 6 or more competitors, otherwise points reflect Number of competitors.*
 - 2nd Place..... 5 Points..... *If 5 or more competitors, otherwise points reflect Number of competitors.*
 - 3rd Place 4 Points..... " "
 - 4th Place 3 Points..... " "
 - 5th Place 2 Points..... " "
 - 6th Place 1 Point " "
50. NBHA rules will apply for barrel classes. AQHA rules will apply for Texas Barrels, Hairpin, Arena Race, Poles and all other speed events.
51. Speed Shows are held the second Saturday of the month September through May. Warm-up will be held in the clay arena between 1:30pm-2:30pm. The show will start promptly at 3:00pm. The October show will be a double pointed show.
52. In the event of a tie in a Speed Class, the tie will be broken by a re-run in said event, unless both participants agree to an alternate tiebreaker. If either rider opts out of a re-run, said rider will be placed in the following position.
53. In Speed Classes (excluding Lead line classes) any deviation from the pattern will result in a disqualification/ no time Per NBHA rules any barrel that is knocked over in any Barrel class will result in disqualification. In the flag race, any flag not stuck in the bucket or any flag that hits the ground results in automatic disqualification/ no time. ANY FLAG USED TO STRIKE THE HORSE WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION.
54. Per AQHA rules there will be an added five-second penalty for each pole knocked over in any pole class: In Texas barrels or any Hairpin classes, if a barrel is knocked over there is a five-second penalty.



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55. In all speed classes, points will be kept on a horse and rider combination.
56. Daily high point for speed classes: Competitor must enter a minimum of three classes per division. SEE SPEED SHOW and ENTRY FORM. In case of a tie for high point the rider that has ridden against the most entrants wins. If they are equal two trophies will be awarded. Open classes do not count for high point.
57. Novice riders for speed can be any age over five years old. It is the first two years of showing in the Speed discipline. If the Novice rider receives a 1st, 2nd or 3rd year end award they must move up to their age division.
58. ATTIRE: Proper attire will be worn while showing. Long pants, slacks, jeans, etc., Sleeved shirts or a collared sleeveless shirt and boots with heels are required. No tube tops or spaghetti strapped shirts will be permitted under any circumstance in any discipline. It is strongly advised that children under the age of 16 wear a helmet.
59. In speed events the use of rubber bands to attach your boot to your stirrups is prohibited.
60. Year-End Prize Prizes will be awarded for all classes as follows:
 - 1) Grand Champion
 - 2) Reserve Champion
 - 3) Honorable Mention

Placing to sixth place in all classes with the exception that all Youth Classes (17 and under) will be placed as far down as necessary to ensure all youth members receive recognition. Please see individual show bills/prize list for specific division eligibility information.
61. Class fees are as follows:
 - \$8.00..... Member
 - \$12.00..... Non-Member
 - \$40.00..... Poor Boy per horse/rider combination for the day
(excluding open barrels and mystery event). NO Refunds.
62. Riders shall be available when called for "On Deck". In speed classes when the horse and rider are in the holding pen it is permissible for the horse to run directly from the shoot into the pattern.
63. For Speed events if any rider has trouble getting their horse into the arena when called, they will be given three minutes to enter the arena. At the discretion of the director the rider may move to the end of the line (class) to make another attempt. If still unavailable rider and horse will be disqualified.