

STATEMENT OF POSITION ON ANIMAL WELFARE

IN ACCORDANCE WITH AQHA'S OFFICIAL HANDBOOK, THE FOLLOWING RULES MUST BE ADHERED TO:

41 ANIMAL WELFARE.

41.8 Every Australian Quarter Horse shall, at all times, be treated humanely and with dignity, respect and compassion. The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which a reasonable person, informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and exhibition procedures or veterinary standards, would determine to be cruel, abusive and inhumane.

41.9 The Show Manager shall, upon a report or discovery of inhumane treatment, immediately investigate the incident and report it to AQHA. Show management shall make every effort to obtain the concurrence of any AQHA approved judge on the grounds or AQHA authorised personnel, if available.

40 PROHIBITED CONDUCT.

40.5 When an exhibitor, owner, and/or his representative acting on behalf of the exhibitor is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct and/or inhumane treatment of a horse, AQHA can suspend the rights of such exhibitor, owner, and/or his representative acting on behalf of the exhibitor to participate in future approved shows for such a period as judged appropriate. AQHA can bar from participation in any AQHA approved event all animals registered in such suspended person's name according to AQHA records during the term of his suspension. Unsportsmanlike conduct during an approved event or show, or on show grounds by an exhibitor, owner or on behalf thereof, is prohibited.

41.7 HUMANE TREATMENT.

No person on show grounds, including but not limited to, barns, stalls, practice area and show arena, may treat a horse in any inhumane manner, which includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Placing an object in a horse's mouth so as to cause undue discomfort or distress.
- b. Tying a horse in a manner as to cause undue discomfort or distress in a stall, trailer or when lunging or riding.
- c. Letting blood from a horse.
- d. Use of inhumane training techniques or methods; poling or striking horses' legs with objects (i.e. tack poles, jump poles, etc.).
- e. Use of inhumane equipment, including but not limited to, saw tooth bits, hock hobbles, tack collars, or tack hackamores.
- f. Any item or appliance that restricts movement or circulation of the tail.
- g. Intentional treatment which results in bleeding.