



PUNTA GORDA HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION

"Partners in Promoting Youth Development"

PERFORMANCE Rules & Regulations | 2009/2010 Show Season

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 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 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 Statutes 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.
27. Once a class has started, no refunds will be given unless a contestant injures themselves or their



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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 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



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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. AQHA rules will apply for Halter, Trail and Western/English Pleasure classes. PGHA rules will apply for the Color Class and Gaited Classes. PGHA Rules will supercede all other rules.
51. Each Performance show will be held the First Saturday of the month, October through May, and will start promptly at 9:00am. If the judge is not present, an interim judge will be chosen from those present. In any event, the show will start at 9:00am.
52. Any Lead line participant must be able to sit in the saddle on their own, feet must be in the stirrups, Buddy stirrups may be used for Western saddles; English stirrups can be wrapped and must hold the reins. Western lead line participants are strongly urged to wear protective head gear. Helmets are required for English lead line.
53. Attire: **Proper attire will be worn while showing.** This consists of the following:
 - PERFORMANCE WESTERN CLASSES:** Appropriate Western attire is required, which includes pants (slacks, trousers, jeans, etc.) Long sleeved and collared shirt (band, standup, tuxedo, etc.), Western hat and cowboy boots or boots with heels. The hat must be on the rider's head when the exhibitor enters the arena. Spurs and Chaps are optional.
 - PERFORMANCE ENGLISH CLASSES:** Riders must wear hunt coats of traditional colors, such as navy, dark green, grey, black or brown. Maroon and red are improper. Breeches or jodhpurs are to be of traditional shades of buff, khaki, canary, light grey or rust with high English boots or paddock boots of black or brown. Black, navy blue or brown hard hat is mandatory. Hat harness must be secured



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and properly fitted. It is strongly encouraged by this competition that all riders wear protective head gear that pass or surpass current applicable ASTM/SEI standards with harness secured while riding anywhere on the competition grounds. It is the responsibility of the rider, parent, guardian or trainer of the junior exhibitor to see to it that the head gear worn complies with appropriate safety standards for protective head gear intended for equestrian use, and is properly fitted and in good condition. PGHA show committee and licensed officials are not responsible for checking head gear worn for such compliance. Traditional English show shirt with tie or choker is required. Gloves, spurs of the unrowelled type and crops or bats are optional. Hair must be neat and contained (as in a net or braid). **Polos are NOT permitted.**

- 54. Halter classes: Dress for your Breed, BUT a hat, long sleeves and boots are required.
- 55. Performance Lead line Classes: Both the rider and handler (walker) must have proper attire on. Helmet for English and Cowboy hat for Western are required for the rider.
- 56. If a competitor is not properly attired they may show in Exhibition only. **No tube tops or spaghetti strap shirts will be permitted under any circumstances (including exhibition) in any discipline.**
- 57. Judges must penalize contestants who do not conform. Judges, at their discretion, may authorize adjustments to the attire due to weather related conditions.
- 58. Class Fees are as follows:
 - \$5.00.....per day per horse/rider Administration fee
 - \$8.00.....Member
 - \$12.00.....Non-Member
 - \$5.00.....Exhibition
- 59. In all Performance points will be kept on a horse and rider combination, except for Horsemanship/Equitation Classes where points are kept on the Rider only. In Halter Classes points will be awarded to the horse only and owner of the Halter horse must be a member to qualify for Year-End awards.
- 60. Novice Class for Performance shall mean the **Riders** first two years of showing in a specific discipline.
- 61. Grand and Reserve Champion at Halter: No entry fee. Grand Champion Halter horse and Reserve Grand Champion Halter horse are to be chosen from the first and second place winners in the designated classes (see Show Bill). There will be no end of year award for this class.
- 62. Daily High Point for Performance classes: Competitor must enter a minimum of three classes per division. See Entry Form for specific division eligibility information. In case of a tie for high point at a show the rider showing against the most entrants per class will be awarded the High Point Trophy. If both entrants showed against the same number of riders then two High Point Trophies will be awarded.
- 63. 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.