

**Judges Committee Meeting Agenda
2021 Convention
San Antonio, Texas**

1. Welcome by Chair
2. Committee guidelines
3. Meeting protocol
4. Member review of and comments on agenda items
5. Nominations for committee chair (Saturday)

Agenda Items Eligible for Membership & Board of Directors Consideration:

6. Review request to modify SHW431 and SHW619: “At the discretion of the judges, the whole class or just the finalists, may be asked to come back and perform on the rail at the conclusion of the pattern work.”
7. Review request to change the current five-judge format to a four-judge format, where only the low score is dropped, in halter classes at AQHA World Championship Shows.
8. Review request to modify SHW436.6 and SHW620, ensuring that if a lead change is a required maneuver, exhibitors have the option to perform a simple or flying lead change.
9. Review request to change the penalty values in hunt seat equitation, western horsemanship and showmanship to 1, 3 and 5 from 3, 5 and 10.
10. Review request to change the penalty value in hunt seat equitation of missing a diagonal up to two strides from a 5 point penalty to a 3 point penalty and missing a diagonal more than two strides from 10 point penalty to a 5 point penalty.
11. Review request to add a 10 point penalty in showmanship for “horse stepping out of or moving the hind end significantly during a pivot or turn more than one time.”
12. Review request to add a column for “Off Pattern” to the pattern class score sheet.
13. Review request to amend penalty rules as follows:
SHW437.1 (Three (3) points): ~~Obviously looking down to check leads.~~
SHW437.2 (Five (5) points): **Obviously looking down to check leads.**
14. Review request to amend penalties for Hunt Seat Equitation on the Flat as follows:
SHW621.2.1 (Three (3) points):
~~Break of gait at the walk or trot up to 2 strides~~
~~Over or under turn from 1/8 to 1/4 turn~~
Missing a diagonal up to 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail

SHW621.2.2 (Five (5) points)
~~Missing a diagonal up to 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail~~
Missing a diagonal for more than 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail

SHW621.2.3 (Ten (10) points)

~~Missing a diagonal for more than 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail~~

15. Review request to amend penalties for Hunt Seat Equitation on the Flat as follows:

SHW621.2.1 (Three (3) points)

~~Obviously looking down to check leads or diagonals~~

Missing a diagonal up to 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail

SHW621.2.2 (Five (5) points)

Obviously looking down to check leads or diagonals

~~Missing a diagonal up to 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail~~

16. Review request to amend penalties for Hunt Seat Equitation on the Flat as follows:

SHW621.2.2 (Five (5) points)

~~Loss of iron Head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical while the horse is in motion, showing the appearance of intimidation~~

SHW621.2.3 Ten (10) points

Loss of iron.

17. Review request to exempt judges who are judging only EWD classes

SHW912.2 judge two consecutive years at the same show, set of shows or circuit except when judging cutting, working cow horse, roping, team penning, ranch sorting, speed events, ranch riding, ranch trail or versatility ranch horse where they may judge up to two consecutive years. **A judge who is only judging EWD classes is exempt from this rule.**

18. Review request to allow bits with chain mouthpieces (3/8 inch diameter links) to be used in speed events and roping.

(Judges Committee recommendation to Show Committee as primary)

19. Review request to prohibit bits with a chain and ported mouthpiece to be used in AQHA events or on AQHA show grounds.

(Judges Committee recommendation to Show Committee as primary)

20. Review request to clarify equipment deemed to be legal on showgrounds. To specify in AQHA rules that bits that are deemed legal in any class may be used on any horse at an AQHA event for training purposes outside of classes, notwithstanding that the horse it is being used on may not be able to use such bits *in* the particular class in which it actually competes; for example, equipment legal for barrel horses may be used on horses of other disciplines for training on the showgrounds, even it is illegal in those discipline classes.

(Judges Committee recommendation to Show Committee as primary)

Agenda Items for Discussion Only:

21. AQHYA/Youth Activities Discussion and Presentation from AQHYA Representative

22. Judges Department Update and Overview

23. Consider speed event judge requirements and the barriers to hosting AQHA sanctioned

classes during existing non-AQHA alliance partner events.
(Judges Committee recommendation to Show Committee as primary)

Confidential Discussion of Judges Committee (Executive Session):

24. Review data on the impact of COVID on the three-show minimum for all-around judges.
25. Review files of specialized judges who did not judge a minimum of one show in a three-year period.
26. Automatic five-year and probationary period reviews
27. Review requests for retirement and sabbaticals
28. Review judge applicants
 - a. All-around
 - b. Requests to test from progressive judges
 - c. International all-around
 - d. Specialized
29. Review judge recertification test scores
30. Discussion on adding an “eye appeal” column to score sheets
31. Review lameness protocols at AQHA Championship Shows

Closing Business:

32. Other Discussion
33. Election of Committee Chair
34. Adjourn