

The cover features a decorative border made of brown ribbons and metal chains. At the top and bottom, there are circular portraits of horses. The top-left portrait is a spotted horse with a ribbon below it that says "Stonewall Rascal". The top-right portrait is a horse with a harness, with a ribbon below it that says "Sugarbush Felina Del Noche". The bottom-left portrait is a spotted horse with a ribbon below it that says "Sugarbush Harley Quinne". The bottom-right portrait is a horse with a ribbon below it that says "Sugarbush Harley's Classic 0". In the center, there is a large, stylized letter 'O' surrounded by autumn leaves.

THE AMERICAN SUGARBUSH HARLEQUIN DRAFT ASSOCIATION

RULEBOOK
2020

Introduction:

ASHDA is entering its 6th year as a breed registry and I can safely say it has been a wild ride. From our first meeting to elect BOD and appoint officers to the end of our most recent show year it has been like riding a supersonic roller coaster! We have grown so fast and created policies and rules that have made the horse industry sit up and take notice. We've been featured on TV, in magazines, on weblogs, on the radio and at expos. One of our registered horses has been turned into a Breyer model and several others have been the inspirations for artists in just about every medium. We've come far in a short time and we intend to go even further.

With the release of our newest rulebook you'll notice that we've made some registration and show rule changes, expanded our recognition programs and tightened our equine welfare rules. We want everyone to enjoy their American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft, but we will not compromise on putting the horse's welfare first.

We appreciate all of our members' help in keeping this glorious breed going and we will do everything we can to make sure that ASHDA is around for the next 100 years!

Respectfully,
Tracy Meisenbach
Executive Director

AMERICAN SUGARBUSH HARLEQUIN DRAFT ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Association will develop rules regarding the recording, registration and identification of horses of American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft blood and breeding. The American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Association will assist with the preservation of this rare bloodline and will work to increase the public awareness and promotion of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horse. As the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horse is a breed created in America its preservation and promotion are also an effort to save part of American history.

Article I

Name:

The name of the association shall be the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Association (Hereafter referred to as "ASHDA").

Article II

Purposes:

The purposes for which the corporation is organized are:

- A. To preserve, improve and standardize the breed of horses known as American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts;
- B. To establish, maintain and publish an Association for recording pedigrees and transfers of ownership of American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts;
- C. To promote the breeding, use, and exhibition of American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts;
- D. To collect and record data about the origin and development of American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts; and
- E. Subject to the restrictions set forth in these Articles of Incorporation, to engage in any other lawful activities, none of which shall be for profit, for which corporations may be organized under the Commonwealth of Virginia's Nonprofit Corporation Law. In furtherance of the foregoing purposes the corporation shall have and may exercise all the rights and powers given to nonprofit corporations under the Commonwealth of Virginia Nonprofit Corporation Law. This corporation will not engage in any prohibited lobbying, political or legislative activity.

Article III

Restrictions:

This corporation is intended to qualify as a tax-exempt organization within the meaning of Section 501 (c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended. Notwithstanding any provision of these Restated Articles of Incorporation apparently to the contrary, the affairs of the corporation shall be conducted in such a manner as to qualify for tax exemption under that Section or the corresponding provision of any future Federal tax laws. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member.

Article IV

Offices:

The registered office of the ASHDA shall be at the address stated in the Articles of Incorporation but such address may be changed from time to time by a 2/3rds majority vote of the entire Board of Directors.

The ASHDA shall have a principal office, and other offices, either within or without the Commonwealth of Virginia, as the Board of Directors may designate or the business of the Association may require from time to time. The principal office of the Association may be, but need not be, the same as its registered office.

Parliamentary Governance: The rules contained in the most current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised," shall govern ASHDA in all circumstances to which said rules are applicable and in which they are not in conflict or inconsistent with Articles and/or special rules of order the ASHDA may adopt from time to time. Federal and state laws regarding the governance of a non-profit will take precedence at all times.

Article V

Board of Directors:

The affairs, business and property of the corporation shall be managed and controlled by its Board of Directors consistent with the Commonwealth of Virginia Nonprofit Corporation Act and Articles of the corporation. Directors of the corporation shall be designated and elected as set forth in the Bylaws of the corporation.

Article VI

Members;

Section 1: Classes of Members. The ASHDA shall have three classes of members. The designation of such classes and the qualifications of the members of such classes shall be as follows:

- A) Regular Members. A regular member shall be any person whose membership application has been approved by the Executive Director in accordance with these articles and any person known as a life member. The following persons shall be eligible to apply for regular membership in the ASHDA.
 1. Any person owning a American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horse eligible for registration with ASHDA or demonstrating an interest in American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts, whether foreign or domestic.

2. Any person associated with the horse industry, such as a trainer, exhibitor, supplier, veterinarian, show manager, farrier, or approved judge, steward or ring master whether foreign or domestic.

B) Honorary Life Members. Each director of the ASHDA shall be appointed an honorary life member by the Board of Directors immediately upon the expiration of the director's term of office, provided that the former director is then in good standing with the ASHDA. The Board of Directors may elect to honorary life membership any other person who for special reasons may be deemed entitled to this privilege. All such honorary life members shall be entitled to all of the privileges and rights of a regular member. Honorary life members shall not be required to pay an initiation fee or annual dues.

C) Youth member. Any person under the age of 18 (per January 1st of the calendar year) shall be eligible for Youth Membership with ASHDA. This is a non-voting membership, but allows the right to own, transfer and exhibit an American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft.

Section 2. Appointment of Regular Members. Regular members shall be approved by the ASHDA Executive Director in accordance with the provisions of this section.

A) All applicants for regular membership shall file with the Executive Director a written application in such form as the Board of Directors shall from time to time determine. Executive Director shall pass upon each application and shall approve or reject it in accordance with such rules and regulations as adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors.

B) Dues; Regular and foreign memberships are granted to individuals on an annual basis. The dues shall be set by the Board of Directors. Dues notices shall be sent out by the ASHDA staff. A second reminder/courtesy notice shall be mailed to those who have not renewed their membership

Section 3. Voting Rights. Each regular or life member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted for a vote to the members. Members shall have the right to nominate candidates and vote in elections of directors only to the extent authorized by these Articles.

Section 4. General Privileges and Obligations. Regular and life members in good standing shall have equal rights and privileges, except as otherwise limited by these Articles. All members shall obey and be bound by these Articles, by the Bylaws, rules and regulations adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors and by the decisions and actions of the Board. All members acknowledge they are willingly joining this organization knowing that it abides by certain requirements and restrictions and that they understand and agree to comply with all Bylaws, rules and regulations of the organization. By joining ASHDA they also agree that they will not hold the Association responsible in any way for their own personal business decisions regarding the breeding or owning of horses affiliated with this Association. Members breeding horses outside of the parameters set forth in ASHDA's registration rules have no legal recourse to compel ASHDA to register said horses. Members that violate the Articles, Bylaws and Rules set forth in the ASHDA Rulebook agree to accept any disciplinary action that results from the violation, and to pay any and all fines levied.

Section 5. Disciplinary Rules. Members may be disciplined, expelled, or suspended for cause after an appropriate hearing in accordance with such rules and regulations as adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors. Any member so disciplined, expelled, or suspended for cause, is not a member in good standing.

Section 6. Resignation. Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the Executive Director, but such resignation shall not relieve the resigning member of the obligation to pay any dues, assessments or other charges for which the member became liable prior to resignation.

Section 7. Reinstatement. Upon written request signed by a formerly resigned or suspended member and filed with the Executive Director, the Board of Directors may, by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the directors in office, reinstate such former member to membership upon such terms as the Board of Directors may deem appropriate.

Section 8. Transfer of Membership. Membership in the ASHDA shall not be transferable.

Section 9. Membership privileges:

- A) Regular members in good standing shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership in the ASHDA, which are:
1. The right to nominate and second nominations for and serve as officers and directors of the Association, and to serve on committees of the Association.
 2. The right to vote in election of officers and directors of the Association.
 3. The right to vote on changes and amendments of the Articles and Bylaws and the ASHDA Breed Standard.
 4. The right to vote in person at the Annual General Meeting of Members (AGM) or any special meeting of the members.
 5. The right to register and transfer ownership of registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horses.
 6. The right to enter and exhibit registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horses at shows organized under the auspices of ASHDA and/or its regional affiliates or open competitions governed by other organizations.

7. The right to compete for awards at shows sponsored or approved by ASHDA for high point awards.
8. The right to earn year end awards sponsored by ASHDA.
9. Any other rights and privileges granted by ASHDA.

Section 10) Individuals who are not members, but own American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts, and file applications and other documents with the ASHDA, by such actions and in regard to such transactions, agree to be bound by these Articles and other rules, regulations, policies and procedures of the Association and decisions and actions of the Board of Directors and its committees.

Article VI

Dissolution:

Upon dissolution or final liquidation of the corporation, after payment or provision for payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, the remaining assets of the corporation shall be distributed to the Kentucky Horse Park Foundation if such Foundation is then a tax exempt organization pursuant to Section 501 (c)(3) or 501 (c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or corresponding provision of any future Federal tax laws. Otherwise, such remaining assets of the corporation shall be distributed to such tax exempt equine organization or organizations selected by the Board of Directors which are related to or share the purposes of this corporation and are exempt from Federal income taxation pursuant to Section 501 (c)(3) or Section 501 (c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or corresponding provisions of any future Federal Tax Laws.

Article VII

Indemnification:

The corporation shall indemnify to the fullest extent permitted by the Commonwealth of Virginia Nonprofit Corporation Law any person who is made, or threatened to be made, a party to an action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, investigative or otherwise (including an action by or in the name of the corporation), by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer or employee of the ASHDA or serves or served at the request of the ASHDA as a director, officer or employee of any other corporation.

The entitlement of any person to indemnification hereunder and the amount of that indemnification shall be determined in accordance with the procedures and other provisions set forth in the Commonwealth of Virginia Nonprofit Corporation Law in effect at the time of the determination.

Article VIII

Amendments of Articles:

Any amendment, restatement or other alteration of these Articles of Incorporation adopted in accordance with the procedures and other provisions set forth in the Commonwealth of Virginia Nonprofit Corporation Law shall thereafter be submitted to a vote of the members of the corporation entitled to vote on Articles by means of a ballot provided according to voting procedures permitted by the Commonwealth of Virginia Nonprofit Corporation Law and determined from time to time by the ASHDA Board of Directors and shall not be effective unless approved by at least two-thirds of the votes cast by regular members.

Bylaws of American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Association

Article I

Purposes:

Section 1. Purposes and Powers: The purposes for which the corporation is organized are:

- A) To preserve, improve and standardize the breed of horses known as American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts;
- B) To establish, maintain and publish an Association for recording pedigrees and transfers of ownership of American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts;
- C) To promote the breeding, use, and exhibition of American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts;
- D) To collect and record data about the origin and development of American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts; and
- E) Subject to the restrictions set forth in the Articles of Incorporation, to engage in any other lawful activities, none of which shall be for profit, for which corporations may be organized under the Commonwealth of Virginia's Nonprofit Corporation Law. In furtherance of the foregoing purposes the corporation shall have and may exercise all the rights and powers given to nonprofit corporations under the Commonwealth of Virginia Nonprofit Corporation Law. This corporation will not engage in any prohibited lobbying, political or legislative activity.

Section 2. Offices: The registered office of the ASHDA shall be at the address stated in the Articles of Incorporation but such address may be changed from time to time by a 2/3rds majority vote of the entire Board of Directors. ASHDA shall have a principal office, and other offices, either within or without the Commonwealth of Virginia, as the Board of Directors may designate or the business of the Association may require from time to time. The principal office of the Association may be, but need not be, the same as its registered office.

Section 3. Parliamentary Governance: The rules contained in the most current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised," shall govern ASHDA in all circumstances to which said rules are applicable and in which they are not in conflict or inconsistent with Articles and/or special rules of order the ASHDA may adopt from time to time. Federal and state laws regarding the governance of a non-profit will take precedence at all times.

Article II

Members;

Section 1: Classes of Members. The ASHDA shall have three classes of members. The designation of such classes and the qualifications of the members of such classes shall be as follows:

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B) Honorary Life Members. Each director of the ASHDA shall be appointed an honorary life member by the Board of Directors immediately upon the expiration of the director's term of office, provided that the former director is then in good standing with the ASHDA. The Board of Directors may elect to honorary life membership any other person who for special reasons may be deemed entitled to this privilege. All such honorary life members shall be entitled to all of the privileges and rights of a regular member. Honorary life members shall not be required to pay an initiation fee or annual dues.

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A) All applicants for regular membership shall file with the Executive Director a written application in such form as the Board of Directors shall from time to time determine. The Executive Director shall pass upon each application and shall approve or reject it in accordance with such rules and regulations as adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors.

B) Dues; Regular and foreign memberships are granted to individuals on an annual basis. The dues shall be set by the Board of Directors. Dues notices shall be sent out by the ASHDA staff. A second reminder/courtesy notice shall be mailed to those who have not renewed their membership

Section 3. Voting Rights. Each regular or life member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted for a vote to the members. Members shall have the right to nominate candidates and vote in elections of directors only to the extent authorized by these Articles.

Section 4. General Privileges and Obligations. Regular and life members in good standing shall have equal rights and privileges, except as otherwise limited by these Articles. All members shall obey and be bound by these Articles, by the rules and regulations adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors and by the decisions and actions of the Board. All members acknowledge they are willingly joining this organization knowing that it abides by certain requirements and restrictions and that they understand and agree to comply with all Bylaws, rules and regulations of the organization. By joining ASHDA they also agree that they will not hold the Association responsible in any way for their own personal business decisions regarding the breeding or owning of horses affiliated with this Association. Members breeding horses outside of the parameters set forth in ASHDA's registration rules have no legal recourse to compel ASHDA to register said horses. Members that violate the Articles, Bylaws and Rules set forth in the ASHDA Rulebook agree to accept any disciplinary action that results from the violation, and to pay any and all fines levied.

Section 5. Disciplinary Rules. Members may be disciplined, expelled, or suspended for cause after an appropriate hearing in accordance with such rules and regulations as adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors. Any member so disciplined, expelled, or suspended for cause, is not a member in good standing.

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Section 7. Reinstatement. Upon written request signed by a formerly resigned or suspended member and filed with the Executive Director, the Board of Directors may, by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the directors in office, reinstate such former member to membership upon such terms as the Board of Directors may deem appropriate.

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 - 2. The right to vote in election of officers and directors of the Association.
 - 3. The right to vote on changes and amendments of the Articles and the ASHDA Breed Standard.
 - 4. The right to vote in person at the Annual General Meeting of Members (AGMM) or any special meeting of the members.
 - 5. The right to register and transfer ownership of registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horses.
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 - 8. The right to earn year end awards sponsored by ASHDA.
 - 9. Any other rights and privileges granted by ASHDA.

Section 10) Individuals who are not members, but own American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts, and file applications and other documents with the ASHDA, by such actions and in regard to such transactions, agree to be bound by these Articles and other rules, regulations, policies and procedures of the Association and decisions and actions of the Board of Directors and its committees.

Section 11): Grievances, Violations and Discipline.

- A) Grievances will be referred to the Executive Director. Upon review the matter may be referred to the Committee on Ethics that shall attempt to mediate those disputes falling under the committee's general guidelines.

B) Violations

- 1. Any member may be disciplined, suspended or expelled from ASHDA and any member or non-member may be denied all the privileges of the ASHDA, or any fraudulent registration certificate may be cancelled, whenever it shall have been established by satisfactory evidence that such member or non-member has violated any pertinent provision of these Articles or other rule of the Association. Disciplinary action may take the form of censure, a monetary fine, and suspension for a period of time or a permanent lifetime ban, as determined by the Board of Directors.
- 2. No person shall refuse, on reasonable request, to assist or respond to ASHDA, its officers, committees, or agents in locating, identifying and inspecting records and/or facilities, or to answer promptly and truthfully any inquiry concerning a horse or an ancestor thereof in his ownership or control, which has been registered, approved for breeding or listed, or for which application to register or list has been made, or on any other matter of association business. Violation of this rule will be grounds for disciplinary action.
- 3. Cruel or inhumane treatment, including but not limited to, abuse, neglect, physical harm, starvation, illegal drugging for competition purposes or any actions such are determined by the Board of Directors to be against the health and well-being of the horse. Anyone convicted of a felony for any type of animal abuse will be permanently barred from membership. Anyone suspended for animal abuse or illegal drugging from any other equine organization cannot hold membership with ASHDA.
- 4. A member or non-member shall not conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate the rules of ASHDA, or to knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons, either by affirmative action or inaction, to violate these Articles, the rules, policies and procedures of the ASHDA. Violation of this rule shall subject such member or non-member to disciplinary action, whether or not s/he has actually signed reports filed with ASHDA as asserted to be true and correct.

Section III Annual General Meeting of members and notice thereof.

- A) An Annual General Meeting of the association shall be held at least one a year at such time and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors and may be held by way of a "virtual meeting" online on the internet or in person at a location voted on by the Board of Directors. Written notice by mail, email, website notice or electronic or printed newsletter announcement will be sent out at least 45 days prior to date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 1/5th of the members in good standing.

B) Special Association Meetings. Special association meetings may be called by the Executive Officer, or by a majority vote of the members who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the board. Such special meetings shall be held at such place, date, and hour as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be posted on the website, mailed or emailed by the Executive Officer at least 45 days before and not more than 60 days prior to the date of the meeting, and said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting, post an agenda and record minutes. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 1/5th of the members in good standing.

C) Voting. Each member in good standing, whose dues are paid for the current year, shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the association at which he/she is present.



Article IV Board of Directors

Territory 1. Alaska, Idaho, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, Wisconsin, Canada

Territory 2. Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan, India

Territory 3. Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, South America, Africa

Territory 4. Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, West Virginia, United Kingdom, Europe, United Arab Emirates

A) Board of Directors. The board shall be comprised of the 2 elected officers and 2 regional directors, plus 1 roving director, all of whom shall be Regular Members in good standing. Officers shall be elected as according to these Articles and Bylaws, and shall serve until their successors are elected or appointed. Board of Director Members who are not Officers shall be elected as provided for in these Articles and Bylaws, and shall serve for three year terms or until their successors are elected. General and daily management of ASHDA's affairs shall be entrusted to the Executive Director with oversight by the Board of Directors. All directors and officers must be members in good standing for the years in which they serve in that official capacity

1. The Board of Directors may, from time to time, recommend further revisions to the territories and zones for the purpose of achieving a reasonably equal geographic distribution of the membership, but such recommendations, if made, shall not be made more frequently than every three years.

B) Election of Directors. Directors shall be elected by member vote. Directors shall be nominated by the membership in October. If qualified to run for office they will be added to the ballot for the members to vote on. The ASHDA elections will be held at the end of November, with each term being staggered so that no election can change the entire board at the same time. Directors will be elected per territory and will serve three year terms. The person receiving the most votes in each territory will be elected to the Board of Directors.

1. Should no candidate be available or interested in serving a term in any territory the position will default to a secondary "roving" director who may reside in another territory. The candidate for this position must be nominated and placed on the ballot the same as other positions. A roving director will serve a regular term. At the end of that term, if the territory is again unable to nominate a candidate, the roving director may run again. If a candidate from that territory is presented then the secondary roving director position is nullified.

C) Officers. The association's officers, consisting of the President, Vice President, Executive Director, and Treasurer, shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the association and its meetings and the board and its meetings. The Executive Director and the Treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, but shall not be members of the Board of Directors, for terms not exceeding five years. Appointments may be renewed for successive five-year periods. The terms of such appointments, including salaries and duties, shall be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors. Each officer shall hold office until the officer's successor shall have been duly elected or appointed. The President and Vice President will serve one year terms, with the election for those positions to be held at the Annual Director Meeting.

1. The President shall prepare an agenda and preside at all meetings of the association and of the board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President in addition to those particularly specified in these articles. The President shall be required as the primary signatory on any documents pertaining to legal or financial actions which are voted on by the ASHDA Board of Directors. The President is elected by majority vote of the Board of Directors and shall serve until his/her successor is elected or appointed.
2. The Vice President shall have the duties of the President in case of the President's absence, incapacity, or death. The Vice President will also act as an Ambassador for the breed and be the de facto director of Marketing and Promotion. The Vice- President is elected by majority vote of the Board of Directors and shall serve until his/her successor is elected or appointed.
3. The Executive Director shall keep a record of all meetings of the association and of the board and all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the association. The Executive Director shall have charge of the correspondence, notify members of meetings, and notify new members of their election to the membership, notify officers of their election to office, and keep records of membership. The Executive Director shall keep an accounting of all points earned towards breed awards for ASHDA. The Executive Director shall be responsible for overseeing paperwork required to register, inspect and/or approve ASHDA horses in accordance with the Association Rules and Breed Standard, including a pedigree database. The Executive Director shall forward a copy of the minutes of each meeting to the President within ten (10) days after each meeting and copies of all minutes, excepting confidential Executive Sessions, will be posted on the ASHDA website within 30 days of the meeting. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, but shall not be a member of the Board of Directors, for a term not exceeding five years. Appointments may be renewed for successive terms up to five years.
4. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due or belonging to the association. Monies shall be deposited in a bank designated by the board, in the name of the association, within a timely manner, not to exceed 30 days after receipt of monies. The books shall at all times be open to inspection by the board, and a report shall be given at every meeting of the condition of the association's finances and every item of receipt or payment not before reported; and at annual meeting an accounting shall be rendered of all monies received and expended during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be bonded at such a time and in such amount as the board of directors shall determine. The Treasurer will also keep records of all active and inactive members and shall give a report as to the status of the total membership and registrations at each meeting. The Treasurer will make copies of the ASHDA budget will be available to members upon request. The Treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, but shall not be a member of the Board of Directors, for a term not exceeding five years. Appointments may be renewed for successive five-year periods.

C) Vacancies. Any vacancies occurring among the Board or among the officers during the year shall be filled until the next annual election by a majority vote of all the then members of the board at a special meeting called to fill such a vacancy; except that a vacancy in the office of President shall be filled automatically by the Vice President and the resulting vacancy to the office of Vice President shall be filled by board of director vote.

D) Insurance. To the maximum extent permitted by law and approved by the Board of Directors, the Association may provide/obtain insurance against liability for its directors and officers.

F) Code of Ethics: Following are general principles each board member should use to evaluate their conduct in meeting responsibilities to the ASHDA Board of Directors, general membership, and to fellow board members. The ultimate success of ASHDA and its programs depends on the judgment and unbiased views of those who comprise its board of directors.

1. Attendance: A director shall attend and fully participate in called meetings of the board of directors to exercise the individual responsibility granted to them by the board.

2. Conflict of Interest: A director shall avoid a business or personal situation having a potential for conflict or appearance of conflict with their responsibilities to ASHDA, or which could tend to compromise their primary duty to further the purposes and policies of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Association.

3. Self-Interest: A director shall refrain from the use of the ASHDA, its personnel or property to further their own purposes or business gain, and shall avoid situations or receipts of benefits which hint of favoritism.
4. Confidentiality: A director may not divulge to any third party information regarding confidential ASHDA registration, membership information, executive session discussions, personnel matters and similar matters of sensitivity to ASHDA operations. Copies of minutes of meetings of the board of directors and its committees may be circulated to other persons unless they contain any such confidential information, in which case such minutes must remain confidential.
5. Opposing Points of View: A director will endeavor to foster harmonious relationships with other members by frank and good-faith discussion in meetings, and at all times be open minded, recognizing that expression of an opposing viewpoint is often healthy to ultimate decision making.
6. Pending Litigation: To coordinate ASHDA's approach to the case, a director shall avoid individual discussion with a litigant or third parties concerning any litigation pending against the ASHDA, but shall refer all inquiry to the board of directors or to the ASHDA attorney.
7. Judging an ASHDA-Sponsored Show: While serving on the ASHDA Board of Directors, a director shall not judge an ASHDA sponsored show, but may judge approved shows.
8. No one or no group, regardless of organizational designation, shall represent themselves as an ASHDA spokesperson without prior approval of the ASHDA Board of Directors. This shall include but not be limited to printed and/or electronically transmitted material.

G) Executive Session: An executive session is any meeting or part of a meeting of the ASHDA board of directors that is closed to any persons for deliberation on certain matters. The ASHDA board of directors may hold an executive session during any meeting in accordance with the following guidelines and procedures:

1. Executive session may be held for deliberation concerning the following matters:
 - a) Employment of ASHDA officers, including but not limited to evaluations, negotiations and complaints.
 - b) At the request of the ASHDA Executive Director to discuss any ASHDA personnel matter.
 - c) Complaints involving any member of the board of directors or employees.
 - d) Disciplinary hearing involving a member or non-member.
 - e) Negotiations involving ASHDA commercial activities.
 - f) Pending, threatened or possible litigation.
2. Executive session may be called as follows:
 - a) The ASHDA President, at his/her discretion, has the right to call an executive session and shall cite the appropriate purpose.
 - b) Any ASHDA Director may move the ASHDA President to call an executive session and shall cite the appropriate purpose. If the ASHDA President declines to do so, any other director may second the motion for executive session, and upon the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3rds) of the directors present at the meeting, the executive session will be called.
 - c) Executive session is held for the purpose of free exchange of information on sensitive topics. Any matter discussed in executive session shall remain confidential and shall not be discussed with any person not present in the session. Any board action taken as a result of discussions held within executive session must take place in open meeting of the ASHDA board of directors.

Article V.

Regular Meetings.

- A) A regular meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held any time matters arise which need the attention of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may provide proper notice on the website, in the newsletter or by email to members the time and place of the meeting. Meetings may be in person, via teleconference or by participating in an electronic media group.
- B) Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the President or Executive Director or a majority of the number of directors.
- C) The attendance of a director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of any regular or special meeting of the Board need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting, unless specifically required by law or by these Bylaws.

D) **Presumption of Assent.** A director of ASHDA who is present at a meeting of the Board of Directors at which action on any corporate matter is taken shall be presumed to have assented to the action taken unless the director's dissent to the action as entered in the minutes of the meeting. The right to dissent shall not apply to a director who voted in favor of the action.

E) **Quorum and Attendance at Meetings.** A majority of the number of directors shall constitute quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of directors. The Officers of ASHDA may conduct a regular or special meeting permit all Directors to participate in any such meeting through the use of any means of communication by which all Directors participating may simultaneously hear or read a transcript of any such meeting. A director participating by any such means is deemed to be in attendance and present at any such meeting for all purposes under the Bylaws.

F) **Manner of Acting.** The act of a majority of directors present at the meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by these Bylaws. All motions made at any meetings of the ASHDA Board of Directors, including committee meetings, must be by roll call and each roll call voting record must be published and distributed to the members within 30 days of that meeting.

G) **Compensation.** Directors shall not receive any stated salaries for their services as directors or officers, but by resolution of the Board of Directors may be paid for their expenses, if any, of attendance at each meeting of the Board of Directors, and may be paid their expenses incurred in the performance of the business of ASHDA as previously authorized by the Board of Directors or the President; but nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any director from serving ASHDA in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefore. During their terms of office the directors and officers of ASHDA will be granted a free membership to the Association.

H) **Informal Action by Directors.** Any action required by law to be taken at a meeting of directors, or any action which may be taken at a meeting of directors, may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken shall be signed or acknowledged by all of the directors. Single issue votes which do not require the expense of a called meeting may be dealt with by electronic vote. Voting record and motions will be recorded and added to the general minutes.

Article VI

Removal from office

A) Any director may be removed from office, with or without cause, at a meeting of members called expressly for that purpose, by a vote of a majority of all members then entitled to vote in an election of such director.

B) Any elected director who is absent without good cause from four (4) consecutive meetings of the Board of Directors is subject to removal as a director by affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of all directors at a Board of Directors meeting.

Article V

The Association Year, Annual Meeting, Election

A) **Association Year.** The association's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of January and end on the last day of December.

B) **Annual Meeting.** The annual meeting shall be held on a date designated to occur in June, July, or August at which officers for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section C of Article IV. They shall take office immediately upon the conclusion of the election and each retiring officer shall turn over to the successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the election. The annual meeting shall consist of a general membership meeting where members can voice their concerns and ideas and then followed by a Board of Director meeting that follows a submitted agenda.

C) **Elections.** The nominated officer candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected.

Article VI

Committees

A) **Appointment.** The board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the association in such matters as shows, stallion auctions, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields which may be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the board. Special committees may also be appointed by the board to aid on particular projects.

B) **Termination.** Any committee appointment may be terminated by majority vote of the Board of Directors with written notice to the appointee; and the board may appoint successors to those persons whose services have been terminated.

C) No such committee shall have the authority of the Board of Directors in reference to amending, altering or repealing the Articles; electing, appointing or removing any member of any such committee or any director or officer of ASHDA; amending or restating the Articles of Incorporation; adopting a plan of merger or adopting a plan of consolidation with

another corporation; authorizing the sale, lease, exchange or mortgage of all or substantially all of the property and assets of ASHDA; authorizing the voluntary dissolution of ASHDA; or revoking proceedings therefore; adopting a plan for the distribution of the assets of ASHDA; or amending, altering or repealing any resolutions of the Board of Directors which by its terms provides that it shall not be amended, altered or repealed by such committee. The designation and appointment of any such committee and the delegation thereto of authority shall not operate to relieve the Board of Directors, or any individual director of any responsibility imposed upon it or the director by law.

D) All committees will keep minutes of each meeting. These minutes will be submitted to the Executive Director to distribute to the Board of Directors.

Article VII

Contracts, Checks, Deposits and Funds

A) Contracts. The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents of the Association, in addition to the officers so authorized by these Articles, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of ASHDA, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

B) Checks, Drafts and other documents. All checks, drafts or orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of ASHDA shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of ASHDA and in such a manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. In the absence of such determination by the Board of Directors, such instruments shall be signed by the treasurer of ASHDA.

C) Deposits. All funds of the Association shall be deposited in a timely manner to the credit of ASHDA in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Directors may select.

D) Gifts. The Executive Director may accept on behalf of ASHDA any contribution, gift, bequest or devise for the general purposes or for any special purpose of ASHDA and such gift to be owned in its entirety by ASHDA and shall be listed in the official inventory, unless disposed of by a 2/3rds vote of the Board of Directors.

Article VIII

Books and Records

ASHDA shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall keep the minutes of the proceedings of its members, Board of Directors and committees, and shall keep at its registered office or principal office in Virginia a record of the names and addresses of members entitled to vote. All books and records of ASHDA may be inspected by any member, or his agent or attorney, for any proper purpose, at any reasonable time at the principal offices of the Association.

Article IX

Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Association shall be from January 1 to December 31.

Article X

Seal and Logo

The ASHDA Seal shall have inscribed thereon the name of ASHDA and the year of organization. The Seal may be used by causing it or a facsimile thereof to be impressed or affixed or in any manner to be reproduced. No individual or unauthorized entity may use the official ASHDA seal or Logo without written permission from the Executive Director. This excludes official ASHDA merchandise sold through the Association.

ASHDA Official Seal



ASHDA Official Logo



Article XI

Breed Standard and Breeding Rules

A) The Breed Standard and Breeding Rules attached hereto are hereby made a part of these Bylaws.

BREED STANDARDS

Height: 15.2 h.h. to 17 h.h. but height should not disqualify an otherwise good example of "type"

Color: Any base color is acceptable, with LP (leopard complex) pattern or characteristics being preferred, but not required if the horse meets all the other bloodline or conformation requirements. Solids are acceptable. Pinto-type or excessive white markings; Tobiano, Frame Overo, Splash as well as Dominant White are prohibited. If two horses are equal in all ways then a judge should grade the horse with LP expression higher as it is closer to the ideal.

Body: The body should be wide and deep. The back should not be too long, and should be strong with muscular loins and rounded hips. The shoulders should be sloping, deep and muscular. The topline should be shorter than the underline. Ideally, hip and wither height should be equal, without too much of a slope toward the center of the back. A horse that is slightly uphill is not to be penalized, however a downhill topline is to be considered a fault. The quarters should be level, powerful, long and oval, the tail springing well from the quarters. The loin should be short, wide and strongly muscled. This portion of the back should be short and as wide as possible, and the ribs long, well sprung and close together.

Head and Neck: The head characteristic of the breed should be bold and not too small with a profile that is flat or slightly convex. The neck should be of moderate length, with a well-defined throatlatch and break into the chest, muscular yet not too thick, arched and well laid into the shoulder. The head should set into the neck at the right angle. A good head, neck and shoulders denote character, giving the animal a good outlook.

Eyes: Eyes should be large, well set and kindly in expression. Any eye color is acceptable including but not limited to, brown, blue, hazel, green and amber or any combination thereof.

Ears: Tend to be large and fine, slightly longer on mares.

Shoulders and Forearm: The shoulders should be moderately sloped and provide a sufficient collar bed and room for extreme extension at a trot or gallop. The shoulders should be fairly wide, well-muscled, and the top should be carried close to and tapered into, the back. The forearm of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft should be comparatively short, wide and muscular. This places the leg sufficiently under the body to provide the desirable position and action. The knee, viewed from the front, should be broad and flat, tapering to the cannon and, when viewed from the side, should be straight from the shoulder to the fetlock joint. The tendon at the back of the knee should contribute to give depth and strength.

The Limbs: The cannon of the fore leg should be long, wide, lean and flat as viewed from the side. The tendons should show prominently. Feathering is not as heavy or long as other draft breeds. The fetlock should be wide, when viewed from the side,

and narrow viewed from the front, fine and well directed. The pastern should be sloping at an angle to complement the shoulder angle, so as to relieve concussion in the course of action.

The Feet: The feet must be sound and healthy. A good hoof wall, with wide open heels and strong quarters, is preferred; otherwise a horse may have a tendency to develop unsoundness. Hooves can be dark, light or striped. Feet that are shallow or narrow are undesirable. Hooves should be large, and well balanced in proportion to the bone of the horse's leg with an angle complementary to the slope of the pastern.

The Chest: The chest of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft should be deep, wide, low and of large girth, indicating strong constitution with ample space for vital organs and deep breathing.

The Hindquarters: The hind quarters are source of driving power. The hips should be wide, but in harmony with general body proportions and well-muscled. The croup should not be flat when viewed from the side, but instead rounded and blending into the coupling and dock without any sharpness. It is important that the tail be attached high.

The Hind legs: The gaskin should be short, but heavily muscled. The hock is one of the most important points of the horse, as it is in this joint that the strain on the muscles, during action, is concentrated. The hock, should be broad, viewed from the side, and flat, viewed from the front, its ball joint being well rounded, and the joint as a whole, when viewed from the side should be well supported by a wide cannon below. The hock should be turned in slightly, and have a good angulation, so as not to be post legged, nor make the horse appear camped out. The hocks should not show fullness or swelling. The hind cannons, like the front ones, should be broad when viewed from the side and thin when viewed from the front. They should be perpendicular, in line with the hind quarters. The hind fetlocks, as in the case of the front ones, should be wide, whilst the pasterns are less oblique than those of the fore legs. The hind feet are somewhat smaller than the front ones, not as round, but with good hoof heads and wide open heels.

The hind legs, like the front ones, should be set into the body, not on the outside of the quarters, but well under, so that the muscles on the quarters project wider than the muscles on the thighs. The toes of the hind feet should incline slightly outward. There should be a good length from the point of the hock to the ground.

The Action: The action of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft should be even, the hind and fore action should be in unison. There should be no hint of paciness or ambling. The hind feet should be planted forward as deliberately as the forefeet, which should be evenly carried forward. At the walk, the hind foot should cover the imprint of the front foot at a minimum. Short stepping is a fault in the working horse. The hocks should be turned slightly inward. In trotting, the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft should show good suspension and extension with no tendency toward racking or gaited movement. The canter should be measured and powerful without any suggestion of clumsiness or stiltedness.

B) Any member of ASHDA having knowledge of the following transactions is required to inform the registrar of same, if such transactions have not been previously submitted within a reasonable length of time:

1. The transfer by sale or gift of any ASHDA horse.
2. The foaling of any American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft eligible to be registered with ASHDA.
3. The death of any registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft.
4. The gelding or spaying of any registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft.

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New additions to the Rulebook will show up in **bold**.

ASHDA Animal Welfare Position Statement:

ASHDA is committed to the humane and proper treatment of all animals. In this respect:

- The welfare of the horse is the primary consideration in all activities.
- Horses will be treated with kindness, respect and compassion at all times.
- Responsible care will be used by all parties in handling, treatment and transportation of horses.
- Owners, exhibitors or trainers will ensure the health and well-being of animals in their care at all times.
- The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which a reasonable person, informed and experienced in generally accepted animal husbandry standard and equine care, training and exhibition procedure would determine to be neither cruel, abusive nor inhumane. Based on their principles, ASHDA has developed and enforces strict rules to ensure ethical competition and humane treatment of American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Horse. ASHDA supports the development of procedures that assure equity, fairness, safety, health and welfare for all participants. Because the ASHDA is strongly opposed to animal abuse, any member convicted in a court of law of cruelty to animals will be suspended from ASHDA when certified evidence is presented to ASHDA disciplinary committee.

ASHDA Membership Code of Ethics

We, the members of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Association, in carrying out our role of providing service and support to the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horse industry, recognize the need to do so in a professional manner, and to deal with the public and our colleagues with the highest degree of integrity. Therefore, we have set forth the following creed which shall govern our endeavors to fulfill our obligations:

1. To adhere to the professional standards of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Association and to work to further its goals and objectives.
2. To ensure that the welfare of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft is paramount and that every American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft shall at all times be treated humanely and with dignity, respect and compassion.
3. To conduct all business affairs with integrity, sincerity and accuracy in an open and forth right manner.
4. To act with integrity in financial dealings with clients, other professionals and the public.
5. To fully disclose to customers the actual sales price and commissions involved in the sale or purchase of a horse.
6. To not charge or receive a monetary commission, or other remuneration constituting a commission from both the buyer and seller of a horse.
7. To handle our business and operations in a manner which promotes the image of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horse industry.
8. To instill confidence among clients and the public in the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horse industry, avoiding any action conducive to discrediting it or membership in the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Association.
9. To strive at all time to breed out genetic defects that can be harmful to the horse's health and to be honest about any issues concerning the horse's health to the buyer.
10. To maintain my American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft(s) in a healthy environment and with good feeding and care so that they truly represent what is best about the breed.

ASHDA Board of Directors:

Territory I

Mary Boisvert -President
maryboisvert48@yahoo.com

Territory II

Heather Crispen- Vice President
livinlargefarms@yahoo.com

Territory III

Morgan Reeves
leftfieldsugarbushesky@yahoo.com

Territory IV

Autumn Beck
Autumnbeck84@gmail.com

Director Emeritus

Everett Smith

ASHDA Staff:

Executive Director

Tracy Meisenbach
ashdaED@gmail.com
434-665-1876

Registrar

Bron Stark
ashdaregistry@gmail.com
434-665-6709

Public Relations

Stephanie Adame
texasdotteddrafts@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Mandy Boggs

Website: <http://www.sugarbushharlequindraft.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SugarbushHarlequinDraft/>

FEES:

Memberships

Membership: \$15.00

Membership is free for a first time transfer or registration by a new ASHDA owner.

Youth: \$10.00

Couple/Family Membership: \$25.00

5 year adult: \$60.00

5 year Youth: \$40

Lifetime Membership: \$225.00

Registration for Main Book or Heritage:

Birth to December 31st of Foaling Year: \$30.00

January 1st to December 31st of Yearling year: \$60.00

January 1st to December 31st of Two Year Old year: \$120.00

Three Years and Older is \$240.00

Geldings and Spayed Mares of any age: \$40.00

Upgrading from Hardship Non-Breeding Mare to Improvement mare is \$200.00

Approved Cross Listing: \$15.00

Rush Fee: \$35.00 for 10 day return on paperwork.

Transfer of Ownership: \$15.00

Duplicate Certificate Fee:\$15.00

Stableman's Lien or Deceased Owner Fee: \$35.00

Transfer by missing records/indemnity fee \$50.00

Semen, Oocyte or Embryo Retention Permits

Retained ownership of frozen semen, oocytes listing fee \$50.00

Owner must notify ASHDA if they intend to retain ownership of previously frozen semen, oocytes or embryos for their use after the sale or death of a stallion or mare. This ensures that the owner of the semen, oocyte or embryo can file stallion reports or registration forms without requiring the signature of another person.

Stallion Reports

Stallion Report Fees for Main Book, Heritage or Approved Cross or NON-ASHDA Stallion: \$5.00 plus number of mares bred X's \$2.00. A stallion bred to 5 mares would owe \$15.00 total. Stallion Reports MUST be postmarked by December 31st of the breeding year.

Stallion report late fee: \$10.00 plus all standard filing fees.

Addition of mares to a stallion report previously filed will be \$10.00 per mare

Competitions

ASHDA-CAP Enrollment: \$25.00 per year per horse, regardless of number of handlers.

Saddle Log: \$15.00 per member, regardless of number of horses

Virtual photo and video show fees: vary by show.

Judging Card: \$25.00 due at beginning of year in addition to membership fee.

Advertising

Website advertising: varies by category

Foal Showcase for Website and Breed Books: \$5.00

RULES and REGULATIONS

The rules and regulations contained in this Official Rulebook of The American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Association are in full force and effect beginning July 4th, 2014. Additions and changes will be noted in **bold print**.

1. INFORMATION RELEASE POLICY

- A) Certain information about ASHDA members or work may be confidential. ASHDA will not disclose sensitive or legal matters, hearing results, Executive Committee meetings or any legal actions taken by the ASHDA, unless ASHDA elects to disclose such information, including publication on the website or in an official notice or newsletter.
- B) Information that may be released without written consent of the owner or other affected person includes:
1. any horse's performance records as available including points, awards and earnings;
 2. any horse's produce records, including but not limited to color production records;
 3. any horse's pedigree;
 4. the name of any current or past owners of any horse;
 5. the address or last known address of any member or non-member contained in ASHDA customer files; and
 6. the membership status of any individual, including past suspensions or disciplinary actions.
- C) Information that may not be released without written consent of the owner or other affected person includes:
1. stallion reports;
 2. breeders' certificates;
 3. number or names of horses owned;
 4. registration application material;
 5. any customer's phone number unless previously or currently published on the website or in the official newsletter
 6. any financial information pertaining to a customer's account balance or NSF check.
- D) ASHDA may disclose any information in its possession if compelled to do so by properly issued court order or subpoena or for any other proper corporate purpose.

2. MEMBERS

Classes of Members. ASHDA shall have three classes of members. The designation of such classes and the qualifications of the members of such classes shall be as follows:

- A) **Regular Members.** A regular member shall be any person whose membership application has been approved by the Executive Director in accordance with these articles and any person known as a life member. The following persons shall be eligible to apply for regular membership in ASHDA.
1. Any person owning a American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horse eligible for registration with ASHDA or demonstrating an interest in American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts, whether foreign or domestic.
 2. Any person associated with the horse industry, such as a trainer, exhibitor, supplier, veterinarian, show manager, farrier, or approved judge, steward or ring master whether foreign or domestic.
 - a) Appointment of Regular Members. Regular members shall be approved by the ASHDA Executive Director in accordance with the provisions of this section.
 - b) All applicants for regular membership shall file with the Executive Director a written application in such form as the Board of Directors shall from time to time determine. The Executive Director shall pass upon each application and shall approve or reject it in accordance with such rules and regulations as adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors.
 3. Regular members in good standing shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership in ASHDA, which are:
 - a) The right to nominate and second nominations for and serve as officers and directors of the Association, and to serve on committees of the Association.

- b) The right to vote in election of officers and directors of the Association.
- c) The right to vote on changes and amendments of the Articles and the ASHDA Breed Standard.
- d) The right to vote in person at the Annual General Meeting of Members (AGMM) or any special meeting of the members.
- e) The right to register and transfer ownership of registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horses.
- f) The right to enter and exhibit registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horses at shows organized under the auspices of ASHDA and/or its regional affiliates or open competitions governed by other organizations.
- g) The right to compete for awards at shows sponsored or approved by ASHDA for high point awards.
- h) The right to earn year end awards sponsored by ASHDA.
- i) Any other rights and privileges granted by ASHDA.

B) Honorary Life Members. Each director of ASHDA shall be appointed an honorary life member by the Board of Directors immediately upon the expiration of the director's term of office, provided that the former director is then in good standing with ASHDA. The Board of Directors may elect to honorary life membership any other person who for special reasons may be deemed entitled to this privilege. All such honorary life members shall be entitled to all of the privileges and rights of a regular member. Honorary life members shall not be required to pay an initiation fee or annual dues.

1. As founder of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft breed Everett Smith is an honorary lifetime member and Director Emeritus of ASHDA
2. As founder of the Stonewall Sporthorse breed Michael Muir is an honorary lifetime member and Director Emeritus of ASHDA.

C) Youth member. Any person under the age of 18 (per January 1st of the calendar year) shall be eligible for Youth Membership with ASHDA. This is a non-voting membership, but allows the right to own, transfer and exhibit an American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft.

D) Individuals who are not members, but own American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts, and file applications and other documents with ASHDA, by such actions and in regard to such transactions, agree to be bound by these Articles and other rules, regulations, policies and procedures of the Association and decisions and actions of the Board of Directors and its committees

E) Dues; Regular and foreign memberships are granted to individuals on an annual basis. The dues shall be set by the Board of Directors. Dues notices shall be sent out by the ASHDA staff. A second reminder/courtesy notice shall be mailed to those who have not renewed their membership

F) General Privileges and Obligations. Regular and life members in good standing shall have equal rights and privileges, except as otherwise limited by the ASHDA Articles. All members shall obey and be bound by the ASHDA Articles, by the rules and regulations adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors and by the decisions and actions of the Board of Directors. All members acknowledge they are willingly joining this organization knowing that it abides by certain requirements and restrictions and that they understand and agree to comply with all Bylaws, rules and regulations of the organization. By joining ASHDA they also agree that they will not hold the Association responsible in any way for their own personal business decisions regarding the breeding or owning of horses affiliated with this Association. Members breeding horses outside of the parameters set forth in ASHDA's registration rules have no legal recourse to compel ASHDA to register said horses. Members that violate the Articles, Bylaws and Rules set forth in the ASHDA Rulebook agree to accept any disciplinary action that results from the violation, and to pay any and all fines levied.

G) Disciplinary Rules. Members may be disciplined, expelled, or suspended for cause after an appropriate hearing in accordance with such rules and regulations as adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors. Any member so disciplined, expelled, or suspended for cause, is not a member in good standing.

H) Resignation. Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the Executive Director, but such resignation shall not relieve the resigning member of the obligation to pay any dues, assessments or other charges for which the member became liable prior to resignation.

I) Reinstatement. Upon written request signed by a formerly resigned or suspended member and filed with the Executive Director, the Board of Directors may, by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the directors in office, reinstate such former member to membership upon such terms as the Board of Directors may deem appropriate.

J) Transfer of Membership. Membership in ASHDA shall not be transferable.

K) Grievances, Violations and Discipline.

1. Grievances will be referred to the Executive Director. Upon review the matter may be referred to the Committee on Ethics that shall attempt to mediate those disputes falling under the committee's general guidelines.

2. Violations

a) Any member may be disciplined, suspended or expelled from ASHDA and any member or non-member may be denied all the privileges of ASHDA, or any fraudulent registration certificate may be cancelled, whenever it shall have been established by satisfactory evidence that such member or non-member has violated any pertinent provision of these Articles or other rule of the Association. Disciplinary action may take the form of censure, a monetary fine, and suspension for a period of time or a permanent lifetime ban, as determined by the Board of Directors.

b) No person shall refuse, on reasonable request, to assist or respond to ASHDA, its officers, committees, or agents in locating, identifying and inspecting records and/or facilities, or to answer promptly and truthfully any inquiry concerning a horse or an ancestor thereof in his ownership or control, which has been registered, approved for breeding or listed, or for which application to register or list has been made, or on any other matter of association business. Violation of this rule will be grounds for disciplinary action.

c) Cruel or inhumane treatment, including but not limited to, abuse, neglect, physical harm, starvation, illegal drugging for competition purposes or any actions such are determined by the Board of Directors to be against the health and well-being of the horse. Anyone convicted of a felony for any type of animal abuse will be permanently barred from membership. Anyone suspended for animal abuse or illegal drugging from any other equine organization cannot hold membership with ASHDA.

d) A member or non-member shall not conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate the rules of ASHDA, or to knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons, either by affirmative action or inaction, to violate these Articles, the rules, policies and procedures of ASHDA. Violation of this rule shall subject such member or non-member to disciplinary action, whether or not s/he has actually signed reports filed with ASHDA as asserted to be true and correct.

3. LEGAL ACTIONS

Every member and non-member agrees that he or she will not commence any action, whether in law or equity, against ASHDA in any courts other than those federal and state courts located in Campbell County in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and further agrees, for the mutual benefit of members and non-members and to reduce the costs and legal expenses incurred by ASHDA which would otherwise be borne by members and non-members

who utilize the services of ASHDA, in addition to any other sanction that may be imposed under these rules, to reimburse ASHDA, upon demand by ASHDA, the attorney fees, costs and other expenses, including, but not limited to depositions, arbitration costs, filing fees etc. in connection with any ASHDA disciplinary action or proceeding, arbitration action or proceeding, court action or proceeding or other legal proceeding in which the member or nonmember has been determined to have violated any ASHDA bylaws, rules or regulations.

4. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

A) CAUSE:

Whenever any member or non-member has violated any bylaw, rule or regulation, decision or policy of ASHDA, any such member may be disciplined, suspended, or expelled, any such member or non-member may be fined and denied any or all of the privileges and rights of ASHDA and any Certificate of Registration may be cancelled or modified or registration application denied.

B) TEMPORARY SUSPENSION WITHOUT HEARING:

The Executive Director may temporarily suspend, without hearing, any member, and may temporarily deny the privileges and rights of ASHDA to any nonmember for the periods set forth below for

1. failure to pay any obligation (other than dues) owing to ASHDA,
2. giving a non-sufficient funds check in payment of entry fees, stall fees, office charges, merchandise purchases or any other fee or charge connected with the exhibition of horses at any approved, sponsored or authorized ASHDA function or connected with the inspection of any horse, or
3. failure to complete and file a required an accurate annual stallion breeding report with the ASHDA,
4. failure to file required DNA test results,
5. failure to list a stallion or mare registered with an approved breed association, or
6. failure to return to ASHDA, upon written request, any Certificate of Registration for revocation, correction or other appropriate action, provided that written notice of the intention to suspend or withhold privileges and rights was mailed to the member or non-member not less than 15 days prior to the effective date of such action.

Any suspension made by the Executive Director pursuant to this rule shall continue until

1. payment of the full amount due,
2. filing of the requisite stallion breeding report, listing of the stallion or mare, or DNA test results or
3. return of any Certificate of Registration. Any member suspended a second time pursuant to this rule shall be suspended for a minimum period of ninety (90) days and such suspension shall continue thereafter until compliance has occurred as required above. Any member suspended a third time pursuant to this rule shall be expelled from membership and shall not again be eligible to be a member of ASHDA.

C) DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE JURISDICTION

Except for those matters that are within the jurisdiction of the Executive Director or are expressly delegated by these rules to another person or committee, the Disciplinary Committee is the forum within ASHDA which shall hear or review evidence of alleged violations of ASHDA bylaws, rules or regulations, decisions or policies by members or non-members and which shall have jurisdiction to invoke penalties and sanctions as provided under these rules. The Disciplinary Committee is a committee of the whole with a requirement that there must be a quorum of three (3) disinterested directors to hear any matter.

D) COMPLAINT

A complaint of possible or alleged violation(s) by a member or non-member of any bylaw, rule or regulation, decision or policy of the ASHDA must be processed as follows:

1. A written complaint, which must be dated and signed, must be submitted by a member, ASHDA director or ASHDA employee, to the ASHDA Executive Director Officer and/or the ASHDA President, and state the specific bylaw, rule or regulation, decision or policy alleged to have been violated and the person(s) allegedly responsible for such violation(s). Any member filing a

complaint, except ASHDA directors or employees acting in that capacity shall be required to pay a filing fee of \$100 to defer costs of hearing.

2. The complaint must set forth prima facie evidence in support of any allegation. The individual(s) filing the complaint will be required to present testimony and/or evidence at a hearing, if a hearing is deemed necessary by ASHDA, or the complaint may be dismissed by the Disciplinary Committee.

3. The ASHDA Executive Director and the ASHDA President will have the authority, but are not required, to investigate the allegations of a complaint. Full disclosure of the complaint will be made to the person(s) charged with such violation(s) prior to any disciplinary action. In the case of a complaint involving a youth member, either as complainant or person charged, an investigation must take place, and the evidence be reviewed by ASHDA Executive Director and ASHDA President.

4. The ASHDA Executive Director and the ASHDA President shall determine if prima facie evidence has been presented which is sufficient to warrant a hearing before the Disciplinary Committee. If such prima facie evidence has not been so presented, the complaint will be dismissed. The Executive Director and the ASHDA President may agree to assess fines against the person filing the frivolous complaint to offset such costs, including attorney fees, incurred by ASHDA in reviewing any frivolous or unfounded complaint. Complainant will be so notified but shall have a right to resubmit the complaint with new or additional evidence up to ninety (90) days from the date of the dismissal of the original complaint otherwise complainant will have no right to resubmit the complaint.

5. If it is determined that sufficient prima facie evidence has been presented, the Executive Director will cause notice of the hearing to be given to the charged member or nonmember by certified mail.

a. If two or more complaints are filed concerning the same incident, prima facie evidence presented by the complaining parties may be reviewed in order to determine the validity of any such complaints and the hearing(s) related to any such complaints may, at ASHDA's discretion, occur simultaneously.

6. The Executive Director, with approval from the ASHDA President and Vice-President, shall have the authority of the Disciplinary Committee to enter into an appropriate agreement, including the imposition of sanctions and penalties called for under these rules, in the best interests of ASHDA settling and/or compromising and satisfying a complaint before any such complaint is heard by the Disciplinary Committee.

7. The Disciplinary Committee shall have authority to enter into an appropriate agreement at any stage of these proceedings, in the best interests of ASHDA, settling and/or compromising and satisfying the complaint. A complainant may withdraw a complaint at any time, forfeiting all fees and costs for the complaint, and may also be subject to assessment of the costs of hearing the complaint, including attorney fees in reviewing any frivolous or unfounded complaint.

E) HEARING PROCEDURES

1. Written notice of the date, time and location of a hearing, together with a description of the violation charged and accompanying statement of evidence shall be mailed to the charged member or non-member not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing.

2. All disciplinary hearings shall take place via teleconference or internet conference. Any person participating in a hearing, including Disciplinary Committee members, persons charged, counsel and witnesses may appear at the hearing by way of teleconferencing. Any person appearing by teleconferencing shall notify the Executive Director in writing or via email at least ten (10) days before the hearing and include a telephone number at which they can be reached at the time set for hearing.

3. Any interested person may submit a written, notarized statement to the Disciplinary Committee prior to the hearing that shall be made part of the hearing record.
4. No continuance will be granted unless requested in writing and received in the ASHDA office at least ten (10) days before the hearing and good cause is shown. A continuance will be granted or denied at the sole discretion of the Executive Director.
5. The member or non-member charged by the complaint and the Complainant shall have the right to call witnesses, present testimony, under oath, and offer evidence, to cross examine any adverse witnesses and to provide rebuttal testimony and evidence.
6. ASHDA reserves the right to appear in any hearing, through designees and/or counsel, and call witnesses, present testimony, under oath, and offer other evidence, to cross examine any other witnesses and to provide rebuttal testimony and evidence.
7. The Disciplinary Committee may call and interrogate witnesses in an effort to determine whether a violation has occurred.

F) HEARING STANDARDS

1. Proceedings before the Disciplinary Committee shall be informal, and rules of evidence, both at common law or provided by the Commonwealth of Virginia rules of civil or criminal evidence or procedure, need not be strictly observed. The standard by which admissibility is determined is whether the evidence is such that an ordinarily prudent person is willing to rely upon it. The Disciplinary Committee will be the sole judge of the relevance and value attributed to any evidence.
2. Proof necessary to establish a rule violation is that quantum of proof which would lead a reasonable person to believe the matter alleged in the complaint and notice of hearing is established by the evidence presented to the Disciplinary Committee.
3. A majority vote of the Disciplinary Committee hearing any matter shall be its decision as a whole and action shall be final and binding on all parties, except that the Disciplinary Committee reserves the right to modify or set aside its decision for reasons of mistake, fraud or misrepresentation or any other reason justifying relief from a decision.
4. All parties, witnesses and participants in a disciplinary process, including members of the Disciplinary Committee, shall be immune from any civil liability whatever, including, but not limited to, libel, slander, invasion of privacy, defamation, product disparagement, interference with contract, interference with prospective business relations and any other tortious conduct, for testimony given and/or evidence presented in connection with the proceeding or at the hearing.

G) ALTERNATIVE HEARING PROCEDURE

1. In the event the Disciplinary Committee, in its sole judgment, is unable or refuses to hear any matter, every member or non-member agrees to submit to hearing and determination of any alleged violation of ASHDA rules before and under jurisdiction of the American Arbitration Association, which shall apply ASHDA rules and regulations pertaining to violations and penalties and shall apply the procedural rules of the American Arbitration Association.
2. All expenses associated with employment of the American Arbitration Association shall be paid, in advance, by the member(s) initiating or alleging any such charge of rule violation or, if not so paid, any such charge of rule violation shall be summarily dismissed by ASHDA.
3. The American Arbitration Association's decision shall be determinative of guilt and its decision and action shall be final and binding on all parties and ASHDA.

H) DISCIPLINARY RECIPROCITY

1. ASHDA may give reciprocal effect to the authorized disciplinary action of any association listed in subsection 3 of this rule for misconduct involving any horse including, but not limited to, the following categories of misconduct:
 - a) Unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - b) Cruel or inhumane treatment of horses.
 - c) Prohibited surgical procedure or injection or administration of foreign substances, drugs or medication that could affect a horse's performance, soundness or disposition or alter its natural conformation or appearance.

2. If an individual is convicted of or pleads guilty to or is found to have participated knowingly in any such misconduct under state or federal law or rules of other equine associations, such conviction, plea or finding shall create a presumption of violation of ASHDA rules.

3. ASHDA will consider giving reciprocal effect to the authorized disciplinary action of the following associations:
 - a) United States Equestrian Federation
 - b) American Miniature Horse Association
 - c) American Paint Horse Association
 - d) American Quarter Horse Association
 - e) International Buckskin Horse Association
 - f) National Cutting Horse Association
 - g) National Reining Horse Association
 - h) National Snaffle Bit Association
 - i) Palomino Horse Breeders of America
 - j) Pinto Horse Association of America
 - k) Pony of the Americas Clubs
 - l) Clydesdale Breeders of the U.S.A.
 - m) American Shire Horse Association
 - n) Percheron Horse Association of America
 - o) American Suffolk Horse Association
 - p) American Cream Draft Horse Association
 - q) North American Spotted Draft Horse Association
 - r) Canadian Shire Horse Association
 - s) Haflinger Horse Association
 - t) Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry
 - u) Dales Pony Society of America
 - v) American Holsteiner Horse Association
 - w) Appaloosa Horse Club
 - x) Colorado Ranger Horse Association
 - y) Any other horse breed association or equine organization that ASHDA deems to be reputable and responsible.

4. A complaint alleging that an ASHDA member or nonmember should be subject to reciprocal effect for any such misconduct shall be processed and heard by the ASHDA Disciplinary Committee in like manner as disciplinary procedures for violation of ASHDA rules.

5. Any ASHDA member or nonmember against whom reciprocal effect is given by ASHDA for any such misconduct is subject to those penalties set forth in GENERAL PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS.

6. ASHDA shall promptly notify each association listed in rule 2.H.3 with the name of and violation committed by each individual who either pleads guilty or is convicted after hearing of violations of ASHDA rules pertaining to those categories of misconduct listed in 2.H.1.

5. GENERAL VIOLATIONS

Violation of any ASHDA rule and/or regulations will subject the ASHDA member and/or nonmember to disciplinary procedures and, if found guilty, those penalties and sanctions called for under these rules. Violations by an ASHDA member and/or nonmember, as the case may be, include, but are not limited to, those set forth under this rule.

A) CRUEL AND INHUMANE TREATMENT

1. No person may treat a horse in an 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 including but not limited to in a stall, trailer or when longeing or riding.
 - c) Letting blood from a horse at a show or exhibition
 - d) Using of inhumane training techniques, equipment or methods including but not limited to poling or striking horse's legs with objects (i.e. tack poles, jump poles, etc.).
 - e) Attaching any item or appliance that restricts movement or circulation of the tail.
 - f) Inhumane treatment that causes a horse to bleed.
 - g) Use of inhumane equipment including, but not limited to sawtooth bits, hock hobbles, tack collars or tack hackamores.
 - h) Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug which could affect the horse's performance or alter its natural conformation or appearance is prohibited, except for those surgical procedures performed for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the horse.
 - i) Exhibiting a horse that appears to be sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired.
 - j) Exhibiting a horse that has an open, raw or bleeding sore that repeatedly comes in contact with a bit, bridle, curbstrap, bosal or hackamore.
 - k) Withholding food and/or water for prolonged periods of time such that it causes undue discomfort or distress to the horse.
2. 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, would determine to be cruel, abusive and inhumane.
3. This prohibition includes all horses, not just American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horses, as such conduct indicates a general treatment of horses that is unacceptable for ASHDA members. If an individual is convicted or found to have participated knowingly under state or federal law or rules of other equine breed associations in cruel or inhumane treatment of a horse, such conviction or finding shall create a presumption of violation of this rule.
4. Upon discovery by a show official of inhumane treatment, show management shall immediately report the matter to the ASHDA.
5. Pending final hearing by the Disciplinary Committee, the Executive Director may, by giving written notice of his action to the owner of record at his/her current address as evidenced by ASHDA records, temporarily suspend a horse and/or any responsible party from further participation in ASHDA-approved or sponsored events or shows.
 - a) The Executive Director may secure the opinion of a licensed veterinarian or other appropriate professional to aid in the determination of violation of this rule.

B) FRAUDULENT PRACTICES

Knowingly misrepresenting any material fact pertaining to a horse, ASHDA document, of a matter of significance to the interests of the ASHDA, its programs, policies and objectives, including, but not limited to:

1. Representing any horse as an ASHDA registered horse that is not an ASHDA registered horse or representing that an ASHDA registered horse has a classification that such horse does not have or that has been revoked or changed.
2. Providing false information to the ASHDA or any person regarding the name, age, parentage, or registration status of a horse.
3. Representing that a horse registered with the ASHDA has earned or is entitled to any official ASHDA designation, honor, points and/or awards that such horse has not either earned or received or prior to the actual issuance of such designation, honor, points and/or awards or after ASHDA has cancelled said designation, honor, points and/ or awards.
4. Representing a certificate or other document as valid and issued or prepared or altered by the ASHDA that was not valid and issued or prepared or altered by the ASHDA.
5. Committing forgery or providing false information on or with respect to any document filed with the ASHDA or altering any official ASHDA document.
6. Representing a horse as bearing natural characteristic(s) and/or coat pattern that actually bears artificial characteristic(s) and/or artificial coat pattern.
7. Altering, changing or attempting to hide or alter natural markings of a horse by surgery, dye or any other manner.
8. Falsely representing oneself as an ASHDA official, director, employee, judge, or steward through verbal, written or electronic communication.

C) ABUSE OF ASHDA OFFICIALS

Engaging in abusive, intimidating or threatening conduct toward any Director, Officer, staff member, employee of ASHDA or show personnel while in furtherance of their official duties or engage in conduct detrimental to the legitimate business interest of the ASHDA.

D) NON-COMPLIANCE

1. Failing or refusing to permit examination of a horse, in competition or not, by a licensed veterinarian or his/her agent upon request of any ASHDA representative for the purpose of determining whether a violation of rules has occurred.
 - a) All horses in competition in an ASHDA-approved or -sponsored event are subject to examination by such veterinarian or his/her agent appointed for that purpose by ASHDA. Said appointed veterinarian, with the approval of the ASHDA, may appoint technicians to perform certain duties under this rule. The examination may include physical, saliva, urine, or blood tests or any other test or procedure at the discretion of said veterinarian necessary to effectuate the purposes of this rule. Said veterinarian may examine any or all horses in a class or all classes in an event or any horse entered in any class, whether in competition or not if on the show grounds, or any horse withdrawn by an exhibitor within 24 hours prior to a class for which it has been entered, unless otherwise directed by the ASHDA. Any such violation subjects all responsible parties to disciplinary action.
2. Failing to comply with or abide by penalties, sanctions, restrictions and/or conditions imposed as a result of disciplinary action taken by ASHDA or failing to comply with or abide by any request made by any ASHDA employee for the return or delivery of any Certificate of Registration or other documentation as required by these rules.

E) REFUSING TO PROVIDE INFORMATION

Refusing any reasonable request by the ASHDA, its officers, committees, or agents for assistance in locating, identifying, inspecting, examining, cooperating with any testing and/or identification procedures, providing certificates of registration, obtaining information, and/or answering promptly and truthfully any inquiry concerning a horse which the person owned, was the owner of or had control of the sire or the dam of (a) which has been registered, or identified, or listed on any report filed with the ASHDA, (b) for which a registration application or listing on any report has been filed with ASHDA, or (c) which is alleged to be an ancestor of a registered horse, or identified horse, or horse listed on any report filed with the ASHDA, or horse to be registered.

F) CONSPIRACY

Conspiring or knowingly cooperating or contributing, either by inaction or action, to violate intentionally, heedlessly or recklessly, any ASHDA rule.

6. DEFINITIONS

The following are definitions of terms used throughout the Official Rulebook, and should be referred to as indicated for a full understanding of the rules and regulations.

AGE - The age of horses is computed from the first of January; e.g. a horse shall be considered to be one year old on the first of January following the actual date of foaling age of an individual for horse show purposes shall be based on the individual's age on January 1, e.g. the individual's age on January 1 shall be maintained throughout the entire year.

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION - A written application for registration giving all required information on the horse. There are also application forms for transfer of ownership, advancement to permanent, etc.

APPROVED CROSS- Any horse listed as an approved cross with ASHDA. Such horses must meet conformational requirements as well as genetic testing requirements. A one-time Approved Cross listing fee must be paid prior to the use of such a horse as a parent for a registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft foal. Approved cross horses are not entered into the general studbook, but are recorded by the registry and identified with an AC* designation and sequential numbering.

ARTIFICIAL COLORING - Any color or changes of color that do not result from natural processes.

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION (AI) - Insemination by other than natural means. The mare is not covered by the stallion, and the semen is deposited in the uterus by mechanical means.

BASE COLOR - The dominant color of a horse that is not a white area. It is determined from the body, neck, head or spotting and if required through genetic testing.

BAY - Body color ranging from tan, through red, to reddish brown; mane and tail black; black on the lower legs. Bay is caused by the agouti gene AA or Aa

BAY DUN - Body color light bay, yellowish or gold; mane and tail may be black or brown, or mixed; has a dorsal stripe, and often zebra stripes on legs and transverse stripe on withers. Dark points on legs. Bay Dun is a black base coat modified by agouti and dun. Genetically DD or Dd.

BAY ROAN - Body color bay, with a uniform mixture of white hairs, may have varnish marks and dark leg points. Classic roans have a solid dark head. It is caused by roan modifying a bay base coat.

BLACK - Body color true black without pangere. Black can be homozygous black EE or heterozygous black Ee.

BLUE ROAN - More or less uniform mixture of white and black hairs, usually with a few red hairs and may have varnish marks. It is caused by roan modifying a black base coat.

BUCKSKIN - Body color yellowish or gold; mane and tail black; black on lower legs; buckskins do not have dorsal stripes. Buckskin is caused by the cream gene modifying a bay base coat.

CHAMPAGNE- The Champagne dilution gene lightens a horse's coat color by the horse's base color -- black coats can lighten to a dark brown, chestnut coats to an apricot or gold, and bay coats to a golden brown. Champagne expression usually includes pinkish freckled or mottled skin, a shiny coat that is often slightly darker in the winter, and a hazel eye color.

CHESTNUT or SORREL - Body color varies from light reddish yellow to dark liver in color. Never has black mane, tail or legs, but may have black hairs in mane and tail. May also have a flaxen mane and tail but mane and tail are usually the same color as body. Chestnuts are ee and express red factor.

CREMELLO - Cremellos have pink skin, blue eyes and ivory hair. They carry two copies of the crème gene, CR/CR over chestnut ee.

GRAY - Mixture of white and darker hairs; usually born solid-colored or almost solid-colored and gets light with age. Gray is actually a modifier, not a color. Black and red based horses can “gray out” and lighten as they age. Genetically G/G or gg.

GRULLA - Body color smoky or mouse-colored, (not a mixture of black and white hairs, but with each hair mouse-colored); mane and tail black, black on lower legs. Grulla is black base coat modified by dun. Genetically EE or Ee with DD or Dd.

PALOMINO - Body color a golden yellow, mane and tail white. Chestnut modified by cream. ee n/CR

PERLINO- Perlinos also have pink skin, blue eyes and ivory hair except the mane and tail are darker than the body. Perlinos are two copies of the cream gene Cr/Cr over Bay Aa or AA

RED DUN- Body color varies from light reddish yellow to a dark peach color. Never has black mane, tail or legs, but may have black hairs in mane and tail. May also have a flaxen mane and tail but mane and tail are usually the same color or slightly darker than the body. Red Dun is dun modifying chestnut or sorrel. Genetically ee with DD or Dd.

RED ROAN - More or less uniform mixture of white and red hairs, and may have varnish marks. It is caused by roan modifying a chestnut horse.

SMOKEY BLACK-A black base coat modified by cream. Either EE or Ea with n/Cr

SMOKEY CREAM- A black base coat with two cream genes. Either EE or Ea with Cr/Cr

WHITE - A true white horse is born white and remains white throughout its life. A white horse has snow white hair, pink skin and normally brown eyes. Despite being white the horse will still have a black or red base color when tested.

BLANKET-White patterning that can extend from the withers back over the hip to the tail. A blanket pattern can be just on the top of the hips or extend down the sides to the flanks and ribs. A blanket can have spots the same color as the base coat or be completely free of spots, such as a snowcap pattern.

BREEDER - Owner of the dam at the time of service unless the dam was under a lease at the time of breeding and written notice of such lease, signed by the lessee and lessor, is on file with ASHDA at the time of breeding. In that case, the lessee is the breeder of the foal.

BREEDER'S CERTIFICATE - Written verification signed by the stallion owner listing the stallion used for breeding, the mare bred, and the dates the breeding or breedings took place, or the period the mare was exposed to the stallion, in the case of pasture breeding.

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION - A document attesting to an animal's age, pedigree, breeder, owner and description.

CHARACTERISTICS - The American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft can have four identifiable LP characteristics: Coat Pattern, Mottled Skin, Striped Hooves, White Sclera

CLONING - Cloning, as applied to horses, is defined as any method by which the genetic material of an unfertilized egg or an embryo is removed or replaced by genetic material taken from another organism, added to/with genetic material from another organism or otherwise modified by any means in order to produce a live foal. Clones, or the produce of clones cannot be registered with ASHDA.

COMPUTER FLAGGING - ASHDA will place notes, comments, etc. in the ASHDA computer regarding a particular ASHDA horse file.

COWLICK or WHORL- A lock or tuft of hair growing in a different direction from the rest of the hair.

CRYOGENICS (FREEZE MARKING) - A permanent, painless, unalterable means of identification which destroys the pigment producing cells that give the hair its color, so as to leave a mark of white hair. Freeze marking for identification purposes is a legal alteration. ASHDA encourages Freeze Branding for identification purposes.

CRYPTORCHID - A horse in which both of the testicles have failed to normally descend into the scrotum by three years of age. If a stallion's testicles have not dropped by the age of three he must be gelded in order to retain registration with ASHDA.

E- DESIGNATION- Horses bred or descended from the original stock owned by Everett Smith.

EMBRYO- A fertilized egg, removed from a bred donor mare and placed into a recipient mare.

EXHIBITOR - Owner, lessee, contestant, handler, trainer and/or rider shall be known as exhibitors.

FACE MARKINGS - White markings on the face of a horse which are used in describing and positively identifying a horse.

STAR - Any marking on the forehead.

STRIPE - A vertical marking found below the eye level and above the imaginary horizontal line connecting the top of the nostrils.

SNIP - Any mark found below the top of the nostrils.

SNIP LOWER LIP - Any marking found on lower lip.

STAR AND SNIP - A marking on the forehead with disconnected marking between or below the nostrils.

STAR AND STRIPE - A marking on the forehead with a stripe to the nasal peak. The stripe does not have to be an extension of the star.

STRIPE AND SNIP - A narrow marking extending vertically, beginning below the eyes and ending just below or between the nostrils.

STAR, STRIPE AND SNIP - A marking on the forehead with an extension to between or below the nostrils.

BLAZE - A large or wide connected white star, stripe and snip of uniform width.

BALD FACE - A very large blaze which can extend outside of the eyes in the forehead and center of face, covering the width of the bridge of the nose and over the entire muzzle. .

FALL - A horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and flank or quarters on the same side have touched the ground or an obstacle and the ground. A exhibitor is considered to have fallen when he/she is separated from his/her horse, that has not fallen, in such a way that he/she must remount or vault into the saddle.

FAMILY - Definitions for “family” as related to ownership of horses or memberships in ASHDA. A family is defined as the member, spouse, child, step-child, legal ward, father, mother, stepparent, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, grandparent, grandchild, legal guardian, living in the same household.

FEWSPOT- A horse with extensive white patterning over the base coat that is homozygous for LP.

GBED-Glycogen Branching Enzyme Deficiency (GBED) is a fatal condition caused by the bodies' inability to properly store sugar.

GELDING- A castrated male horse.

GET- Offspring of a stallion.

HERDA-Hereditary Equine Regional Dermal Asthenia (HERDA) Also known as Hyperelastosis Cutis, HC is a genetic skin disease predominantly found in the American Quarter Horses tracing to Poco Bueno.

HARDSHIP REGISTRATION- Regular # or Non-Breeding Registration open to LP marked geldings and spayed mares that do not have verifiable pedigrees. Horse may be hardship registered on an individual case basis and must meet conformational standards as well as exhibit visible breed characteristics.

H-DESIGNATION- Horses that have American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft heritage or ancestry that do not qualify to be in the regular stud book. Heritage horses can be approved after the age of 4 years old by photo submission to the Registrar and by meeting all of ASHDA’s current genetic testing and pedigree requirements. Progeny from these horses can be bred up to draft percentages to then enter the general stud book. Unapproved Heritage horses cannot breed forward into the main book.

HERDA- Hereditary Equine Regional Dermal Asthenia also called Hyperelastosis Cutis, HERDA is a genetic skin disease found in the Quarter Horse. The origin of this genetic disorder may be Poco Bueno's sire line. The symptom of this disorder is a lack of adhesion within the layers of skin due to a genetic defect in the collagen that holds the skin in place.

HETEROZYGOUS- carrying one copy of a specific gene IE; Ee means a heterozygous black horse.

HOMOZYGOUS- carrying two copies of a specific gene IE: EE means a homozygous black horse.

HYPP-Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis Disease (HYPP) is a muscular disease caused by an inherited genetic mutation. HYPP has been traced back to one horse named Impressive. Symptoms of HYPP may include muscle twitching, unpredictable paralysis attacks which can lead to sudden death, and respiratory noises.

I-DESIGNATION- Improvement horses brought into the general stud book to help increase the gene pool of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts. I registered horses are evaluated and must pass a conformational evaluation and genetic testing requirements in order to enter the general stud book.

INSPECTION - Visual examination of a horse by an ASHDA-approved inspector to gather data to be submitted in report and picture form to the Registrar of the ASHDA to determine whether the horse meets the registration requirements of the ASHDA, and/or to identify the horse from the appropriate registration application or Certificate of Registration.

INSPECTOR - A person designated by the Executive Director or Registrar to visually inspect a horse to gather data both in pictorial and report form to assist the Registrar in determining whether or not the horse meets the registration requirements of the ASHDA.

JEB-Junctional Epidermolysis Bullosa (JEB) is an inherited disease also known as Red Foot Disease or Hairless Foal Syndrome. Variations of the disorder affect Belgian Draft horses, American Saddlebred horses and relatives of these breeds.

LEG MARKINGS - White markings on the legs of a horse which are used in describing and identifying a horse.

HEEL - A white marking found across the entire heel or simply on one side.

CORONET - A white marking from the foot to the first inch above the hoof, extending all the way around the foot to be inclusive of the heel.

PASTERN - A white marking that extends from the top of the hoof up to the bottom of the ankle or fetlock joint.

ANKLE - A white marking that extends from the top of the hoof to the top of the ankle joint.

HALF STOCKING - A white marking that extends to the midway point of the cannon bone.

STOCKING - Any white marking extending from the hoof covering the leg up to the bottom of the knee or hock or above the knee or hock.

LIGHTNING MARK- LP patterning on the legs, can have white or dark spots. Usually from the knee or hock to the ankles.

LEOPARD-Extensive white patterning over the entire body with scattered spots in any base color.

MH-Malignant Hyperthermia is a genetic muscle disorder that affects Quarter Horses and related breeds. Horses with the MH mutation may not show any physical signs of the disorder until triggered by exposure to anesthesia or extreme exercise or stress.

MONORCHID - A horse in which one of the testicles has failed to normally descend into the scrotum by three years of age. A stallion that is a monorchid at the age of three must be gelded in order to retain registration in ASHDA.

MOTTLED SKIN (PARTI-COLORED SKIN) - The American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft can carry the LP gene and therefore mottled skin is a very basic and decisive indication of LP characteristics. Mottled skin is different from pink skin in that it will normally contain small, round, dark spots within its area. If a horse has mottled skin, it is apt to be found in the anus or muzzle regions. Mottled skin is often found on the udder or sheath.

NON-BREEDING STOCK REGISTRATION - Category for American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts that cannot produce foals eligible for registration with ASHDA. Such horses can be carrying genetic defects or other traits which are undesirable for breeding stock. Default category for all Hardship registered horses. Non-Breeding Horses will be issued N designation papers.

NON-CHARACTERISTIC - American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts that do not show any identifiable LP characteristics or have at least one copy of the LP gene.

OOCYTE - An unfertilized egg, removed from donor mare and placed into a recipient mare, and recipient mare is then bred.

NON-MEMBER - A person who has not applied for membership with the ASHDA, or a person whose membership dues are not currently paid to the ASHDA.

OWNER - For purposes of interpretation of ASHDA rules the last person(s) named on the Certificate of Registration issued by the ASHDA shall be considered the owner. Executed transfer reports or bills of sale transferring the ownership of a horse from the recorded owner to a new purchaser will not be evidence of ownership until all requirements are met and the transfer is processed. (See also TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP.)

PARROT MOUTH - Either overshot or undershot and is defined by the American Association of Equine Practitioners as “no occlusal contact between the upper and lower central incisors.”

PEDIGREE - A verified record of the ancestry of an animal.

POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM - A system of exact identification of a horse using multi-methods such as photographs, tattooing, brands, identifying scars, face, leg and coat markings.

PSSM-Polysaccharide Storage Myopathy (PSSM) is a dominant autosomal hereditary condition that can cause a genetic form of tying-up with muscle damage and inability to move. At least 20 breeds have been identified with Type 1 PSSM. The prevalence of the GYS1 mutation in Belgians is as much as 50% of and 8% of the Quarter Horse-related breeds.

PRODUCE – Offspring from a Mare

PULLED HAIR-Hair can be pulled or cut to be used in polarization stress analysis in order to determine whether or not cryogenic alteration has occurred. Or pulled hair follicles are a method used to determine DNA test results.

REATA or RIATA- Spanish for lariat.

REGULAR MEMBER - A lifetime member, regular member or a regular member in good standing as those terms are used in these rules is an individual whose membership application has been approved in accordance with ASHDA bylaws, who has paid the requisite membership fee and who is not under current suspension from membership by the ASHDA.

REGULAR REGISTRATION - # designation is issued to the progeny of two American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft that meets the requirement of being at least 50% draft breeding. Or one Main Book Parent and one Approved Cross Parent or it may also be issued to the progeny of two Approved Cross horses that meets the requirement of being 50% draft breeding and meet the conformational standards and current genetic testing requirements. Hardship Geldings that meet negative testing requirements PSSM1, HYPP and MH may also receive a # designation.

RETAINED OWNERSHIP PERMIT: Semen, Oocyte or Embryo Retention Permits

Owner must notify ASHDA if they intend to retain ownership of previously frozen semen, oocytes or embryos for their use after the sale or death of a stallion or mare. This ensures that the owner of the semen, oocyte or embryo can file stallion reports or registration forms without requiring the signature of another person

SNOWCAP-A horse with a white blanket that does not have base color spots. A snowcap is homozygous for LP.

SNOWFLAKE- A dark base coat covered with small white spots.

SPAYED MARE - Filly or mare that has been spayed (i.e. rendered incapable of conception by whatever procedure, including removal of the ovaries).

STALLION BREEDING REPORT - A form listing the stallion's name, registration number, and owner. It lists all mares exposed to the stallion during the calendar year, the dates they were bred or exposed, their breed type, sire and dam and registration numbers, and the name of the owner at the time of service. It is signed by either the stallion owner, lessee or an authorized agent.

STRIPED HOOVES - Bold and clearly defined vertically light and dark striped hooves on hoofs.

TATTOOING- The placing of a numerical mark on the inside of a horse's upper lip by means of a tattoo dye and the application of tattoo ink to assist in the identification of the horse.

TRAINER - Any person who has responsibility for the training and performance of a horse.

TRANSPORTED SEMEN - Semen transported from the location of collection, either frozen or chilled.

VARNISH-Dark markings on a horse's face, legs and in scattered areas of the body. Some horses lighten with age and the varnish marks appear and usually remain no matter how much the body lightens.

WHITE SCLERA - A horse is said to have white sclera when there is white area completely encircling the dark or pigmented iris of the eye. It should be easily seen and should completely encircle the eye.

7. RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REGISTRATION

A) Applicants are responsible for knowledge of all registration rules and regulations.

B) Registration of a horse with the ASHDA is based and predicated upon the agreement, acceptance, and consent of the applicant that the final decision on all registrations and classification matters and the final interpretation of all rules contained from time to time in this handbook shall be made by the Board of Directors of ASHDA or an authorized committee thereof and that the decisions and interpretations of the Board or authorized committee shall be binding on all parties.

C) Registration eligibility for all horses is predicated on information supplied to the ASHDA Registration Department on properly completed and signed official application forms, from photographs, from examination and/or inspection, from results of genetic testing and/or from any other source. All information obtained by ASHDA becomes the property of the ASHDA, and ASHDA is authorized to utilize all such information for any purpose. The burden of proving eligibility for registration of any horse with ASHDA rests with the applicant.

D) As a prerequisite to registration or change in registration classification, the Registrar may require an inspection and/or examination of the subject horse. Prior to the inspection, the owner shall pay actual and necessary expenses for the inspection. Upon request, the owner shall transport the horse to a convenient location to permit the inspection and/or examination. The registration application or requested change in classification shall be rejected if the horse is not eligible for registration under these rules and if the owner of the subject horse refuses to permit the inspection and/or examination. The registration is subject to suspension, revocation or correction.

E) ASHDA will not be liable for any error or misrepresentation on the application for registration or subsequently issued Certificate of Registration, and, in case of such error or misrepresentation, ASHDA reserves the right to suspend, revoke or correct the issued Certificate of Registration and the entry of the named horse in accordance with the Protest, Inspection and Appeal Procedures set forth in this rulebook.

F) The back of all ASHDA Certificates of Registration read: “This certificate is written evidence of the breeding of the below named animal.” This acceptance is based upon an application duly certified by the breeder or owner. The certificate is subject to correction and cancellation under the Bylaws of ASHDA. ASHDA will not be liable under this certificate for any mistake therein, based upon error or misrepresentation in the application thereof; and in case of such error or misrepresentation ASHDA reserves the right to cancel or correct this Certificate of Registration.

G) The owner of a horse registered with the ASHDA consents and agrees, as a condition to receiving said Certificate of Registration, to allow the escrowing of any points, awards, recognition, or monies won or earned by said horse from and after the date of filing of any protest against said horse pursuant to the protest and identification provisions of the Official Rulebook of ASHDA.

H) ASHDA staff is authorized, but not required, to accept a facsimile (fax) or email transmission of an original document, when, in the opinion of ASHDA staff, the sender is

1. the authorized party executing the document or
2. a party having substantial interest in the subject horse, has obtained the original document from the authorized person and so verifies the genuineness of the document in the sender’s possession to the satisfaction of ASHDA staff. As a precaution, the fax should be followed by the mailing of the original document, but this requirement is not a condition of accepting the fax or email.

I) ASHDA, its agents and/or inspectors, shall have a right of access to farms, ranches, breeding facilities and any other places or facilities owned, leased and/or controlled by members and/or non-members, where any horse: (a) registered, identified and/or listed on any report filed with the ASHDA; (b) for which a registration application has been filed with the ASHDA; or (c) which is alleged to be an ancestor of a registered horse, or identified horse, or horse listed on any report filed with the ASHDA or horse to be registered; is, or to the best of the ASHDA’s knowledge, may be located at any such place or facility, for the purpose of inspecting any such horses, assisting breeders or owners with ASHDA administrative requirements, taking photographs, undertaking any testing and/or identification procedures, completing inspections and/or reports and any other purpose reasonably related to ASHDA’s registration processes, as determined by the ASHDA, its agents and/or inspectors. The member and/or nonmember will be presented a letter from the ASHDA at the time such access is demanded and no prior notice shall be required. Any such inspection may occur at any time during the year and shall occur during daylight hours for such reasonable time as may be necessary, in ASHDA’s sole discretion, to accomplish such purposes.

1. During the visit of an ASHDA inspector, agent or employee should it be determined that the horse(s) located at that farm, ranch, breeding facility or any other places or facilities owned, leased and/or controlled by members and/or non- members has been abused, neglected, starved or otherwise endangered, the visiting ASHDA inspector, agent or employee will file a report with any photographic or otherwise recorded evidence for possible disciplinary action or sanction.

8. REGISTRATION CLASSIFICATIONS

A) **E- DESIGNATION:** Horses bred or descended from the original stock owned by Everett Smith. Horses with this designation will receive registration papers printed on tan parchment with an affixed seal and a black ribbon. An E precedes the registration number.

B) **H-DESIGNATION-**Heritage horses that have American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts parentage or ancestry that do not qualify to be in the regular stud book IE some Stonewall Sporthorses, or other crossbreds. Heritage horses can be approved after the age of 4 years old by photo submission to the Registrar and by meeting all of ASHDA’s current genetic testing and pedigree requirements. Progeny from these

approved horses can be bred up to draft percentages to then enter the general stud book. Unapproved Heritage horses cannot breed forward into the main book. Heritage Horses with this designation will receive registration papers printed on gray parchment with an affixed seal and a hunter green ribbon until they are approved to breed forward into the Main Book. **After approval they will be issued green parchment papers with an affixed seal with hunter green ribbon. An H precedes the registration number.**

C) I-DESIGNATION- Improvement horses brought into the general stud book to help increase the gene pool of the American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts. Horses 4 years and older may be submitted for inspection. I registered horses are evaluated and must pass a conformational evaluation in order to enter the general stud book. Horses with this designation will receive registration papers printed on light parchment with an affixed seal with a burgundy ribbon. An I precedes the registration number.

D) N-DESIGNATION- NON-BREEDING STOCK REGISTRATION - Category for American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts that cannot produce foals eligible for registration with ASHDA. Such horses can be carrying homozygous or heterozygous genetic defects or other traits which are undesirable for breeding stock. N horses may be shown and are eligible for awards, but their progeny is ineligible for registration with ASHDA. **Horses with this designation, with the exception of Hardship Geldings or Spayed Mares, will receive registration papers printed on the corresponding color of parchment that befits their pedigree status with an affixed seal and a white ribbon.** An N precedes the registration number. **Owners now have the option of requesting a voluntary Designation change to N for Main Book horses that no longer meet current registration requirements or that have physical or medical issues that prevent them from being bred, such as spaying a mare, uterine issues or other problems. This would prevent future sellers from misrepresenting the mare as breeding stock.**

E) REGULAR REGISTRATION - # designation is issued to the progeny of an American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft that meet the requirement of being at least 50% draft breeding. It may also be issued to the progeny of two Approved Listing horses that meets the requirement of being 50% draft breeding and meet the conformational standards. Regular registration is automatically issued to geldings and spayed mares as they did not reproduce. Horses with this designation will receive registration papers printed on blue parchment with an affixed seal and a royal blue ribbon. A # precedes the registration number.

F) HARDSHIP REGISTRATION- Regular # Registration open to LP marked geldings and spayed mares that do not have verifiable pedigrees but have passed genetic testing requirements for PSSM1, HYPP and MH. **Horses that have not passed genetic testing are issued a Non-Breeding Designation and have a white ribbon on their papers.** Horse may be hardship registered on an individual case basis and must meet conformational standards as well as exhibit visible breed characteristics. **ASHDA offers Hardship to Improvement advancement for unsprayed fillies and mares if they meet the specific requirements. Stallions are ineligible. This method is for registering young horses that don't qualify for any other classification because of lack of parental testing, parents are unregistered/unapproved, one parent is positive for a defect etc. These horses are not immediately eligible as they are too young to judge for conformational approval. Fillies or Mares will be reevaluated when they are 4 years old, and if they test clean for all appropriate disease panels, and meet with Approval by the BOD, they can advance to Improvement. Advancement will be voted on by the BOD like any Improvement registration for an LP draft crossbreed. If the board does not approve advancement the filly or mare will stay in Hardship and remain non-breeding. If the board does approve, they will be issued a new set of papers and be advanced into the Improvement book as breeding stock and have their "N" number designation changed to an "I".**

Horses with this designation will receive registration papers printed on blue parchment with an affixed seal and a royal blue ribbon.

G) APPROVED CROSS LISTING – AC* designation. These horses are not registered in the general stud book, but are listed within registry records for identification and pedigree records. Such horses must meet conformational requirements as well as genetic testing requirements. A one-time Approved Cross listing fee

must be paid prior to the use of such a horse as a parent for a registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft foal. Approved Cross listing papers are printed on green parchment and are one side.

9. BLOODLINE REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for registration with the ASHDA, horses must have:

A) At least one parent with an ASHDA registration classification of Regular (#), E, I, H or both parents with Approved Cross AC* designation, provided that one Approved Cross parent is a recognized draft horse breed. Horses with N classifications cannot not produce foals eligible to be registered with ASHDA.

B) Approved Cross parents must be registered with one of the following ASHDA-approved breed associations:

1. Non-Draft horse breeds

a) American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA). All AQHA-registered stallions and mares that have the following or similar notation on their Certificate of Registration: "This horse has white markings designated under AQHA rules as an undesirable trait and uncharacteristic of the breed," are ineligible as an ASHDA-parent under this rule. Quarter Horses that are also registered with the American Paint Horse Association (APHA) or the Pinto Horse Association (PtHA) cannot be used as Approved Cross parents. AQHA registered stock can only be bred to LP carrying horses.

b) Appaloosa Horse Club (ApHC) All ApHC-registered stallions and mares that have the following or similar notation on their Certificate of Registration: "This horse has white markings designated under ApHC rules as an undesirable trait and uncharacteristic of the breed," are ineligible as an ASHDA-parent under this rule.

c) Knabstrupper Foreningen (KNN) Only Knabstrupper mares listed in the Main Mare book are eligible. Knabstrupper Stallions that have qualified for full lifetime approval with KNN may also be used.

d) Stonewall Sporthorses, Appaloosa and draft cross horses that are registered with the Stonewall Stud Book (SSB) or with the International Pattern Sport Horse Registry (IPSHR), provided the horse has a verified pedigree. **Stonewall Sporthorses with Friesian Heritage are not eligible to be bred into the Main Book, but can be used in the Heritage book.**

e) Other warmblood breeds that express LP, provided that the horse meets conformational standards, genetic testing and has a verifiable pedigree.

f) Friesians, whether from the United States or Dutch registries are no longer eligible for use to produce Main Book foals. Friesians are now stipulated as warmbloods by the main registry in Holland and as such they cannot create draft crosses when bred to a light horse. Friesians can also carry a myriad of genetic defects and many are not testable, because of this ASHDA no longer allows their use for Main Book or Improvement. Friesians used to produce Heritage foals mean that the foal can never be bred forward into the Main Book. Any Friesians or Friesian Crosses registered as Main Book prior to February 2017 are grandfathered in.

2. Draft horse breeds.

The following draft breeds are acceptable provided the horse to be approved does not exhibit white markings in excess of the registration requirements of ASDHA. Horses exhibiting white beyond those limits are not eligible for use as Approved Cross parents.

- a) Percheron Horse Association of America (PHAA)
- b) Clydesdale Breeders of the U.S.A. (CBUSA)
- c) American Shire Horse Association (ASHA)
- d) American Suffolk Horse Association (ASHA)

- e) American Cream Draft Horse Association (ACDHA)
- f) Canadian Shire Horse Association (CSHA)
- g) Belgian Draft Horse Corporation of America (BDHCA)
- h) Any international draft breed association that is associated with one of the breeds listed above.

C) All non-draft or part draft Approved Cross parents must be genetically tested negative for HYPP, HERDA, MH, GBED, PSSM 1. Horses with known draft lineage must also be tested for JEB1. Draft horses registered with one of the above listed associations must be tested for PSSM1 and JEB1. Approved Cross parents cannot exhibit or carry any of the defects listed in Rule 11 GENETIC DEFECTS AND UNDESIRABLE TRAITS of the ASHDA rulebook.

D) It is the responsibility of the breeder to make certain the stallion or mare they are breeding to is eligible for Approved Cross status prior to the first breeding date. Failure to apply for and receive Approved Cross status prior to breeding may result in a foal which is ineligible for registration with ASHDA. Breeder assumes full responsibility for verifying that the Approved Cross horse is eligible for listing.

E) ASHDA will not accept ANY horses papered with the Sendera Draft Horse Registry (formally Sugarbush Draft Horse Registry or SDHR) after July 4th 2014. When ASHDA was incorporated it had a window where SDHR horses were accepted as a gesture of good faith to the existing breed community, but that window was closed after 5 months, by December 31st, 2014. Anything registered with Sendera/SDHR after July 4th, 2014 is ineligible for registry in ASHDA, regardless of parentage or other qualifiers. If a horse has ASHDA papers and is also dual registered in SDHR, its ASHDA papers will be suspended, as registering with SDHR goes against the ideals of the breed and the founder's objectives.

10. HORSES NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION OR BREEDING PURPOSES

A) No horse shall be registered with the ASHDA that bears artificial characteristic(s) and/or artificial coat pattern(s).

B) No horse shall be registered with the ASHDA or used as an Approved Cross that has pinto or paint, breeding or markings.

C) No horse shall be registered or retain regular registration, or be listed as an Approved Cross with the ASHDA that has:

1. Continuous leg marking(s) which exceed the mid-point between knee and elbow on the foreleg(s) or to the point of the stifle(s); and/or
2. White marking(s) on the head exceeding a line across the forehead, one inch below the front of the ears and extending across the side of the jaw plate to the intersection of the throatlatch and neck and/or
3. White marking(s) on the body, including but not limited to the neck, shoulder, girth, barrel, abdomen, hip, thigh and gaskin which are continuous, uninterrupted, longer than six (6) inches (15.2 cm) and separate from an LP coat pattern, if an LP coat pattern is present and visible, and which marking(s) do not blend into the base color of the horse. These types of markings usually have a solid line that does not blend into the base color and are usually observed in conjunction with underlying non-pigmented skin.

Image 10.C.3



Banned white markings

D) Deceased horses are ineligible for registration.

E) Horses resulting from one parent that is registered with non-breeding stock papers with any approved breed association or with ASHDA are not eligible for registration.

F) Any horse that has been registered by the ASHDA and is subsequently determined to have been registered improperly shall have its Certificate of Registration cancelled under these rules, except as otherwise expressly provided under these rules.

G) No horse that is produced from cloning, or the produce of cloned horses, shall be registered with the ASHDA.

H) Foals that are found to be carriers of MH, GBED, HERDA, HYPP, PSSM1, PSSM 2, JEB will be issued Non-Breeding Stock papers and are ineligible to produce ASHDA registered progeny.

I) Horses carrying gray modifier genes are no longer accepted for approval in the Main Book, Improvement or Approved Cross categories. Existing grays in ASHDA would retain current breeding rights and restrictions, which includes the prohibition that grays cannot be bred to grays. Their gray foals would inherit the same rights and restrictions going forward. Non-breeding Hardship horses that are gray will still be allowed as long as they exhibit coat pattern at the time of registration.

J) Horses registered after July 4th, 2014 with the Sugarbush Draft Horse Registry (SDHR) or Sendera Draft Horse Registry (SDHR). This cross is not approved.

11. GENETIC DEFECTS AND UNDESIRABLE TRAITS

A) The conditions listed below are considered undesirable traits or genetic defects by the ASHDA Board of Directors and shall be indicated on the Certificate of Registration for horses foaled on or after the indicated date, once the condition is known. Some of these conditions prevent a horse from being used as ASHDA eligible breeding stock, but do not prevent the horse from participating in ASHDA-approved events subject to rules of the individual event.

1. Parrot Mouth - either overshot or undershot and is defined by the American Association of Equine Practitioners as “no occlusal contact between the upper and lower central incisors.” Designation effective for foals born on or after July 4, 2014. This condition will be listed on the papers and result in an N-Designation.
2. Cryptorchid - meaning both of the testicles have failed to normally descend into the scrotum by three years of age. Stallions with two undescended testicles after the age of three must be gelded in order to retain registration with ASHDA

3. Monorchid - meaning that one of the testicles has failed to normally descend into the scrotum by three years of age. Stallions with one undescended testicle after the age of three must be gelded in order to retain registration with ASHDA
4. A horse with white markings with underlying light skin beyond any of the following described lines shall be ineligible for breeding with ASHDA. After July 4, 2014 this condition will be listed on the papers and result in an N-Designation. See image 10.C.3
 - a) Continuous leg marking(s) that exceed the mid-point between knee and elbow on the foreleg(s) or to the point of the stifle(s); and/or
 - b) White marking(s) on the head exceeding a line across the forehead, one inch below the front of the ears and extending across the side of the jaw plate to the intersection of the throatlatch and neck and/or
 - c) White marking(s) on the body, including but not limited to the neck, shoulder, girth, barrel, abdomen, hip, thigh and gaskin that are continuous, uninterrupted, longer than six (6) inches (15.2 cm) and separate from an LP coat pattern, if an LP coat pattern is present and visible, and which marking(s) do not blend into the base color of the horse.
5. HERDA- Hereditary Equine Regional Dermal Asthenia also called Hyperelastosis Cutis, HERDA is a genetic skin disease found in the Quarter Horse. The origin of this genetic disorder may be Poco Bueno's sire line. The symptom of this disorder is a lack of adhesion within the layers of skin due to a genetic defect in the collagen that holds the skin in place. After July 4, 2014 this condition will be listed on the papers and result in an N-Designation.
6. HYPP- Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis - meaning a muscular disease caused by hereditary genetic defect that leads to uncontrolled muscle twitching or profound muscle weakness, and in severe cases, may lead to collapse and/or death. According to research, this condition exists in certain descendants of the stallion Impressive, AQHA registration number 0767246. After July 4, 2014 this condition, whether N/H or H/H will be listed on the papers and result in an N-Designation.
7. GBED-Glycogen Branching Enzyme Deficiency (GBED) is a fatal condition caused by the bodies' inability to properly store sugar. After July 4, 2014 this condition will be listed on the papers and result in an N-Designation.
8. JEB-Junctional Epidermolysis Bullosa (JEB) is an inherited disease also known as Red Foot Disease or Hairless Foal Syndrome. Variations of the disorder affect Belgian Draft horses, American Saddlebred horses and relatives of these breeds. After July 4, 2014 this condition will be listed on the papers and result in an N-Designation.
9. MH-Malignant Hyperthermia is a genetic muscle disorder that affects Quarter Horses and related breeds. Horses with the MH mutation may not show any physical signs of the disorder until triggered by exposure to anesthesia or extreme exercise or stress. After July 4, 2014 this condition will be listed on the papers and result in an N-Designation.
10. PSSM-Polysaccharide Storage Myopathy (PSSM) is a dominant autosomal hereditary condition that can cause a genetic form of tying-up with muscle damage and inability to move. At least 20 breeds have been identified with Type 1 PSSM. The prevalence of the GYS1 mutation in Belgians is as much as 50% of and 8% of the Quarter Horse-related breeds. After July 4, 2014 this condition will be listed on the papers and result in an N-Designation.

11. Gray modifier genes are no longer accepted for approval in the Main Book, Improvement or Approved Cross categories. Existing grays in ASHDA would retain current breeding rights

and restrictions, which includes the prohibition that grays cannot be bred to grays. Their gray foals would inherit the same rights and restrictions going forward. Non-breeding Hardship horses that are gray will still be allowed as long as they exhibit coat pattern at the time of registration.

12. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

- A). The owner or recorded lessee of the dam at the time of foaling is responsible for the registration of the foal and will be listed on the Certificate of Registration as the first owner of the resulting foal.
- B) The owner of the horse being registered must be a current member to receive reduced registration rates. If there is a joint ownership and one of the owners is an active member, reduced registration rates will apply.
- C) In cases of deceased owners, see requirements under DECEASED OWNERS (21.C)
- D) The application for registration shall be properly completed and signed. The registration application must be accompanied by the signed breeder's certificate, required photographs and registration fee.
- E) The registration application form requires the registration names and numbers of both the sire and dam.
- F) When the sire is registered with the ASHDA or any approved breed association and not owned by the applicant, a properly completed and signed breeder's certificate must accompany the application for registration. See BREEDER'S CERTIFICATE.
- G) An American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft not domiciled in the U.S.A. may be registered with ASHDA provided the horse meets all ASHDA registration requirements.
- H) The receive ASHDA Hardship Registration a gelding or spayed mare exhibiting LP traits may be submitted for approval on a regular registration form with as much information as is known by the owner listed.
- I) Semen, Oocyte or Embryo Retention Permits, Owner must notify ASHDA if they intend to retain ownership of previously frozen semen, oocytes or embryos for their use after the sale or death of a stallion or mare. This ensures that the owner of the semen, oocyte or embryo can file stallion reports or registration forms without requiring the signature of another person. Permits must be on file PRIOR to breeding.

13. APPROVED BREED LISTING

- A) A one-time listing fee and a photocopy of the front and back of the Certificate of Registration is required for all stallions and mares registered with approved breed associations and being used for breeding purposes in ASHDA. Stallions and mares must be listed prior to any breeding dates of the registration of their foals with ASHDA may be jeopardized. Failure to list a stallion or mare may result in suspension per these rules. Listing applications are available at no charge, upon request, through the ASHDA.
- B) PPROVED BREED OWNERSHIP CHANGES: As to subsequent registration applications for offspring, if the application indicates an ownership change of the approved breed horse, an additional photocopy of both sides of its Certificate of Registration showing such change in ownership must be filed with the ASHDA.

14. REQUIRED PHOTOGRAPHS

- A) Four (4) current color photographs must be submitted along with the application for registration, or emailed to the registrar, with the necessary information to identify the horse. Only one horse is allowed in each photograph. If a person is in the photo they cannot be covering or obstructing the view of any part of the horse. All parts of the horse must be visible, especially ears and feet which cannot be cropped off or hidden in deep grass .Photographs should include both sides, a direct face, and a rear view, clearly showing the

markings on the head, body and all legs, and depicting the presence, if any, of one or more of the four identifiable LP characteristics:

1. Coat Pattern;
2. Mottled Skin;
 - a) **Horses with champagne or cream coat color, WITHOUT visible coat pattern, must be tested for LP before an LP designation will be put on their papers, this is due to pumpkin skin mimicking LP mottling, even though the horse does not carry the LP genes. Champagne or cream horses with coat pattern are not affected by this rule.**
3. White Sclera; and
4. Striped Hooves.

B) Besides the required photographs, additional photographs may be submitted which would aid in the evaluation of the horse's coat pattern, markings and/or identifiable LP characteristics.

C) All scars and brands appearing on a horse should be shown on the ASHDA Certificate of Registration. Close up photographs of such brands and/or scars must also be submitted as well as any microchipping information.

D) The burden of proving eligibility for a particular registration classification rests entirely with the applicant.

E) Photographs become the property of the ASHDA and may not be returned.

F) Label all printed photographs with date foaled, sex of foal, dam's name and registration number. Emailed photos need to be submitted with date foaled, sex of foal, dam's name and registration number in the body of the email.

G) The photographs required for registration are reproduced on the back of the Certificate of Registration. It is to the owner's advantage to send good, clear photographs. Self-developing photos are not recommended. Photographs larger than 4x6 (10.2 cm x 15.2 cm) are not acceptable. Computer-generated photographs must be at least 300 DPI (Dots Per Inch) and printed on photo-quality paper. The ASHDA reserves the right, at its discretion, to require additional photographs of better quality.

H) Any alterations to the photo that change the coloration or conformation of the horse will be refused and can result in disciplinary action for fraudulent submissions.

15. NAME CHOICES

A) Each animal for which registration is applied must be given an acceptable name which does not conflict with the name of any other animal registered with the ASHDA, either living or dead and does not conflict with any previously reserved breeder, bloodline, or ranch names listed below. The following names are not eligible for use:

1. **if they consist of more than twenty-five (25) letters and spaces;**
2. end in filly or colt;
3. are names of famous horses;
4. are similar in spelling to names already in use;
5. are names of famous or notorious people unless their notarized consent is filed with the ASHDA;
6. are suggestive or which have vulgar or obscene meanings;
7. are similar in pronunciation to any of the above;
8. numbers, including Arabic and Roman, punctuation marks such as hyphens or special characters such as dollar signs or percentage signs may not be used.

9. Use of the name "Sugarbush" is restricted to only horses descended from the original Sugarbush Hitch Co. program owned by Everett Smith, no other horses can have "Sugarbush" in their registered name.

10. Use of the name "Stonewall" is restricted to only horses descended from the original Stonewall Stud Book program owned by Michael Muir, no other horses can have "Stonewall" in their registered name.

16. HARDSHIP REGISTRY

A) Geldings and mares which do not meet pedigree requirements or are of unknown pedigree will be accepted for registration if they otherwise meet the requirements for Regular registration and are not ineligible for registration as stated in HORSES NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION. Hardship registration applications are available, at no charge, through the ASHDA.

17. INCORRECT APPLICATIONS

A) An incorrect or incomplete application for registration will be returned to the applicant. The fee will be retained until the returned application is resubmitted and, if not received within 60 days, only the fee will be returned, minus an office charge.

1. All correspondence for additional requirements and information will be initially directed to applicant.
2. A new application is required on horse registrations in which there is a change in the sire or dam, a different foaling year, are filled out in pencil, not properly signed or no breeder's certificate. An office charge will be assessed.

18. PROCESSING FEES

A) All fees are based on date postmarked or date fax is accepted by ASHDA whichever is earlier (postal meters not accepted).

B) An office charge will be assessed on all registration work that is not processed to completion.

C) The ASHDA recognizes two types of rush processing requests.

1. 10 day rush. Registration work is processed within ten (10) working business days after receipt in ASHDA office.
2. A rush fee for each registration application or piece of work, in addition to the regular fees, must accompany the application or work.
3. Envelopes must be clearly marked as RUSH, to avoid delays in processing.
4. Rush fees are non-refundable and non-transferable. In the event that registration work cannot be processed due to circumstances beyond the control of the ASHDA, the rush fee shall not be refunded.
5. If you wish to have processed work returned by special post, i.e. next day UPS, the additional postage fee or pre-paid envelopes must also be submitted.

D) Failure by any person to acknowledge any ASHDA correspondence relative to the registration or transfer of any horse, or any other related ASHDA business, will result in that file being closed and all fees being forfeited. After the first request, a final notice will be sent prior to closure of the file. File will not be closed sooner than 60 days after first request.

E) If a file has been closed for any reason, the following procedure is required to re-open the file:

1. Payment of the current fees due, including membership, based on date of re-opening file.
2. Submission of any documents returned to customer, or initially lacking, if any, to complete the work when it was originally submitted.

19. STALLION BREEDING REPORT

- A) Owners of all stallions registered with the ASHDA or an approved breed registry and which are used for ASHDA breeding purposes must file a yearly stallion breeding report postmarked on or before December 31st of the breeding year to avoid late fees. (June 30th for stallions standing in Southern hemisphere.) Until the report is filed the resulting foals cannot be registered.
- B) The stallion breeding report must list all mares exposed to that stallion including the mares owned by the stallion owner/lessee.
- C) All stallion breeding reports must be accompanied by a non-refundable filing fee. (See Fee Schedule.) If stallion breeding reports are submitted without fees, the ASHDA will not file the report, and it will be returned to sender. An additional late fee will be assessed for filing the stallion breeding report after December 31st of the year of breeding. (June 30 for stallions standing in Southern hemisphere.)
- D) A separate report must be filed for each stallion for each year. Blank stallion breeding reports are available at no charge, upon request, from the ASHDA.
- E) All stallion breeding reports shall include mares exposed to transported semen whether or not a mare conceives. Said stallion breeding report will distinguish between natural breeding (hand or pasture), artificial insemination, and transported cooled semen and frozen semen.
- F) Persons using a retained semen rights retention permit must file a stallion breeding report listing mares bred using the stored frozen semen.
- G) If a stallion is leased, the stallion owner must file a properly completed and signed lease agreement with the ASHDA. Lease forms are available through the ASHDA.
- H) If the mare is leased, a properly completed and signed lease agreement must be on file with the ASHDA. The lessee is considered the breeder if mare is leased at the time of breeding.
- I) If someone other than the recorded owner or recorded lessee of the stallion is signing the stallion breeding report, a properly completed and signed authorization allowing such signatures to be accepted during the indicated breeding dates must be on file with the ASHDA. Authorization forms are available at no charge, upon request, from the ASHDA.
- J) If an owner dies, a representative of that owner must comply with the requirements of ASHDA rules regarding Deceased Owners. See requirements under DECEASED OWNERS (21.C)
- K) The stallion owner must have all the necessary and correct information on the mares listed on the stallion breeding report. A photocopy of the Certificate of Registration should be given to the stallion owner at the time of service. A registration will be held up if the stallion owner does not list the correct information on the stallion breeding report.
- L) To add a mare to a stallion breeding report which has been sent to the ASHDA, a separate report must be completed, and submitted to the ASHDA along with the appropriate fee. (See Fees)
- M) All stallions by submission of their stallion breeding report for any breeding year must be genetically tested and the results must be filed with the ASHDA.

20. BREEDER/BREEDER'S CERTIFICATE

- A) The recorded owner or lessee of the dam at the time of service is the breeder and shall be listed as the breeder on the Certificate of Registration.

B) When a frozen embryo is implanted, the original owner of the frozen embryo permit shall be listed as the breeder on the Certificate of Registration.

C) If the sire is registered with the ASHDA, or an approved breed association and not owned by the applicant, a breeder's certificate completed and signed in ink by the owner or record lessee of the stallion must accompany the foal's application for registration with the following exception:

1. When a properly signed frozen embryo permit is used to register a foal, no additional breeder's certificate is required. The breeder's certificate requirements were met when application to purchase the frozen embryo permit was made.

D) The breeding must also be listed on a stallion breeding report on file with the ASHDA.

E) When a semen rights retention permit is used to register a foal, ASHDA shall require only the signature of permit owner on the permit to verify the service of the sire. Recorded owner of dam at the time of breeding must sign the appropriate breeder's certificate on the registration application.

F) No person shall make any alterations to information on breeders' certificates. A breeder's certificate on which information has been changed may not be accepted by the ASHDA.

21. Transfer of Ownership

A) Transfer reports will be furnished free by ASHDA upon request. The original registration certificate must accompany the completed transfer report with appropriate fees to ASHDA in order for the horse to be recorded in the name of the new owner.

B) Transfer of Ownership: When ownership of a registered animal is transferred the seller at the time of the transfer shall deliver to the buyer the applicable registration certificate together with a written report of the transfer, which written report shall be signed by the seller, who shall be the recorded owner on the records of ASHDA.

C) Missing Records or Deceased Owners: In order to record a transfer, when a previous owner cannot be located to complete the transfer report, the following items should be submitted to the Association. The Registrar will review documentation and determine if transfer can be completed without the omitted or incorrect signature.

- 1. Notarized statement signed by the buyer providing the actual date of the transfer;**
- 2. Copies of canceled checks, bill of sale, or other documentation that could help establish purchase, divorce decree or previous owner's death certificate and date of sale;**
- 3. Copies of attempts by the buyer to contact the seller to obtain the signed transfer report(s);**
- 4. Notarized and signed indemnity agreement or stableman's lien declaration.**
- 5. Current photographs of the horse (which must match original photographs submitted for registration); and,**
- 6. Affidavit for duplicate certificate signed by the current owner and/ or owner of record.**

Once the above documents have been submitted the ASHDA Registrar will mail a query to the last recorded owner's address. If there is no response within 30 days the transfer will be processed as submitted.

D: Requirements for Stablemen's Lien Transfer. In order for ASHDA to recognize a stableman's lien foreclosure and record the resulting new ownership, the ASHDA Registrar must receive several items, including a special handling fee.

- 1. Affidavit in the form prescribed by ASHDA setting forth the factual basis creating the lien.**
- 2. Copy of state statutes relating to the creation and foreclosure of a stableman's lien.**
- 3. Documentary evidence, satisfactory to the Registrar, evidencing that each element of the stableman's lien statute and foreclosure procedure has been satisfied.**
- 4. Indemnity agreement in the form prescribed by ASHDA.**

5. Current photographs of the horse and such parentage verification testing as may be required by ASHDA.

E: Duplicate and Corrected Certificates

1. A duplicate certificate is a new registration certificate that is issued when the original has been lost, stolen or destroyed. It may be issued by ASHDA when sufficient proof of loss and proper identification of the horse has been submitted to the Registrar. The current recorded owner must file the proper affidavit, completed in all respects and stating the circumstances under which the original certificate was lost or destroyed and pay the required fee. Such affidavit must be accompanied by current photographs that clearly show the identifying markings of the horse and a current side view photograph for use on the duplicate registration certificate. If it is determined that a duplicate has been issued based on false or inaccurate information, the applicant/record owner/affiant may be subject to disciplinary action and the duplicate certificate may be recalled.

2. If the present owner is not indicated in ASHDA files to be recorded owner, he shall provide ASHDA with an affidavit from the last owner of record in order to obtain the duplicate registration certificate. The affidavit shall identify the person to whom he delivered the registration certificate.

3. In regard to involuntary transfer of title situations, including but not limited to court judgments and stableman's lien or security interest foreclosure, when it is proven to ASHDA's satisfaction that a previous owner is unavailable for affidavit concerning the original certificate or refuses to implement the court's judgment by delivering the original certificate for transfer, at ASHDA's discretion and in the interest of equity, requirement of affidavit of the recorded owner may be waived and the current owner deemed eligible for duplicate certificate.

4. In order to issue a duplicate certificate, when the recorded owner cannot be located to complete the affidavit required in Part B above, the following items are required:

- a) Properly completed and signed transfer reports or acceptable bills of sale reflecting each ownership change beginning with the recorded owner;**
- b) Notarized statement signed by each party who had the original certificate in his or her possession after the record owner;**

5. A signed statement from the actual current owner giving details of his attempts to contact recorded owner;

6. An affidavit for duplicate certificate signed by the current owner;

7. A full side view photograph of the horse identified in writing by the owner of the dam at the time of foaling;

8. The duplicate certificate fee and,

9. The transfer fee for each transfer of ownership change.

22. Competition, Equipment, Attire and Gaits Rules:

All horses registered or approved with ASHDA of any designation under the age of 3 years old per date of birth cannot be shown or exhibited under saddle or otherwise with a rider and are ineligible for recognition in any ASHDA sanctioned show or program in a ridden event or from promotion on any ASHDA owned or sponsored website, social media, and promotional material while pictured with a rider. This includes, but is not limited to, ASHDA-CAP, the ASHDA Ambassador Program, ASHDA Photo and Video Shows, and any ASHDA Year End and/or Lifetime Awards. Horses under 3 years old shown pictured with a rider will not be

displayed on ASHDA's website, social media and/or promotional material and no points will be recorded for their competition records.

- A) **Prohibited Equipment:** Use of prohibited equipment, including, but not limited to: saw tooth or chain mouth bits, or any bit with a slow twist, corkscrew, correction port, cathedral port, segunda, single twisted wire, double twisted wire, square stock or gag action mouthpiece; hockhobbles; tack collars; or tack hackamores; riding in a curb bit without a curb strap; wire or solid metal curb straps no matter how padded; wire cavessons; wire or cable tie-downs; bumper bits; metal bosals (no matter how padded); chambons; headstalls made of metal (no matter how wrapped or padded); twisted rawhide, or ½ inch or smaller rope may not be used on a horse's head (the exception being a rope fiador combined with a bosal set-up), any styles of running martingales used with curb bits and/or used without rein stops, draw reins of any kind. Any device which produces an electrical shock, including, but not limited to, a prod, jigger, collar, spur, crop or bat is absolutely prohibited. Prohibited equipment is not allowed in the show ring or the warm-up pen of any show where ASHDA points will be acquired.

Image 22.A



ASHDA Prohibited Mouthpieces

B) ENGLISH EQUIPMENT.

1. In all English classes, an English snaffle (no shank - conventional O ring, fixed ring, D-ring, baucher or full cheek snaffle with bit keepers, kimberwicke, pelham and/or a double bridle consisting of two bits - a curb or weymouth and a snaffle or bradoon (used with two reins, no convertor strap), all with cavesson nosebands and brow bands must be used. The inside circumference of the bit cheek ring shall be no smaller than 2" (5.08 cm) and no larger than 4" (10.16 cm). On all snaffle bits, the inside circumference of the ring must be free of rein, curb or headstall attachments which would provide leverage. Snaffle bits cannot be used with rein or curb chain hooks.

2. In reference to mouthpieces, nothing may protrude above or below the mouthpiece such as extensions or prongs. Mouthpieces may be solid, two or three pieces. On jointed mouthpieces only a connecting flat bar, dog bone or lozenge 3/8" to 3/4" (.95 to 1.9 cm) (measured top to bottom with a maximum length of 2" (5.08 cm)) which lie flat in the horse's mouth are

acceptable. All mouthpieces must be a minimum of 5/16" (.79 cm) in diameter with snaffles to be measured 1" (2.54 cm) in from the cheek. Mouthpiece may be inlaid but cannot have ridges or areas that stick out past the smooth surface of the bit. Mouthpiece must be smooth, round, oval or egg-shaped whether solid or jointed. Snaffles and curb bits may be mullen or ported, with a maximum port no higher than 1 1/2" (3.81 cm) allowed. English curb bits may have a maximum shank length of 6 inches, measured from the middle of the purchase ring to the middle of the rein ring. See Image 22.A for reference of banned mouthpieces.

3. In English classes designated as snaffle bit classes no kimberwicks or bits with rein hooks and curbchain hooks can be used.

4. When a curb bit is used, a curb strap or curb chain is required, but must meet the approval of the judge, be at least 1/2" (1.27 cm) width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse. Leather or chain curb straps are acceptable and may be padded or covered with a rubber guard. No standing link chains, power curbs or excessively thin curbs allowed.

5. In jumping classes only, mechanical hackamores are allowed. Mechanical hackamores must have leather, Biothane (R) or rope nosebands, with the rope noseband not less than 1/2 inch. No chain, cable or wire nosebands, no matter how padded, are legal.

6. Bits of any style (pelham, snaffle, kimberwicke, weymouth) featuring cathedral, fishback or donut mouthpieces; gag action, prongs, square edges, twisted wire or rough, sharp material shall be cause for elimination. See Image 22.A for reference of banned mouthpieces

7. A bit cannot be physically or mechanically altered to increase the severity of its use and may be eliminated at the discretion of the judge. Spring-loaded bits are not legal for use.

8. A dropped, flash or figure 8 noseband is prohibited in all English classes except jumping. A dropped noseband shall be interpreted as a cavesson and/or noseband which is fastened below the bit or mouthpiece.

9. An exhibitor may be required by the judge to remove or fix any piece of equipment which, in his opinion, would tend to give a horse or exhibitor an unfair advantage or create a safety issue.

10. Saddles must be plain, leather or composite skirted of hunt seat or dressage type or saddleseat type and may have suede seat and/or suede inset on skirt and either leather or cloth lining. A properly styled English sidesaddle with over girth is permissible in any English class. Leather, web, cord, neoprene or linen girths are permitted.

11. Saddle pads should fit size and shape of saddle, except when necessary to accommodate numbers on both sides for which a square pad or suitable attachment maybe used. Saddle pads and attachments shall clean and suited to the discipline being ridden. Non-traditional colors are acceptable as long as they do not detract from the overall appearance.

C) OPTIONAL ENGLISH EQUIPMENT:

1. Spurs of the unrowelled type that are blunt, round or that include a smooth rolling rubber or steel ball.

2. Crops or bats for hunters and jumpers. Dressage length whips for dressage and saddleseat.

3. Conservatively colored gloves.

4. English breast plate.

5. Braiding of mane or tail in hunt style, dressage, saddleseat or draft style. Because the Sugarbush is a draft horse breed foils and rolled braids are always acceptable provided that the style is neat and does not detract from the overall appearance.
6. Standing or Running Martingales in working hunter, jumping or equitation over fences.
7. Protective Boots in jumping only.
8. Leg wraps in jumping only.
9. Lip strap on Pelham or Weymouth.
10. A standard brushing, rundown or skid boot on the rear fetlocks and splint boots or bell boots on the front legs are optional appointments in jumping.
11. The use of gel-casts or any other hard type casts will not be permitted. In the event of injury, the judge may permit a protective bandage.

D) ENGLISH ATTIRE

1. For formal Hunt Seat attire Exhibitors should wear coats of any tweed or melton for hunting (conservative wash jackets in season) in traditional colors such as navy, dark green, gray, black or brown (maroon and red are improper), breeches of traditional shades such as buff, khaki, canary, light gray or rust (or jodhpurs), high English boots or paddock (jodhpur) boots of black or brown. Shirts shall be conservative in color. Stock tie or choker is required. Hair must be neat. Judges must penalize exhibitors who do not conform.
2. For informal Hunt Seat attire Exhibitors may wear short sleeved or long sleeved shirts or polo shirts in any solid color. Fine pinstripes or accent striping is allowed. Shirts must be tucked in and worn with breeches and belt.
3. Protective Headgear is mandatory for all riders in all hunter, jumper and equitation over fences classes, including Hunter Hack where jumping is required and when jumping anywhere on the competition grounds. Riders are required to wear properly fitting protective headgear that meets ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) equestrian standards or equivalent international standards for equestrian use. The helmet must also be properly fitted with harness secured. Any exhibitor violating this rule at any time must immediately be prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place. ASHDA strongly encourages all exhibitors, regardless of age, to wear protective headgear passing or surpassing current applicable ASTM standards with harness secured while riding anywhere on the competition grounds including while practicing, schooling, and/or showing. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor, or parent or guardian or trainer of the junior exhibitor to see that the headgear worn by the junior exhibitor complies with appropriate safety standards for protective headgear intended for equestrian use, and is properly fitted and in good condition. ASHDA is not responsible for checking headgear worn by the junior exhibitor for compliance with these rules.
4. For formal Saddle Seat more conservative attire is permitted for evening classes. Riding habit may consist of tuxedo-type jacket with collars and lapels of the same color with matching jodhpurs, formal shirt, bow tie, vest or cummerbund, and matching top hat, homburg or other soft hat. Solid colors for formal riding habits include dark gray, dark brown, dark blue, or black. Formal shirt must be white or off white with the bow tie and vest or cummerbund to match shirt or riding habit in color. Colors not included in this list are not acceptable and must

be penalized but may not be disqualified. Formal riding habits are not to be worn before 6:00 p.m. and are not mandatory after 6:00 p.m.; exhibitors competing on pleasure horses have the option to wear formal attire after 6:00 p.m.

5. For informal Saddle Seat attire Riding habit will consist of jacket with collar and lapels of the same conservative color with matching jodhpurs, a collared shirt, tie, vest and complimentary gloves, jodhpur boots, and derby or soft hat (protective headgear may be worn without penalty). Conservative colors for informal riding habits include black, blue, gray, burgundy, green, beige, or brown and may contain herringbone, pin stripes, and other combinations of colors that appear solid. Day coats are acceptable. Informal dress is permitted in Saddle Seat classes, day or night.

a) A Saddle Seat exhibitor may choose to wear a protective helmet for both formal and informal style. Protective headgear passing or surpassing current applicable ASTM standards with harness secured and properly fitted is acceptable.

6. For formal Dressage a shadbelly or black hunt coat with white shirt and tie is appropriate. White or very light colored breeches and dark, knee height boots. Top hats are allowed, but any dark colored ASTM protective helmet is acceptable.

7. For informal Dressage wear a dark hunt style coat with white shirt and tie or choker is permissible. During high heat showing season the Judge may opt to allow jackets to be removed and exhibitors may show in short or long sleeved shirts. White or very light colored breeches and dark, knee height boots or dark paddock boots with matching half chaps. Any dark colored ASTM protective helmet is acceptable.

E) ENGLISH GAITS:

1. WALK: Forward working walk, rhythmical and flat-footed; extremely slow, or “jiggy” walk to be penalized.

2. TROT: Long, smooth, ground-covering, cadenced and balanced strides. Smoothness more essential than speed. Extreme speed to be penalized. Excessive knee action to be penalized.

3. EXTENDED TROT: Extension of stride does not mean excessive increase of speed. Stride should lengthen but cadence and smoothness should not be compromised. Horse should drive from behind and show roundness and collection.

3. CANTER: Smooth, free moving, relaxed and straight on both leads. The stride should be suitable to cover ground. Over-collected, four-beat canter to be penalized. Excessive speed to be penalized.

4. HAND GALLOP: Should be a definite lengthening of the stride with a noticeable difference in speed. The horse should be under control at all times and be able to transition down without fighting or rough appearance.

F) WESTERN EQUIPMENT

1. In all Western riding classes, horses will be shown in a Western saddle consisting of a horn, seat, pommel, cantle, skirt, fenders and Western stirrups. . A properly styled Western sidesaddle is permissible in any Western class. Silver equipment will not count over a good working outfit. Bridle may be either a standard plain or silver headstall with browband, shaped ear, or split ear.

a) Stirrups shall not be tied to one another or to the saddle in any manner.

2. References to a curb bit in Western performance classes mean the use of a curb bit that has a solid or jointed mouthpiece, has shanks and acts with leverage. All curb bits must be free of mechanical device and should be considered a standard Western bit. A description of a legal, standard, Western bit includes: 8 ½" (21.59 cm) maximum length shank to be measured from mid purchase ring to the middle of the rein ring. Shanks may be fixed or loose but cannot have any type of gag action. Lifter shanks are expressly forbidden regardless of length.

3. Concerning mouthpieces, bars must be round, smooth and unwrapped metal of 5/16" to ¾" (.79 to 1.90 cm) in diameter, measured 1" (2.54 cm) from the cheek. It may be inlaid, but cannot have ridges or areas that stick out past the smooth surface of the bit. Mouthpiece must be smooth, round, oval or egg-shaped whether solid or jointed. Nothing may protrude below or above the mouthpiece, such as extensions or prongs. The mouthpiece may be solid, two or three pieces. On jointed mouthpieces only a connecting flat bar, dog bone or lozenge of 3/8" to ¾" (.95 to 1.90 cm) (measured top to bottom with a maximum length of 2" (60.96 cm), which lies flat in the horse's mouth is acceptable. See Image 22.A for reference of banned mouthpieces.

4. The port must be no higher than 3 ½" (8.89 cm) maximum, with rollers and covers acceptable. Ports over 1.5 inches deep must have a closed bottom, either solid or with a roller. Cathedral and correction ports are not acceptable, but spade bits with braces are. See Image 22.A for reference of banned mouthpieces.

5. When a curb bit is used, a curb strap or curb chain is required, but must meet the approval of the judge, be at least ½" (1.27cm) in width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse. Curb straps must be free of barbs, prongs, wire and/or twists. Leather or chain curbstraps are acceptable and may be padded or covered with a rubber guard. No standing link chains, power curbs or excessively thin curbs allowed. A broken curb strap or chain is not necessarily cause for disqualification, but will be penalized.

6. Only one hand may be used on the reins, and the hand must not be changed (except as allowed in trail & speed events. The hand is to be around the reins; index finger only between split reins is permitted. The free hand shall not be used to support the rider by being placed on any part of the saddle or horse. Violation of this rule is an automatic disqualification from the class.

7. References to a snaffle bit in all Western classes, a standard snaffle (no shank - conventional O ring, fixed ring, or D-ring must be used. A baucher or full cheek snaffle is not acceptable. The inside circumference of the bit cheek ring shall be no smaller than 2" (5.08 cm) and no larger than 3" (7.62 cm). On all snaffle bits, the inside circumference of the ring must be free of rein, curb or headstall attachments which would provide leverage, this includes any decorative additions to the ring. Snaffle bits cannot be used with rein or curb chain hooks. Standard, leather or woven split reins are mandatory for use with a snaffle bit. Reins must be attached above the bit hobble if used. When a horse is shown with a snaffle bit, the rider must have both hands on both reins. Split reins must be crossed with the tails held by the opposite hand. Rider's hands should be carried near the pommel and not further than four 4" (10.16 cm) out on either side of the saddle horn with very limited movement. See Image 22.A for reference of banned mouthpieces.

8. References to a Bosal/Hackamore in all Western classes. This rule does not refer to a mechanical hackamore. A mechanical hackamore is not considered an acceptable hackamore, except in roping, games and team penning, due to the leverage action of the shanks. References to a hackamore/bosal mean the use of a flexible braided rawhide or leather, or rope bosal which can be used in lieu of a snaffle bit, round in shape. Absolutely

no rigid material or metal will be permitted under the jaws or on the noseband, regardless of how padded or covered. The bosal must be no larger than $\frac{3}{4}$ " (1.9 cm) in diameter at the cheek. There must be a minimum of one finger space (approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ " (3.81 cm)) between the bosal and the nose. The bosal should be properly fitted relative to the horse's size and conformation. Horse hair bosals are not permitted. All bosals must use a mecate rein which must include a tie-rein. This rule is not in reference to the mechanical hackamore. A mecate may only be used with a bosal. Standard leather, horse hair or rope reins are mandatory for use with a bosal. When a horse is shown with a hackamore/bosal the rider must have both hands on both reins. Rider's hands should be carried near the pommel and not further than four 4" (10.16 cm) out on either side of the saddle horn with very limited movement.

a) A bosal without reins attached and used as a noseband is prohibited.

9. Standard leather, rawhide, Biothane (R) or woven split reins are acceptable; index finger only between split reins.

10. Whenever this handbook refers to a romal, it means an extension of braided material attached to closed reins. This extension may be carried in the free hand with a 16-inch (40.64 cm) spacing between the reining hand and the free hand holding the romal. When using a romal, the rider's hand shall be around the reins with the wrist kept straight and relaxed, the thumb on top and the fingers closed around the reins. When using the romal, no fingers between the reins are allowed. Use of the free hand while holding the romal to alter the tension or length of the reins from the bridle to reining hand is considered to be use of two hands and score of 0 will be applied, with the exception of any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during the pattern.

a) The romal shall not be used forward of the cinch. Any infraction of this rule shall result in disqualification.

11. In roping, games and team penning, Western type equipment must be used with the exception of bits and mouthpieces. Acceptable Western or English bits or mouthpieces may be used if they meet bit specifications outlined in WESTERN EQUIPMENT and ENGLISH EQUIPMENT. Use of a hackamore or a mechanical hackamore with a covered nosepiece or other type of bridle is the option of the exhibitor in roping, games and team penning. No bare metal may be in contact with horse's head.

12. A bit cannot be physically or mechanically altered to increase the severity of its use and may be eliminated at the discretion of the judge. Spring-loaded bits are prohibited. The judge may prohibit the use of bits or equipment he/she may consider severe.

13. An exhibitor may be required by the judge to remove or alter any piece of equipment which, in his opinion, would tend to give a horse or exhibitor an unfair advantage.

G. OPTIONAL WESTERN EQUIPMENT

1. Rope or riata; if used, the rope or riata must be coiled and attached to the saddle.

2. Hobbles attached to the saddle.

3. Tapaderos; except in working cow horse and boxing where they are not allowed.

4. A standard sliding, rundown or skid boot on the rear fetlocks and splint boots or bell boots on the front legs are optional appointments in the following classes; Team penning, cutting, working cow horse, boxing, ranch horse riding, ranch horse trail, reining, steer daubing, games

and roping. The use of soft leg wraps will be permitted. The use of gel-casts or any other hard-type casts will not be permitted. In the event of injury, the judge may permit a protective bandage.

5. Tie-downs for roping, speed events and team penning. Tie-downs must have covered nosepiece and cannot be chain, wire or cable. No bare metal may be in contact with the horse's head. Absolutely no tie down that crosses the horse's forehead is allowed.

6. Mechanical hackamore for games, roping and team penning. Mechanical hackamore must have a leather, Biothane (R) or rope nosepiece. Chain of any kind is not permissible no matter how padded or covered. No bare metal may be in contact with the horse's head.

7. Running martingales for games and team penning only.

8. Spurs; not to be used forward of the cinch. No excessively thin or sharp pointed rowls. Excessive spur use can be cause for disqualification.

9. Breast collar or rear cinch.

10. Whips, crops or bats may be used in the timed or racing events when used in a humane manner. Quirts or Over and Under style whips are prohibited.

H. ATTIRE

1. In all Western classes it is mandatory to wear appropriate Western attire which includes pants (slacks, trousers, jeans, etc.), long-sleeved shirt with collar (band, standup, tuxedo, etc.), Western hat or approved helmet and cowboy boots. Short sleeved shirts may be allowed per judge's decision during the summer months.

a) Chaps are optional for ASHDA shows.

b) Long sleeved shirts are not required in speed events, leadline, games, roping and team penning classes.

2. In all cattle classes and speed events the hat or helmet must be on the exhibitor's head when the exhibitor enters the arena and until exhibitor crosses the starting timer line.

3. In all game classes, Youth exhibitors 18 years of age and younger are required to wear ASTM/SEI approved helmet with safety harness attached and fastened. ASTM/SEI approved protective headgear, while optional for adults, is strongly recommended for use by all exhibitors in all game classes. ASHDA strongly encourages all exhibitors to wear protective headgear passing or surpassing current applicable ASTM standards with harness secured while riding anywhere in the competition grounds. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor, or parent or guardian or trainer of the junior exhibitor to see that the headgear worn by the junior exhibitor complies with appropriate safety standards for protective headgear intended for equestrian use, and is properly fitted and in good condition. If exhibitors choose to wear protective headgear in Western classes (Western horsemanship, Western pleasure, Western riding, showmanship, reining, leadline etc.) it is not mandatory that the headgear look like a Western hat.

4. It is recommended in all Western classes that the horse's mane, tail and forelock be free of braids but since the Sugarbush is a draft breed foils and rolled braids are always acceptable provided that the style is neat and does not detract from the overall appearance. The horse's mane may also be banded.

I. WESTERN GAITS

- 1. The WALK is a natural, flat-footed, four-beat gait. The horse must move straight and true at the walk. The walk must be alert, with a stride of reasonable length in keeping with the size of the horse.**
- 2. The JOG-TROT is a smooth, ground-covering two-beat diagonal gait. The horse works from one pair of diagonals to the other pair. The jog-trot should be square, balanced and with a straight, forward movement of the feet. Horses walking with their back feet and trotting on the front are not considered to be performing the required gait. When asked to extend the jog, the horse moves out with the same smooth way of going.**
- 3. EXTENDED JOG This is a horse who, when asked to extend, has an obvious lengthening in his stride with a very light increase in his pace, making him more versatile. This horse is still smooth but appears to have more length with less effort being exerted.**
- 4. The LOPE is an easy, rhythmical three-beat gait. Horses moving to the left should lope on the left lead. Horses moving to the right should lope on the right lead. Horses traveling at a four-beat gait are not considered to be performing at a proper lope. The horse should lope with a natural stride and appear relaxed and smooth. He should be ridden at a speed that is a natural way of going. Lope should be a balanced, flowing motion with self-carriage.**
- 5. TOPLINE: The horse's head should be carried at an angle that is natural and suitable to the horse's conformation at all gaits. Excessive lowness or highness should be severely penalized. The neck should have a slight arch and the face should be at or in front of the vertical.**
- 6. BACK-UP The horse should back straight at least one horse length quietly. This should be done smoothly with light contact and without hesitation. He should appear relaxed and gapping his mouth.**
- 7. IMPORTANT: As long as horses with naturally longer strides are performing the gaits correctly, they should not be penalized for passing other horses.**

23. ASHDA-CAP Competitive Activities Program

ASHDA-CAP is a program designed to promote the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horse in open competition by recognizing and awarding American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horses for excelling in all-breed competition.

A) ASHDA shall recognize and award merits in any event that is sanctioned and supervised by an established record-keeping equine related governing body or specialty association such as the National Cutting Horse Association and 4-H, overseeing an outside event such as barrel racing, showing, roping, gaming etc. and concerning which a representative of the sanctioning association will verify the awards earned by registered with the ASHDA. This representative may be asked to supply records for up to one year from the date of the event.

1. Owners of horses enrolled in ASHDA-CAP may be asked to provide information about any associations or organizations that approve/sponsor events in which the owner is participating.

B) ASHDA-CAP merits cannot be earned at any ASHDA-sponsored show or event. This program is designed for events outside the sponsored show ring.

C) Any registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horse (regardless of registration type) is eligible to compete for ASHDA-CAP merits.

D) An enrollment form must be completed annually for each horse competing in this program. The annual enrollment fee allows participation from January 1 through December 31 and covers the processing fees for submitting show results from the first ten (10) shows at which each enrolled horse is exhibited. The enrollment fee is based on the membership status of the owner. If the horse is jointly owned, one owner must be a member to enroll at the member fee. The first listed owner according to ASHDA records will be listed on the enrollment card.

E) The enrollment application and annual enrollment fee must be returned to ASHDA. Upon receipt, an enrollment card and exhibitor forms will be forwarded to the horse's owner. Should a horse's owner wish to

sign up for ASHDA-CAP while at an open competition, they must make sure the show secretary/manager signs and dates the enrollment form at the bottom, and the enrollment form and enrollment fees **MUST** be submitted along with the ASHDA-CAP exhibitor's report within 30 days.

F) The show secretary/manager must inspect the enrollment card, or ASHDA membership card of the owner, along with a copy of the horse's Certificate of Registration to verify the exhibitor's participation on a registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft, and sign the exhibitor's report form on the last day of competition after the class is complete verifying the exhibitor's placing and the number of entries. The exhibitor and owner must also sign the report form and return it to the ASHDA postmarked within thirty (30) days of the show.

1. Submission of results for up to and including 10 shows/judges is included in the enrollment fee.
2. Submission of show results in excess of 10 shows/judges requires payment of a \$2/show/judge processing fee.
3. All exhibitor reports and the appropriate fees must be received by December 31 of the year competing.

G) Horses may compete in more than one class per show; however, only one processing fee per horse per show is due.

1. In multi-judged events (in which more than one judge places the entire class or ride,) you may turn in your placings under each judge. Each judge counts as a separate show and requires a separate processing fee.
2. In multi-judged events where scores are combined for one overall set of placings, you may only submit the final placing. This would count as one show and would only require one processing fee.
3. If a horse receives a placing in more than one division for the same ride or class, (i.e. 4th of 10 in the class and 1st of 4 non-pros in the same class) the owner/exhibitor may choose which placing they wish to submit but may not submit more than one placing for the same ride or class. In this case, only one processing fee is due.
4. Merits earned in the 4-H category (in classes designated exclusively for 4-H members) may be applied to other categories provided that an additional processing fee per horse per show is submitted.

H) Horses will earn merits based upon the number of horses exhibited in a class, whether or not an elimination round is held. Example: If 50 horses are entered and exhibited in elimination rounds with only 15 advancing to the final round, merits are based upon the total number of entries; in this case, 50.

1. If more than 50 horses are exhibited in a class and the class is held in go rounds and a final, exhibitors have the option of submitting their placing in two ways:
 - a) submit placing in the final only counting the total number of horses exhibited against. Example: A total of 150 horses competed and you were 2nd or
 - b) submit placing for each go-round and final, including only the horses you actually competed against. Example: In the 1st go there were 50 horses and you were 2nd and then in the final you were 4th out of 30 horses.

I) Corrections to merit tabulations must be made by Dec. 31 and can only be made for merits earned in the current year.

J) Merit tabulating methods

1. Merit Tabulation for all categories except those detailed in J.2-J.5:

# Horses	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
1-2	0.5	0.25								
3	1	0.5	0.25							
4	1.5	1	0.5	0.25						
5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25					
6	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25				
7	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25			
8	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25		

9	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25	
10	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25
11	5+	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5

2. Merit tabulation for 4-H classes if judged Danish:

- Purple ribbon..... 2 merits *
- Blue ribbon..... 1 merit
- Red ribbon..... 1/2 merit
- White ribbon..... 0 merits

If the 4-H Danish System does not apply, merits are earned using the table based on the number of entries. However, merits cannot be earned under both systems for the same class.

* Medallion classes will not replace purple ribbons.

3. Merit tabulation for Combined Training and Combined Driving: Merits may only be earned at combined training and combined driving events when there are three or more entries. In order to earn merits for any placing, you must place above at least one other entry.

TRIALS (or One-Day Events)

- 1st place 5 merits
- 2nd place 4 merits
- 3rd place 3 merits
- 4th place 2 merits
- 5th place 1 merit

TWO-DAY EVENTS

- 1st place 12 merits
- 2nd place 9 merits
- 3rd place 7 merits
- 4th place 5 merits
- 5th place 4 merits
- 6th place 3 merits
- 7th place 2 merits
- 8th place 1 merit

THREE-DAY EVENTS

- 1st place 16 merits
- 2nd place 12 merits
- 3rd place 10 merits
- 4th place 7 merits
- 5th place 6 merits
- 6th place 5 merits
- 7th place 4 merits
- 8th place 3 merits

4. Merit tabulation for Judged Trail Rides

# Horses	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
2	0.5	0.25								
3	1	0.5	0.25							
4	1.5	1	0.5	0.25						
5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25					
6	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25				
7	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25			
8	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25		
9	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25	
10	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0.25
11	5+	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5

5. Merit tabulation for Dressage

Introductory, Training, First and Second Levels (including Musical Freestyle) This system is used regardless of the number of entries, but in order to receive credits, the horse must receive a score of at least 55%.

USEF/USDF/WDAA/NAWD Shows

Recognized Shows

80-100%.....	6 merits.....	3 merits
75-79.9%.....	5 merits.....	2 1/2 merits
70-74.9%.....	4 merits.....	2 merits
65-69.9%.....	3 merits.....	1 1/2 merits
60-64.9%.....	2 merits.....	1 merit
55-59.9%.....	1 merit.....	1/2 merit

Third and Fourth Levels (including Musical Freestyle)

This system is used regardless of the number of entries, but in order to receive credits, the horse must receive a score of at least 55%.

USEF/USDF/WDAA/NAWD Shows

Recognized Shows

80-100%.....	8 merits.....	4 merits
75-79.9%.....	7 merits.....	3 1/2 merits
70-74.9%.....	6 merits.....	3 merits
65-69.9%.....	5 merits.....	2 1/2 merits
60-64.9%.....	4 merits.....	2 merits
55-59.9%.....	3 merit.....	1 1/2 merits

FEI Levels

(Prix St. Georges, Intermediate I and II, USEF International Tests, Grand Prix, Grand Prix Special and Musical Freestyle at these levels. This is to include all FEI Young Riders tests.) This system is used regardless of the number of entries, but in order to receive credits, the horse must receive a score of at least 55%.

USEF/USDF/WDAA/NAWD Shows

Recognized Shows

80-100%.....	10 merits.....	5 merits
75-79.9%.....	9 merits.....	4 1/2 merits
70-74.9%.....	8 merits.....	4 merits
65-69.9%.....	7 merits.....	3 1/2 merits
60-64.9%.....	6 merits.....	3 merits
55-59.9%.....	5 merits.....	2 1/2 merits

In addition, ASHDA will recognize the highest placing horse within the Dressage category competing at

- a) Introductory, Training, First and Second Levels;
- b) Third and Fourth Levels;
- c) FEI Levels.

6. Team Penning/Team Sorting: Merits will be calculated for all ASHDA-CAP enrolled horses on each team. Exhibitors may only submit results for up to three goes on any one day. Exhibitors competing in this category should request a revised exhibitor report form and submit results on the current form.

7. Merits earned in any category may not be transferred to another category. Merits cannot be earned by using the same class in two or more categories. Exception: merits earned in the 4-H category (in classes designated exclusively for 4-H members) or in the Challenged Riders category (in classes designated exclusively for the disabled rider) may be applied to other categories provided that an additional processing fee per horse/per show is submitted.

K) At ASHDA's discretion, some events may warrant merits being earned for completion only. Other criteria for earning merits may be established or amended by the ASHDA Show Department. For details contact the ASHDA Show Department.

L) AWARDS

Awards will be mailed to the first-listed owner as evidenced by ASHDA records on December 31st of the qualifying year. Owners do not have to be members to enroll in ASHDA-CAP; however, one owner must be a member in order to receive any awards and/or certificates earned.

1. Certificate of Achievement (COA) — Horses are awarded the COA when they have earned 20 merits in any one ASHDA-CAP category. Only one will be awarded per horse/per category.

2. Certificate of Superior Achievement (COSA) — Horses are awarded the COSA when they have earned 60 merits in any one ASHDA-CAP category. Only one will be awarded per horse/per category.

3. Certificate of Lifetime Achievement (COLA) — Horses are awarded the COLA when they have earned the prescribed number of merits listed below in any one ASHDA-CAP category. Only one will be awarded per horse/per category. Awards shall not be awarded retroactively.

Barrel Racing.....100

Combined Training.....	150
Cutting.....	50
Dressage.....	200
Driving.....	200
English Equitation.....	200
English Pleasure.....	200
Games.....	150
Halter.....	100
Judged Trail Riding.....	100
Over Fence.....	100
Reining.....	25
Roping.....	25
Showmanship.....	100
Team Penning.....	25
Trail.....	100
Western Equitation.....	200
Western Pleasure.....	200
Western Riding.....	75
Working Cow Horse.....	50
4-H.....	200
Challenged Riders.....	25

4. A certificate for ASHDA-CAP versatility champion will be awarded when a horse has earned five Certificates of Superior Achievement (COSAs) in five different ASHDA-CAP categories. Awards shall not be awarded retroactively.

5. ASHDA-CAP Maestro — The ASHDA will present annual awards based upon the number of merits earned by any individual horse during the calendar year from January 1 through December 31 in each individual category of approved events. The horse that earns more merits than any other horse competing in that category will be named the ASHDA-CAP Master for that category for that year.

- a) To qualify for any ASHDA-CAP Master title, the horse must have earned at least ten (10) merits in that category during the year.
- b) Ties for ASHDA-CAP Master in each category will be broken in the following manner:
 1. the horse competing in the greatest number of shows, then
 2. the horse defeating the greatest number of entries, then
 3. the horse competing in the greatest number of ASHDA-CAP categories.

M) OFFICIAL PERFORMANCE RECORD

Merits earned through ASHDA-CAP will be added to the performance record of the competing horse regardless of the membership status of the owner.

N) APPROVED CATEGORIES

Listed below are the categories approved for competition in ASHDA-CAP. If the owner competes in an event not included below, a request may be made that the event be included by writing to the ASHDA Show Department. If request is granted, the event will not be added until the following year.

1. Barrel racing - Restricted to cloverleaf. Includes WPRA and NBHA approved events or events sponsored by your local amateur association.
2. Combined Training - Includes USCTA-approved events.
3. Cutting - Includes NCHA, ACHA and CCHA-approved events, or events sponsored by your local amateur association.

4. Dressage - Includes USDF, USEF, FEI, WDAA or NAWD-approved events
5. Driving - Includes pleasure driving and ADS-approved events.
6. English Equitation - Includes English style equitation, English horsemanship, walk-trot equitation, and equitation over fences.
7. English Pleasure - Includes bridle path hack, hunter under saddle, English pleasure, walk-trot English pleasure, English style longe line, and hunter go-as-you-please.
8. Games - Includes local, state or national gaming events including pole bending, stakes race, flag picking, speed (straight) barrels, keyhole, ring race and other gaming events. Limited to one-person events. Team events are not included. (Cloverleaf barrels do not count in the games category).
9. Halter - Includes Western halter and Hunter, Saddleseat and Draft in-hand classes.
10. Judged Trail Riding - Includes all non-breed association-sponsored competitions. Includes judged trail rides and hunters' pace and ACTHA events.
11. Over Fences - Includes hunter hack, working hunter, cavaletti, and all variations of jumping except equitation over fences.
12. Reining - Includes snaffle bit, hackamore, open and NRHA-approved events or events sponsored by your local amateur association.
13. Roping - Includes team roping, heading, heeling, tie-down roping, breakaway roping and all events sanctioned by the PRCA, NHSRA, USTRC, NIRA, NARC, WPRA, INRA or events sponsored by your local amateur association.
14. Saddleseat- Includes pleasure and equitation.
15. Showmanship - Includes English, Saddleseat, Draft and Western style showmanship and fitting & showing.
16. Team Penning/Team Sorting - Includes all non-breed association-sponsored events. Includes penning and sorting.
17. Trail - Includes all non-breed association-sponsored competition and in hand trail.
18. Western Equitation - Includes western style equitation, western horsemanship, and walk-trot equitation.
19. Western Pleasure - Includes all non-breed association-sponsored events, including NSBA-approved events, Western style longe-line, and walk-trot western pleasure.
20. Western Riding - Includes all non-breed association-sponsored competition.
21. Working Cow Horse - Includes NRCHA-approved events or events sponsored by your local amateur association.
22. 4-H - Includes all classes strictly for 4-H members.
23. Challenged Riders – Includes all judged classes and/or exhibition-only shows and events designated exclusively for the disabled rider and sanctioned or approved by a nationally recognized organization such as NARHA. Horses in exhibition-only classes will receive 1 merit for participation. Horses in judged classes will be awarded merits based upon their placing and total number of entries according to the sliding scale in J.1.

For information on American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft in Trail or Competitive Trail Riding and Endurance Riding Programs, Cutter and Chariot Racing, Disabled Riders and Driver Program and Saddle Log, please see contact ASHDA

O. Events that may be recognized include, but are not limited to, those sponsored or sanctioned by the National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA), Canadian Cutting Horse Association (CCHA), National Reining Horse Association (NRHA), National Reined Cow Horse Association (NRCHA), Women's Professional Rodeo Association (WPRA), Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA), National High School Rodeo Association (NHSRA), National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA), United States Equestrian Federation Shows (USEF), United States Combined Training Association (USCTR), United States Dressage Federation (USDF), American Competitive Trail Horse Association (ACTHA),

and national, regional or local 4-H events, etc. Merits earned in any other breed association or registry do not count.

P. Any member, non-member, owner or exhibitor who gives false information to the ASHDA may be subject to disciplinary action, and may be denied all privileges of membership associated with the ASHDA and/or denied right to any and all awards earned in ASHDA-CAP.

Q. The American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Association reserves the right of final approval of all events and/or classes.

24. ASHDA Virtual Show Program

A) Horses must be registered or approved to compete, and are limited to competing in the classes designated for their registration category.

1. Stallions and Mares classes are for Main Book registered mares/stallions of the following designations: E, # and I. Stallions and Mares in Conformation will be judged again for Overall Grand/Reserve.

2. The Non-Breeding classes are for Main Book registered E, #, or N Designation Geldings and N Designation Mares. A minimum of 3 entries can result in a split on sex (mare/gelding) OR a split into Aged and Junior. If is a class split based on sex, the 1st Place and 2nd Place horses in each Non-Breeding Conformation class will be judged again and placed for Non-Breeding Grand/Reserve. Class splits will be determined by which parameters are met first (if three junior entries are submitted before three mare entries are submitted, then a class will be split into Aged and Junior, with a further three aged mare entries required to split off a Non-Breeding Mares class)

3. The Heritage classes are for Heritage registered H designation horses of any sex. A minimum of 3 entries in any of these classes can result in a split on sex (mare/stallion/gelding) or age (aged/junior). Class splits will be determined by which parameters are met first (if three junior entries are submitted before three mare, stallion, or gelding entries are submitted, then a class will be split into Aged and Junior, with a further three aged mare/stallion/gelding entries required to split off a Stallions, Mares, or Geldings class). If there are class splits, the 1st Place and 2nd Place horses in each Aged Heritage Conformation class will be judged again and placed for Heritage Grand/Reserve. Should a Junior split occur, there will likewise be a Grand and Reserve for them.

4. AC classes are for Approved Cross AC designation stallions and mares. A minimum of 3 entries in any of these classes can result in a split on type (heavy/light) or sex (mare/stallion) and will be determined by which category is met first. If there are class splits, the 1st Place horses in each AC Conformation class will be judged again and placed for AC Grand/Reserve.

5. The Junior classes of each division are for horses aged 2 years and under of each division. 3 entries of a specific year group will split the divisions further, which can result in Weanling, Yearling, and 2 Y/O classes. Any classes added will see their 1st place entry qualify for the Junior Grand and Reserve of that division.

1. Horses will be judged on actual birth dates, not January 1st birthdays in regards to ridden and driving classes. Horse must be 3 years old or older to compete in riding or driving classes. In hand suitability classes without under saddle work or actual pulling can be entered by horses under 3 years old.

6. Get of Sire and Produce of Dam classes. To enter you will need to submit conformation entries for multiple horses that share an ASHDA parent. This may require you to work with other owners in order to get the required photos. For Get of Sire, you will need 3

entries, and for Produce of Dam, you will need 2. Sires and Dams can be Main Book, Heritage or Approved Cross with their foals being in applicable categories. These batches of offspring will be compared and the group that is overall better representatives of the breed standard will win. These classes are the only occasion in which photos may be reused, as you will be allowed to enter the same conformation photos in both that horse's individual class and the offspring grouping class. Example: a yearling mare could be entered in Conformation Junior Mares and Produce of Dam - Main Book alongside a maternal sibling with the same set of photos. However, a horse may not be entered in both Get of Sire AND Produce of Dam in the same show. Offspring can be any age from newborn to aged as long as they share a registered or Approved ASHDA parent and are registered themselves. Heritage and Main Book entries may be submitted, but "N" Designation entries are not permitted for entries in these classes, as the point of the class is to reward the Stallion or Mare who has produced the best group of breeding quality foals. Geldings are permitted, so long as they are not N Designation.

7. Photos will be presented to the judge with no identifying marks on them and each entry will be assigned a number. You may submit one watermarked version of a photo from each class, along with your unwatermarked entries, to be displayed on the placings page. Otherwise, should you place, a staff member will choose a photo from your entries to be displayed next to your placing when the time comes to announce show results.

8. Edited photos will be disqualified and entry fees will not be refunded. If you are using someone else to shoot your photos, please make sure they know not to edit photos beyond resizing or to watermark them.

9. Exhibitor may NOT submit any photos previously submitted in an ASHDA photo show. Horses must be exhibited as they currently are at the time of the show. Entries of photos submitted in previous ASHDA shows will not be accepted. Deceased horses may not be entered except for Get of Sire/Produce of Dam, and with the exception of Get of Sire and Produce of Dam, you may not enter a horse you do not currently own or have a lease filed with ASHDA for.

B) English and Western classes are divided for Main Book registered horses of any sex of the following designations: E, #, N, and I. Heritage English/Western classes are for Heritage horses and the AC English/Western classes are for Approved Crosses. With 3 entries per category per discipline ASHDA will create a canter/lope class. To do this, simply submit all three gaits when you enter. If there are not enough canter entries in your category, your canter photo will be discarded and you will be placed into the Walk/Trot class.

1. The same horse/rider combo cannot enter Walk/Trot and Walk/Trot/Canter classes, so in the event of a horse/rider combo submitting entries for two W/T/C classes and only one having the entries to run, they will be given the choice to have both entries remain in Walk/Trot or whether to drop the other class to keep their single W/T/C class entry. Horses MUST have passed their 3rd calendar birthday to compete in any under saddle classes, January 1st birthdays will not be considered for this stipulation.

C) Riding classes may be split further into the following categories: Hunter Under Saddle, Suitability for Dressage (Ridden), and Saddleseat for English and Western Pleasure, Ranch Pleasure, and Parade for Western. Be sure to specify which discipline you are competing under when submitting your photos. In the event of a split, you may enter the additional classes. Or you may go ahead and take photos for each discipline and submit them, with the knowledge that if there aren't a minimum of 3 entries for a specific discipline in each category, the class will not run.

In the event you do submit for multiple classes for English or Western before a class split has been announced, please specify which entry is your default one should the class remain multi discipline. Each under saddle category (Main Book, Heritage and Approved Cross) will have a Champion and Reserve judged from all of the 1st Place entries in each category, meaning there will be a Main Book under saddle Champion/Reserve, a Heritage under saddle Champion/Reserve and an Approved Cross under saddle Champion/Reserve. Canter/Lope class and division splits will create a larger pool of horses to draw from. If there is only one horse/rider combo in a category, they will have one of their entries picked for Grand and will not receive a Reserve placing by default. If there is only one entry total in a category, there will be NO Grand and Reserve for that category.

D) Pleasure Driving is available in each division. Entries will follow the same protocol as ridden classes, with a walk and trot entry required. Horses must be shown single, and any style of harness is permitted. Meadowbrook, sulky, vis-a-vis, and other two and four wheeled carts and buggies are permitted. Wagons, hearses, stage coaches, enclosed carriages and the like are not permitted. Horses may show open faced or with blinkers, and can be shown with or without an over check or side check. However, an ASHDA driving horse should move like an ASHDA riding horse, so a forced upright headset will be penalized. Handlers should dress appropriately for their chosen driving style, and are permitted to wear helmets without fear of penalty.

E) Suitability for Ranch and Suitability for Dressage are In Hand show classes and are open to aged and junior competitors. The horse will be groomed suitably for show or work in their respective discipline (Dressage or Ranch) and they must submit 3 photos: one Conformation-style photo stood up to show their grooming and conformation, one photo walking in hand and one photo trotting in hand- both shot fully from the side. The handler should be on the far side of the horse for the walk and trot photos so that the horse may be fully judged. The horse most representative of what ASHDA is looking for in a dressage or ranch horse down to conformation, movement, and grooming, will win.

F) Suitability for Harness is for 2-4 Year Old entries. Horse is to be photographed ground driving at a walk and trot on a set of long lines. They may wear a bridle and surcingle and/or crupper or a full driving harness with traces hooked to breeching. They will be judged against ASHDA's driving standards on their suitability as future driving horses. Photos should be shot fully from the side with the entire horse visible. Entries may not cross over into Pleasure Driving and may not use any illegal biting rigs or training aids, the same as ridden entries.

G) Any draft or draft-cross entries are welcome to show in full draft show-style mane/tail rolls, foils or rosettes regardless of class (except the new Suitability for Dressage and Ranch in hand classes), including any ridden discipline. Feathers or flowers are not permitted except in costume classes. Light horse entries should be groomed as befits their discipline.

H) Approved Crosses will be presented as the breed or combination of breeds that they are, however conformation, gaits and riding styles will be judged by ASHDA's standards. This means a draft presented with hitch-type gaits in liberty will not place as well as one that moves more like a working riding horse. Downhill movement under saddle and horses noticeably behind the vertical WILL be penalized, regardless of breed or type of discipline.

I) All virtual shows will follow ASHDA's Attire and Equipment rules found in Section 22. Submission of a photo showing the use of banned equipment can result in disciplinary action. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to check their equipment against the rules prior to submission.

1. In any single class, the horse and exhibitor must be wearing the same grooming, clothing and equipment in every shot. If a horse is wearing a snaffle bridle in his conformation class, he must wear it in all photos for that class. He cannot have 3 photos wearing the

bridle and one in a halter. There cannot be photos with differing clip jobs, braids, etc. Likewise in ridden classes, all photos must have the same equipment. Tack, grooming, and clothing may change between classes, but all photos submitted for one specific class must match.

J) Costume Classes may be themed or exhibitors choice. Exhibitor can submit up to 5 photos showing their ASHDA horse and handler decked out in costume. Please refrain from wearing racially insensitive costumes or costumes from cultures you are not a part of (such as Native American dress or Arabian costume). Costumes should be kid-friendly (no excessive gore or revealing outfits). A title for the costume can be submitted along with your entry. One entry per horse/rider combo. Junior entries may be submitted for each category as well, so long as the horse is NOT being ridden or driven in the entry photos. Three Junior entries in any division will split out a Junior Costume class.

K) Sugarbushes at Work. Submit up to 5 photos of an ASHDA registered horse performing their non-competitive day job(s). Jobs such as moving cattle, lessons, ponying at the track, therapy, logging etc qualify, attending shows and expos does not. There will be a Main Book and a Heritage division for this class. Horses under 3 years of age by calendar birthday are not permitted to enter. This class is to showcase the breed's ability to work so there will be no Approved Cross division.

25 ASHDA Saddle Log Program

- A) This system recognizes the need for personal achievement for the individual who daily or weekly enjoys the benefits gained from riding whether it be on the trails, training for and competing in shows, parades, ranch work, etc.
- B) On an honor system, each rider will keep his or her saddle log time or actual hours spent riding. The rider is not required to own the horse(s) ridden, but all horses used must be registered American Sugarbush Harlequin Drafts. All registration designations are eligible. All types of riding are eligible, including, but not limited to, trail riding, training, pleasure riding, showing, riding lesson, parades, expos, etc.
- C) The riding time is to be kept on an official log sheet provided by and available from ASHDA. Any type of riding counts.
- D) All log sheets must be completed by the participant and submitted to the ASHDA when an award level is reached or when the log sheet is complete; whichever comes first.

26. GENERAL RULES FOR ASHDA JUDGES

A) Designation as an ASHDA-Approved judge is a privilege, not a right, bestowed by the ASHDA Board of Directors according to procedures formulated by it, to individuals whose equine expertise and personal character merit the honor. A judge shall judge an ASHDA-approved and/or sponsored event in accordance with applicable rules, regulations, directives and guidelines of ASHDA. An individual's conduct as a member, exhibitor, and judge and his/her ability must be exemplary; is subject to continual ASHDA Board Review; and such designation is revocable for cause by ASHDA Board following notice and a formal hearing before the ASHDA Board of Directors to determine whether the judge's designation as an ASHDA-approved judge should be revoked. A judge whose ASHDA-approved judge's card has been revoked by determination of the ASHDA Board of Directors shall have the right only for thirty (30) days following any such determination to request, by written notice of appeal filed with the ASHDA Executive Director that includes the basis for such appeal, that the ASHDA Board of Directors reviews such determination. The ASHDA Executive Director shall determine whether he/she

will review the matter and, if it is decided to review the matter, the appeal will be reviewed based on the record of the proceedings before the ASHDA Board, at which the judge may appear and present and refute testimony and evidence. The ASHDA Board will issue its determination in regard to any such appeal and such determination shall be final and binding on all parties.

1. An ASHDA judge's approved status will remain valid and in effect for a period of three (3) years, per clinic testing cycle, provided all membership and renewal fees are paid. At the end of that period, each ASHDA judge's approved status is subject to automatic review and disposition by the ASHDA Board in conjunction with renewed certification and appropriate test scores.

Upon such review a judge's approved status may:

- a) be renewed as is for a successive period of three (3) years; or
- b) be renewed for a shorter period with and/or without restrictions or provisions; or
- c) not be renewed.

2. The ASHDA Board, in addition to any other valid ground or reason, may refuse to issue a card or may revoke the judge's card of any person:

- a) Who has been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment in state or federal prison, or who has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude;
- b) Who has made a material misrepresentation or false statement to the ASHDA Board or its agents in his or her application for a judge's card or otherwise, or who fails to answer any material question on the judge's application or in the judge's card process;
- c) Who is suspended from or has been denied judging privileges in USEF, AQHA, ApHC, AHA, NCHA, NRHA, APHA, CRHA, or any other recognized breed or discipline registry;
- d) Who has committed any acts in connection with the horse industry which were fraudulent or in violation of a trust or duty or has been suspended for any drug related violation in any equine association.
- e) Who has unlawfully engaged in or has been convicted of possession, use or sale of any narcotic, dangerous drug or marijuana;
- f) Who has violated or who aids, abets or conspires with any person to violate any provision of the rules of the ASHDA;
- g) Who, after accepting a judging commitment, has not made all reasonable effort to judge such show or has not timely communicated to show management any inability to complete such commitment;
- h) Who does not, at all times, conduct himself/herself in an exemplary and professional manner, such as not showing courtesy and respect towards show management, exhibitors and spectators and not wearing appropriate attire while judging an ASHDA-approved or sponsored show.
- i) Who is not physically able to move normally about the arena without aid in order to perform prescribed duties; or who must judge from a sitting position; or who does not have normal vision, corrected by eyeglasses or contact lenses, if necessary. Provided, however, that any person who is otherwise qualified to be an ASHDA judge but for a disability recognized under the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") shall not be denied status as an ASHDA-approved judge.

3. Any person suspended by the ASHDA for cause, except for temporary suspension without hearing, will be automatically removed from the list of approved judges and must reapply for approval in the usual manner. Removal of an individual from the ASHDA's list of approved judges for any reason, including, but not limited to, suspension from membership, denial of ASHDA privileges, or failure to comply with ASHDA rules, shall be absolute, with no provision for automatic reinstatement. Upon regaining active membership status, the individual may apply for reinstatement of previously held judging status under the current procedures for admission of new applicants.

4. If a judge is removed from the ASHDA judge's list due to temporary suspension without hearing, the judge may, after temporary suspension has been lifted, apply for reinstatement in the following manner:

- a) Payment of a non-refundable fifty dollar (\$50.00) reinstatement fee;
- b) Written statement declaring the reason or reasons that the judge failed to make said payments before the same became delinquent;
- c) The ASHDA Executive Director may, after payment of the requisite fee and submission of the written statement, reinstate judges' status or the same may be submitted to the ASHDA Board at their next regular meeting for review and consideration.

5. However, anything contained herein to the contrary notwithstanding persons who have been subject to disciplinary action of record for two violations of ASHDA Rules and Regulations shall be ineligible for the judge's designation, and it shall be incumbent upon the ASHDA Board to revoke a person's ASHDA-approved judge's designation upon notification that the individual has been found to be in violation of the rules and regulations governing the ASHDA and that such violation is of record.

6. In order to retain active judges' status, judges must:

- a) Hold current membership in the ASHDA. Dues for such membership are payable on November 1st of each year for the following year. Membership is required in order to appear on the approved judge's list. A 30 day lapse of membership will result in a judge's card being revoked. To reinstate the card the judge must go through the entire process again.
- b) Pay an annual judges' card renewal fee.
- c) Attend an ASHDA-approved judges' seminar once every three years.
- d) Receive a passing grade (90%) on the ASHDA written test.

7. After acceptance of a judging commitment, a judge shall endeavor, with all reasonable effort, to judge the show.

a) Inability to judge: A judge shall timely communicate to show management any inability to complete commitment, so as to allow the show management adequate time in which to seek a suitable replacement.

1. Written explanation: Additionally, the judge shall immediately file with the ASHDA written explanation of such inability to meet his/her commitment, specifying the date and manner in which he/she communicated to the show and with whom he/she communicated.

b) Arriving within the prescribed time: A judge upon arrival at the destination where he/she is to officiate, should contact an official of the show and advise him of his/her presence and location. A judge not arriving within the prescribed time frame without reasonable explanation may be subject to review and disciplinary action.

c) Judge unable to complete judging assignment at show: Any judge who is unable to complete his/her judging assignment at the show after arriving on the show grounds shall submit a written statement to the ASHDA within 30 days. The show management shall select a suitable replacement and notify the ASHDA in writing.

8. A judge shall not commit the following acts:

- a) A judge shall not discuss with an exhibitor the purchase, sale or lease of any horse during a show or multi-judge show at which he/she is officiating.
- b) A judge shall not have physical contact with horses or equipment while that judge is judging youth and non-pro showmanship classes, except in the case of emergency.
- c) A judge shall not personally exhibit a horse, nor can a horse owned in whole or in part by the judge be exhibited at an approved show in which a judge is officiating
- d) Any judge who has been contracted to judge at any ASHDA-sponsored event shall not be allowed to judge any ASHDA-approved event in North America within 21 days prior to the ASHDA-sponsored event (i.e. National Show vs Regional Show).
 - 1. Judges who have been adjudicated guilty of violation(s) of ASHDA rules will not be eligible to judge the National Show.
- e) A judge shall not be an exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, steward, ring steward or manager at any show or multi-judge show in which he/she is judging, whether or not classes in which he/she judges are conducted under ASHDA rules. A judge also shall not be an exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, steward, ring steward, or manager of any back-to-back or multi-judge shows in which he/she is judging one of the shows.
- f) A judge may not officiate two consecutive years at the same show or National Show.
- g) Judges are prohibited from using tobacco and/or alcohol products, cellular phones, pagers or electronic communication devices for personal use in the arena during an approved show.

9. Judges are required to provide written notice to the Executive Director by certified mail or other guaranteed delivery service, of any address or telephone number changes within thirty (30) days of such changes. In the event that any notice is not given, the judge shall bear all consequences of such failure.

10. A judge (or judges) shall present in writing any grievance that he/she may have against contestants or shows to the secretary or appointed representative of the sponsoring association at the time of the grievance, and forward a copy to the ASHDA, and his/her case will be reviewed by the ASHDA Board.

11. The judge must comply with rules governing individual ASHDA classes.

12. Judges must place the top five entries in each class except in classes of fewer than five entries or in instances of lack of merit; and if without merit, the judge shall make no award under any circumstances. No class is complete until all ties through point-earning placings are broken. If a tied contestant is disqualified in the run-off, (s)he is not to be placed any lower than the lowest position for which (s)he was tied. Contestants disqualified during the first run are not considered to be tied for a place even if there were fewer than eight entries in the class.

13. The judge at his/her discretion may refuse entry into the arena for improper attire or equipment. Further, a judge may eliminate any horse or exhibitor as an entry which he/she does not feel has legitimately attempted to comply with the class rules and procedures. In such case, this entry would not be counted as an entry for the purpose of determining the number of entries in the class for national points.

14. Judging begins when the entrant enters the arena and ends when all judging is complete. After a judge has placed a class and signed the judge's card, a class will not be re-judged and the judge's record shall not be changed. If clerical corrections, initiated by show official(s) (typically announcer, but could also be show secretary, manager or ring steward) are made to a judge's card, they must be approved and initialed by the judge. Once a judge's placings have been announced, no clerical corrections shall be made.

15. No judge shall determine the eligibility for registration of any entry in the ring and shall at all times refrain from making comments regarding such.

16. ASHDA Judges should be sensitive to any conflict of interest between the ASHDA's objective and their own personal business. Each judge should refrain from using his or her official status to further one's own personal or financial purpose.

a) Neither the judge nor members of his/her family nor any cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate or member of a judge's household nor any of the judge's clients, employers or employees or employers of a member of the judge's family shall exhibit or act as agents, representatives in any capacity, or handlers of a horse in any approved class at a show or multi-judge show at which he/she is officiating. Members of the judge's family shall not be present in the arena during judging except as a hired ring steward or in the handing out of awards.

b) No judge may judge a horse, and no horse may be shown under a judge, if that judge has been owner, trainer, agent in any capacity, or conditioner of that horse within the previous 90 days.

c) A judge shall not judge a horse which is owned by anyone from whom the judge has received a salary, commission, or any kind of remuneration for selling or buying any horse for that individual; or, whether or not a horse is concerned in the transaction, has been in the employ, or has represented such individual in any capacity for remuneration, within 90 days from the date of the subject.

d) No judge may judge a horse belonging to, or being exhibited by, any member of the judge's family.

e) These specified areas of disqualifying conflict of interest are not exclusive and ASHDA Judges are ineligible to judge another's horse in other situations not designated by the rule. If a judge cannot exercise his/her objective opinion, free from possible prejudice, bias, or outside influence, because of his/her connection with an owner, exhibitor or anyone else connected with the horse, or, for that matter, if such connection would appear to others of possible bias, whether or not the judge feels he/she would be affected, a judge must disqualify himself.

f) In a multi-judge show, if a judge is confronted during a class with an entry that poses a conflict of interest, the judge shall not judge that entry. The remaining judge(s) shall judge that entry and that entry will be counted towards the total number of horses in the class. The judge with the conflict shall mark his/her card, note the total number of entries (including the entry that posed a conflict) and must make a notation on his/her card that the entry is a conflict.

17. A judge's decision will be considered final. A judge's decision, representing his or her individual preference is not protestable unless it is alleged to be in violation of the rules.

18. Each judge shall be responsible for independently tallying the correct number of entries actually exhibited in each class he/she judges and marking the correct totals on a form provided by the ASHDA. It is the judge's responsibility to complete, sign and return this form to the ASHDA show staff immediately upon the end of the class at all sponsored ASHDA shows and to the ASHDA point keeper within ten days of all ASHDA approved shows.

19. A judge shall not appear on the show or contest grounds prior to 30 minutes before judging. A judge shall not visit in the horse barns, nor with the owners, nor inspect or discuss any horse entered in the show or contest before judging.

20. The sponsor and/or management of any ASHDA-approved and -sponsored shows or events shall make reasonable accommodation, as determined by the ASHDA, for any ASHDA judge having a disability recognized under the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”). Any judge having a disability recognized under the ADA must (i) inform show management of such disability prior to accepting an offer to judge any such show or event and (ii) contact the ASHDA Executive Director prior to judging any such show or event to discuss what reasonable accommodation, if any, can be made and will so notify show management. In the case of any judge whose disability under the ADA prevents him or her from walking without aid or requires him or her to sit while judging, the reasonable accommodation shall require the judge to judge from outside the show ring so as not to constitute a significant risk to the safety of himself/herself, other persons and/or horses in the show arena.

27. COMPLAINTS AGAINST JUDGE

A). To make a formal complaint against an ASHDA-approved judge, such complaint must be in writing, signed by the complainant, contain alleged rule violations, date and location of such violation and be submitted to the ASHDA office within thirty days of the show or contest. By filing this complaint, the complainant agrees to attend a hearing conducted by the ASHDA in regard to the matter either at the ASHDA offices or as directed by the ASHDA Board.

B) If a formal complaint is made against a ASHDA-approved judge, the ASHDA Board is the forum within the ASHDA which shall hear and review complaints alleging rule violations by ASHDA-approved judges acting in their capacity as ASHDA approved judges. Proceedings before the ASHDA Board shall be conducted, after proper notice, in like manner as disciplinary proceedings before the ASHDA Board. In addition to having a right to revoke designation as a ASHDA-approved judge or to refuse to issue a ASHDA judge’s card, the ASHDA Board may impose on any person found to be guilty of any such violation hereunder such penalties as the ASHDA Board may determine, including but not limited to, those set forth in Disciplinary Procedure and General Violations. The decision of the ASHDA Board shall be binding and final on all parties.

C) In the event that any judge at or during any show is guilty of gross misconduct or engages in belligerent or extremely disruptive behavior or is in such a physical, mental or emotional condition so as to substantially affect such judge’s ability to judge properly, show management, in its sole discretion, shall have the right to prohibit such judge from judging the show and to remove such judge from the show grounds. The show manager shall, on the next business day, file a written report of any such incident to the ASHDA Executive Director.

28. ASHDA HALL OF FAME AWARD FOR HORSES AND MEMBERS

Candidates for this award may be nominated by ASHDA Board of Directors. The candidate must have had great and favorable impact on the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft horse or association, received breeding, regional, and/or national distinction, or have rendered outstanding performance.

PROCEDURE AND PRESENTATION OF AWARD

Nominations will be submitted to the ASHDA office. Inductees into the American Sugarbush Harlequin Draft Association Hall of Fame will be chosen by the ASHDA Board of Directors. The recipient will then be honored in July of every year. A plaque with a photograph and a biography of each Hall of Fame inductee will be awarded to each inductee. Each inductee will be placed on permanent display on the ASHDA Website.

29. AMBASSADOR RECOGNITION PROGRAM (ARAP)

ARAP is an ASHDA sanctioned, tiered awards system to give these people and horses the recognition they deserve for promoting the breed through recognized public events, print, spotlights, TV spots or anything that that specifically promotes the breed etc.

Bronze Ambassador: 3 Events/Appearances

Silver Ambassador: 7 Events/Appearances

Gold Ambassador: 13 Events/Appearances

Diamond Ambassador: 25 Events/Appearances

Once Diamond tier is reached the horse gets an automatic induction to the ASHDA Hall of Fame.