

# AHAM Open – All Breed Horse Show

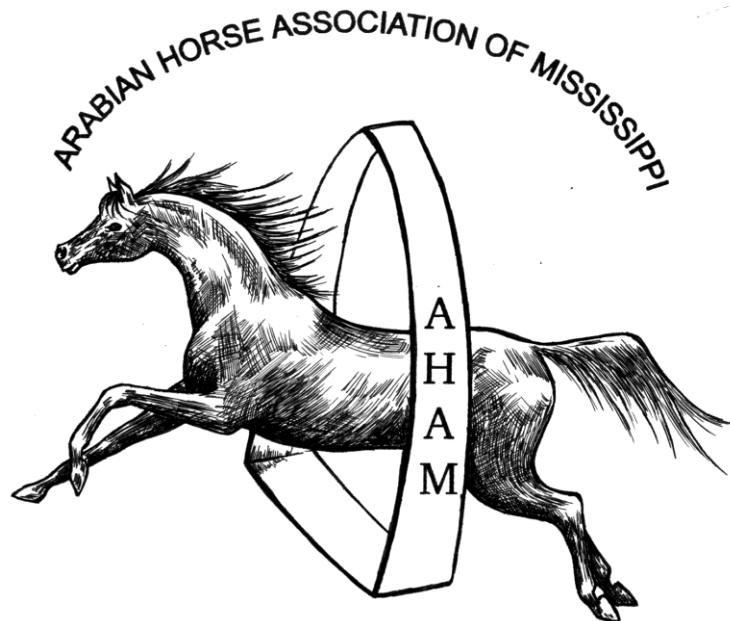
## Horse Show Rules

- I. **Grounds Rules:**
  - a. No drugs, alcoholic beverages or profanity will be tolerated at any AHAM function. Violators will be asked to leave the grounds.
  - b. No horse can be tied or put in the panels or cattle barn, before, during or after the show.
  - c. AHAM assumes no responsibility for injuries to exhibitors, horse, and/or spectators. AHAM assumes no responsibility for lost or stolen items including, but no limited to, tack, horse, personal items, etc.
- II. **Show Fees:** Show fees can be paid in cash, check or money order. Please make checks or money orders payable to AHAM.
  - a. A signed blank check will be requested for running tabs at time of registration and kept on file to be completed or exchanged for cash when you are done showing and ready to check out. All tabs must be paid in full by end of that show.
  - b. If paying by cash it is required that you pay for a class each time a class is added. *Exception:* when a class is scratched and another one takes its place. (See Refunds & Scratches for details)
- III. **NSF (Insufficient Fees):** There is a \$30.00 fee for any returned check.
- IV. **Refunds & Scratches:** *AHAM has a no refund policy!*
  - a. If an exhibitor scratches from a class after an entry has been received, the entry fee will not be refunded.
  - b. Paid classes may be scratched and replaced with another class no later than 30 minutes before new class wanted.
  - c. Entry fees will be refunded ONLY in cases where an obvious injury occurs to a horse or rider and the claim is made before the class begins.
  - d. Entry fees will not be refunded for missed classes. (*See tardiness rule*)
- V. **Misconduct & Abuse:** *No refunds given!*
  - a. When an exhibitor is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct or abuse, AHAM can suspend the right of such exhibitor or parent/guardian from participating in future approved association events for such a period as determined appropriate by the AHAM Board of Directors.
  - b. When a spectator is found guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, said spectator will be escorted from the show grounds and attendance at future AHAM events will be prohibited for a period to be determined by the AHAM Board of Directors.
  - c. Any member or spectator of AHAM has the authority to report any abuse to the show sponsor or any AHAM show management.
- VI. **Authority:**
  - a. The judge shall have the authority to request the removal or alteration of any piece of equipment that, in his/her opinion would tend to give an unfair advantage.
  - b. The judge shall have the authority to place a horse in whatever position in a class he/she thinks the merit of the horse justifies. Once a class has been judged, it shall not be re-judged. Once a judge has marked his/her record there will be no changes. The judge is responsible for marking his/her placing on the form provided by the association.
  - c. A judge may order any person or horse from the competition for bad conduct of one or both, or may disqualify any contestant for excessive abuse of the horse. A horse may be disqualified for unsoundness at the discretion of the judge.
  - d. No one shall approach the judge with regard to a decision unless they first obtain permission from the Show Management, who shall arrange an appointment with the judge at a proper time and place.
- VII. **Protest Procedures:** In order to lodge a protest, an individual must be a member in good standing of the AHAM. Any member making a protest shall lodge such protest with the association secretary in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of the time of the cause of the protest. The Board of Directors shall act upon the protest by the next general membership meeting.
- VIII. **Safety:**
  - a. Negative Coggins test within twelve months required for all horses entering the show grounds. Must be made available upon request of show officials.
  - b. Youth exhibitors (17 & under) are NOT ALLOWED to show or handle a stallion of any age or breed.
  - c. No exhibitor shall be tied, buckled or fastened in the saddle in any permanent manner during competition with the exception of special needs exhibitors.

- d. No exhibitor should wear tennis shoes, sandals, high heels or dressy shoes or be barefoot when riding a horse on the show grounds.
- e. **Headgear:** Properly fastened ASTM/SEI approved helmets are required for all English classes. Helmets worn in Western riding classes will not be penalized.
- f. Dogs must be on a leash at all times. Dogs are not allowed in the arena, preparation area or gate area. Please pick up after your pooch. Aggressive or obnoxious barking dogs will be asked to be removed from the show grounds. Owners will be held responsible for their dog's actions.

**IX. General Guidelines**

- a. Numbers will be assigned by the show office per horse. Number must be secured and displayed on the exhibitor's back for halter, liberty and showmanship classes. The number may be secured to the saddle pad or exhibitors back for riding classes.
- b. No gimmicks or training devices allowed except in beginner horse/rider classes or in the case of auditing the class for training purposes only. In such cases of auditing, you will pay for the class, but not be judged. You must notify the gatekeeper upon entering the class.
- c. Attire and equipment should be suitable to the discipline of the class. Boots are required for all riding classes. Tennis shoes are allowed only in classes in which the handler is on the ground. Helmet and breeches are required in English classes. Western hat or helmet and jeans are required for all Western classes.
- d. A horse may only be ridden once in a class. Any rider may show more than one horse in any class that operates under the "one at a time" rule. You may enter only one horse in Showmanship.
- e. Ponies should measure fewer than 14.2 H to show in pony classes.
- f. Each class will be placed through the 6<sup>th</sup> horse. If a horse is disqualified, it is not to be placed, even if there are six (6) or fewer horses in the class.
- g. Ribbons for first through fifth place in all classes. High Point Awards should refer to the AHAM Star High Point Award information packet for further details.
- h. All horses entered in a class must be assembled in ample time and enter the arena when called forth. The gate will close two (2) minutes after the first horse enters the ring. A tardy contestant may be denied entry into the competition. Entry fees will not be refunded for missed classes.



**Under Mississippi law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for any injury or death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risk of equine activities pursuant to equine activities protection on act.**  
**House Bill 96.**