



Judge's Monitor/Advisory Panel

At the direction of the Executive Committee, the Judge's Monitor/Advisory Panel shall preside over any judge in attendance at a WCHA event. Members of the Advisory Panel, that have been appointed by the Executive Committee are Don Falcon, Randy Jacobs and Ronnie Casper. The intent of this oversight panel is to provide ongoing educational feedback to our WCHA Judges. Areas of focus shall be, but not limited to: Observable justification in applying the WCHA Conformation Standard, Application of Lameness and Structural Soundness on placings, and any Observed Prejudice in a judge's lineup.

Members of the panel will have the responsibility and duty to report to the Executive Committee any behavior or conduct that is in violation of the WCHA Conformation Standard and/or Judges Guidebook. The Executive Committee is committed to appropriately acting on recommendations of the Judges Advisory Panel. Furthermore, the Panel will evaluate WCHA Judge's performance at any event that they used their WCHA Specialty Halter credentials to be hired by another association so that the integrity of World Conformation Horse Association is preserved. Members of the Panel will be working with our judges to educate and improve the consistency of judging by stressing the following WCHA Conformation Standard Principles:

Judging to the adopted WCHA Standard

It is imperative that our WCHA Carded judges recognize the importance of judging to the WCHA Conformation Standard. The adopted standard of WCHA states that Judges must select for the most positive combination of Balance, Structural Correctness and Movement, Adequate Muscling and Eye Appeal, appropriate Gender and Breed Characteristics. Also, a Judge must correctly evaluate and appropriately react to minor, major and severe faults. The Panel will evaluate WCHA Judge's ability to apply their placings to the conformation standard as stated above.

Influence of Lameness and Structural Soundness

Through educational feedback, we as an association will work to standardize how horses that are observably lame and/or have structural faults are placed in a class. These are standards that must be evenly applied. i.e. judges using horses high in their placings with noticeable major or severe faults, others are either placing them down correctly while others are leaving them on the wall without consideration of positive attributes.

Horses that are observably lame must be disqualified from the placings on a judge's card consistently. Horses with "**major**" structural faults, such as, horses unable to lock-in, straight shouldered, bench kneed, offset knees, straight pasterns, pigeon toed, club footed, splay footed etc., may not be marked in top placings of the class or within the top grouping on any judge's card. Further, horses with "**severe**" structural faults, that do impact functional correctness, such as, extremely poor movement or gait, extremely poor balance as it relates to extremely poor structural alignment, horses that never lock-in, extremely bench kneed, extremely calf kneed, club footed where it impedes movement, extremely offset knees, extremely pigeon toed or splay footed, must not be placed above any horses in the class, with the exception of other horses with one or more "severe" faults.

Judging with Prejudice

Judging with prejudice will not be tolerated! All Exhibitors come to our shows with the expectation of having their horse equally and fairly judged. It is the intent of this association to do everything in its power to ensure the WCHA Conformation Standard is *equally* applied.

WCHA Carded Judges that fall short in applying these key principles: Lack of justification in applying the WCHA Conformation Standard in their line-up, failing to appropriately recognize and place accordingly horses that are lame or have structural faults, or judges that display prejudice towards any exhibitor, will be asked to participate in a forum to discuss concerns from the panel. **These discussions may result in a recommendation to the Executive Committee for a loss of judging privileges, and/or reissuing a judge's card with lower privileges.**