

# **Parkland Horseman's Association, Inc.**

## **Competition General Rules**

### **2019-2020**

1. Parkland Horseman's Association (PHA) uses the guidelines of the current United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), United States Dressage Federation (USDF) and American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) Rule Books as its own, except where it conflicts with the rules herein. The show's board members will decide any questions not covered by the USEF, USDF, and AQHA rule books.
2. Equine Zero Liability: Florida Senate Bill 1658 Equine Zero Liability applies: Warning – under Florida Law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for injury to, or death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risk of equine activities. PHA is not liable for any accident, loss, damage or injury sustained by any exhibitor, trainer, owner, agent, groom, spectator, individual or horse while at the PHA Show. This is incorporated as a condition of entry or admittance to the PHA Horse Shows.
3. Signed entry forms shall be deemed as acceptance of the conditions named. In the event an entry form is not signed or presented, being present on the grounds or at the arena as an exhibitor, trainer, owner, spectator or consignor shall be deemed to be acceptance of these conditions.
4. Sportsmanship: All members of PHA, including family and friends of riders or handlers, will be expected to display good sportsmanship behaviors, both in the arena and out of it, including all social media forums. Any unsportsmanlike behaviors are to be documented and reported to any board member at any time. All reports will be investigated by the Board and appropriate disciplinary action will ensue. This includes for a first offense: verbal or written warning; second: non-eligibility for Year-End awards; third: their suspension for the remainder of the season.
5. Code of Conduct: For any cruel or inhumane treatment of any animal, PHA reserves the right to disqualify and expel any exhibitor, handler, or trainer from the grounds. No fees will be refunded.
6. Weather: Inclement weather or lack of projected participation may result in cancellation of a show at the discretion of the Show Committee. Time and date of make-up show, if any, will be made at next regular Board meeting or special meeting of the Board.

7. Membership: Riders, owners, trainers and volunteers MUST ALL be members of PHA. Membership forms serve as liability agreement for PHA and Broward County. Members must fill out and sign their own membership, not their trainer. Riders 18 and under need signature of parent or guardian.
  - a. Individual/Trainer Membership: \$30.
  - b. Family membership: \$40.
  - c. Non-Competing Membership: \$20.
  - d. Single Day: \$20.
  - e. Volunteer (ONLY) Membership: \$0
8. Coggins: A current NEGATIVE coggins test must be provided at first show and if renewed during show year. Name of horse on show forms may be registered or barn name, but must match negative Coggins test, and remain the same for circuit year. Changing during the year may result in loss of year end points.
9. The age and name of an exhibitor and horse on date of first show is their age and name for the entire year. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to see that the points keeper has their correct age, name, and name of horse.
10. Entering a competition: Names on entry forms for both horse and exhibitor must remain the same for the whole show circuit. Entry forms MUST be signed by the exhibitor unless under the age of 18 where a legal guardian must sign on behalf of the exhibitor. Entry forms MUST be completed in full and legibly. Please see rules of the competition for entry fees and closing dates.
  - a. PHA reserves the right to add or cancel a class should it be in the best interest of the show. Canceled classes will not count toward year end awards. In the event a class is canceled by show officials, credit will be given for a class to be used at any show during the circuit year. No refunds will be given.
  - b. No refunds or credit for missed classes.
  - c. All entries must be paid by cash or check before or on the day of the show.
  - d. There is a \$35 fee for returned checks. No exhibitor will accumulate points while their show fees are in arrears. Points will accumulate from the date show fees are paid.
  - e. Entry scratches must be made directly with the show secretary or at the show office on the day of the show. Refunds or credits may be considered if show committee is presented with a vet or doctors note.
  - f. Riders can register the day of the Obstacle challenge and Introductory Hunters/Jumpers, although pre-registration is greatly appreciated. Dressage entries must pre-register.
  - g. All protests filed by any person must be accompanied by a \$25 fee. Such a fee will be refunded only if the protest is upheld in favor of the person submitting the protest. All protests must be submitted in writing, dated, and signed.
11. Judge's Decisions: Judge's decisions are final.

- a. Any act of discourtesy to any judge or show official by any owner, trainer, rider or groom constitutes grounds for disqualification of any horse(s) owned, trained, ridden or groomed by the aforementioned individual. Owner will forfeit all fees for the show.
  - b. Exhibitors and spectators may not approach the judge during the show. Questions and requests must be done at the office, in writing, to be addressed after the competition and at the judge's convenience.
  - c. Judges may deem a horse unsound and may eliminate said horse at their discretion.
12. Under no circumstances will an exhibitor under the age of 18 be allowed to show and/or handle a stallion on the show grounds. This includes lead-line, in-hand and miniature horses. **Unruly horses or horses deemed unsafe by judge or board members may be asked to leave the show grounds.**
13. Attire: SEI approved helmets are required for all riders under the age of 18 while mounted at the show grounds. Please see the rules for your chosen competition for attire specifics.
14. Daily awards: 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> place ribbons will be awarded. Other awards may be offered at the discretion of show committee. Ties will be broken by coefficient scores in dressage and overall scores in obstacle challenges. If those are the same, then the judge will make the final ruling. Dressage and Obstacle placings will be determined by scores. Introductory Hunter/Jumper Division awards will be determined by a point system. Please refer to Introductory Hunter/Jumper rules for details.
15. Year-End awards: Riders must complete 6 hours of volunteer time. Volunteer time may be accrued at any PHA event and performed by family members. 3 hours may be purchased for \$20 per hour. Attending monthly Board Meeting counts as 1 hour. Exhibitor is responsible for making sure his/her hours are recorded in the Volunteer Hour Record Book. All horse/rider combinations must have competed in 1 more than half the shows held during the competition year. Dressage and Obstacle Challenge Year-End will be determined by the average of total scores in each level. Hunters will be determined by points earned.
16. Children must be monitored at all times.
17. For the safety of all concerned, all pets must be leashed or tied and under control at all times.
18. No cantering/loping in common areas and must be performed in warm-up areas only. Lunging in designated areas only.
19. Alcoholic drinks are prohibited.
20. PHA reserves the right to refuse any entry at the show without being liable and can eliminate any exhibitor or horse from further competition if the best interest of the show is to be served.