

Membership Application

WAQHA Membership runs from the 1st of August to 31st July each year.



We are a non-profit organisation, run for the benefit of members. Our group of dedicated horse lovers, aim to promote, foster, and encourage the development of the Australian Quarter Horse in the state of Western Australia. We are affiliated with the Australian Quarter Horse Association and with their assistance we aim to develop public interest in this wonderful breed of horse Australia wide.



Please complete and return the Membership Application and Signed Waiver Form and return along with your proof of payment to waqha@outlook.com.au.

WAQHA POLICIES

1. PURPOSE OF OUR POLICIES

Policies communicate our organisations culture, values, and philosophy. Our policies cover what the community can expect from us and what we expect from our members.

The main objective of the policies is to maintain responsible behaviour and ethical and informed decision making by participants and members of the Western Australian Quarter Horse Association (WAQHA) and its events. These policies outline our Social Media policy, our commitment to a person's right to be treated with respect and dignity, and to be safe and protected from abuse.

Our policies also cover the care and protection of children, disciplinary measures, and animal welfare.

Our aim is to set clear expectations, create consistency and uniformity and set high standards of behaviour so that everyone can share and enjoy our culture.

2. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Used responsibly, social media can be a valuable and effective tool for communicating to the quarter horse and western breeds community.

However, social media can also be used in ways that can cause great offence. For example, derogatory remarks about WAQHA members that are posted on social media networks can have a harmful impact on those involved, as well as reflect unfavourably on the quarter horse industry in Australia.

Derogatory remarks can be insulting or disrespectful. They are usually based on an individual's view or judgment, but these can be formed about something not necessarily based on fact or knowledge. The result is often unflattering, unkind, or demeaning.

Members are asked to use social media for collegiate purposes - to keep in touch with friends and family - and not as a forum for derogatory remarks and opinions about another person or their horse.

All members should be aware that the WAQHA Constitution and AQHA Rule Book states that a member can be suspended or expelled for Conduct Unbecoming of a Member

3. WHO OUR POLICIES APPLY TO

Our policy applies to everyone involved in WAQHA including the committee, event participants, supporters, sponsors, and spectators.

4. EXTENT OF OUR POLICIES

Our policy covers breaches of our codes of behaviour and inappropriate behaviour that occurs at any event approved by the AQHA which would include, but is not limited to Shows, Clinics, Meetings, sanctioned Social events, Team trips and any behaviour that brings or is likely to bring our Association into disrepute.

5. ASSOCIATION RESPONSIBILITIES

We will:

- implement and comply with our policies
- promote our policies to everyone involved in our Association
- Always promote and model appropriate standards of behaviour

6. INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Everyone associated with our Association must:

- comply with the standards of behaviour outlined in our policy

- treat others with respect
- always place the safety and welfare of children above other considerations
- be responsible and accountable for their behaviour
- follow the guidelines outlined in this policy if they wish to make a complaint or report a concern about possible child abuse, discrimination, harassment, or other inappropriate behaviours.

7. PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

Child abuse involves conduct which puts children at risk of harm and takes several different forms, including:

- Physical abuse (e.g., deliberately hurting [hitting, punching], providing alcohol or drugs,
- Sexual abuse (e.g., sexual acts or threats, inappropriate touching, or conversations)
- Emotional abuse (e.g., ill-treating by threats, humiliation, or intimidation)
- Neglect (e.g., not providing children with necessities [food, drink, clothing], failing to protect a child from a foreseeable risk of harm or injury). Abuse is against the law. We will take measures to protect children involved in our Association from harm.

We will do this by:

- responding to all reports of abuse promptly, seriously, and confidentially
- promoting and enforcing our codes of behaviour, particularly for roles associated with children
- making information about child protection available, particularly for roles associated with children
- adopting practices that provide the maximum opportunity for a child-safe environment.

Anyone who reasonably suspects that a child has been or is being abused must report their concerns to the police or relevant government agency.

SUPERVISION

All youth competing or taking part in an AQHA approved event must have written permission from their parent/guardian to be at that event as a contestant or participant and in the case of a contest, the parent/guardian must also sign the entry form.

All youth competing or taking part in an AQHA approved event must be in the care of a responsible adult who is in attendance for the duration of that event, whilst the youth is in attendance at that event.

8.ANTI-HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION AND BULLYING

WAQHA opposes all forms of harassment, discrimination, and bullying. This includes treating or proposing to treat someone less favourably because of a particular characteristic; imposing or intending to impose an unreasonable requirement, condition or practice which has an unequal or disproportionate effect on people with a particular characteristic; or any behaviour that is offensive, abusive, belittling, intimidating, or threatening.

Some forms of harassment, discrimination and bullying are against the law and are based on characteristics such as age, disability, gender, sexual orientation, pregnancy, political or religious beliefs, race, and marital status.

Our Association takes all claims of harassment, discrimination, bullying and cyber bullying seriously.

9. ANIMAL WELFARE

This Animal Welfare Policy applies to any sanctioned event held by the AQHA, its Affiliates and any organisation that has been given Program approval.

HUMANE TREATMENT

The Association will not tolerate inhumane treatment of a horse, or any other animal used in competition.

1. No member or non-member will treat any horse or animal in a cruel or inhumane manner.
 2. Inhumane treatment includes but is not limited to all relevant animal welfare legislation and rules of the National Authorities controlling the applicable sport.
 3. In any equestrian sporting event, the welfare of the horse is always the primary consideration.
 4. No horse should be ridden or trained in such a way that it is subject to extended periods of mental or physical distress.
 5. Association members must comply with all relevant animal welfare legislation and rules. This applies to all horses exhibited at events sanctioned by the AQHA, AQHA Affiliates and at any event that has been given AQHA Program approval;
 6. The Association encourages all members to follow best animal welfare practice in all their dealings with horses.
- Any member will be disciplined, suspended, fined and/or expelled from the Association and any non-member will be denied Association privileges for any violations.

RESPONSIBILITY:

An individual is responsible for the horse's condition if:

1. He/she designates himself/herself on the entry form as the exhibitor, or authorises another to designate him/her as an exhibitor on the entry form;
2. He/she signs the entry form on behalf of himself/herself or another or causes an agent or representative to sign it;
3. He/she physically participates in the class by riding or showing the horse; or
4. He/she is the actual trainer, having presented or caused to be presented the horse at the grounds for exhibition;
5. Both the exhibitor, designated on the entry form, and the person having actual possession of the horse while physically participating in the event are conclusively deemed to be authorised by the owner to execute all documents necessary or convenient to allow the horse's participation in an Association approved event, including documents pertaining to drug testing;
6. If an individual is prevented from performing his/her duties, including absolute responsibility for the condition of the horses, or is absent from the show, he/she must:
 1. immediately notify the Event / Show Manager and, at the same time;
 2. appoint a substitute, and
 3. such substitute must place his/her name on the entry form.
7. The exhibitor represents the owner regarding his/her horses entered in an approved show.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

No person on the grounds, including but not limited to barns, stall, practice areas, or show arena can treat a horse in a manner that includes, but is not limited to:

1. Continuous and/or relentless pressure from the bit, legs, or spurs;
2. Placing an object, other than a legal bit, in a horse's mouth to cause undue discomfort or distress;
3. Placing a legal bit in a horse's mouth in an abnormal manner;
4. Leaving a bit in a horse's mouth for extended periods of time to cause undue discomfort or distress, broken skin and/or bleeding;
5. Tying a horse's head up (above the withers), back, or around in a manner as to cause undue discomfort or distress. The horse must be able to hold its head comfortably in a "normal" position;
6. Tying a horse in a stall without access to food or water for an extended period;
7. Use of excessive training techniques such as striking a horse's legs;
8. Excessive spurring or whipping;
9. Excessive spinning (defined as more than eight (8) consecutive turns in either direction);
10. Continuing to work or exhibit a horse which appears to be sullen, lethargic, emaciated, dehydrated, depressed, drawn or overly tired;
11. Schooling using rails higher than 1.2 mtrs
12. Breaking the skin and causing bleeding from the spur, bit or any other equipment;
13. Riding or training in such a way that the horse is subject to periods of mental or physical distress;
14. Exhibiting a horse that has an open wound and/or shows traces of blood;
15. Using prohibited equipment on the horse at Association approved events.

PROHIBITED EQUIPMENT:

The use of prohibited equipment includes but is not limited to:

1. saw tooth bits;
2. hock hobbles;
3. tack collars;
4. curb straps with tack/rivets or tack hackamores;
5. war bridles or like devices;
6. riding in a curb bit without a curb strap;
7. wire or solid metal curb straps, with or without padding;
8. wire cavesson;
9. wire or cable tie downs;
10. bumper bits;
11. metal bosals with or without padding;
12. metal lunging hackamores;
13. chambons; headstalls made of metal, with or without padding;
14. running martingales used without rein stops;
15. excessively tight nosebands;
16. draw reins attached between or around the front legs;
17. side reins (direct from bit to girth or surcingles)
18. any item or appliance that restricts movement or circulation of the horse's tail;
19. Any appliance or equipment, which results in any bleeding;
20. Any other treatment or conduct deemed by a show official to be inhumane or abusive.

NUTRACEUTICALS OR HERBAL THERAPIES

The onus is on the Owner/Trainer/Handler/Exhibitor, who decides to administer these types of products to a horse, to ensure that the are free of any prohibited substance.

SURGICAL PROCEDURES:

A horse cannot compete if it is had any surgical procedure which could affect the horse's performance. Exception: for those

surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the horse. If asked, a Veterinary Certificate detailing the surgery will be required.

c) That the horse is sound enough to compete at that show;
d) The certificate must be given to the Show Secretary/Show Manager prior to the horse competing.

ARTIFICIAL APPLIANCES

Artificial appliances are not permitted for use in approved classes.

The following are not prohibited:

- a) Conventional pads.
- b) Therapeutic shoes
- c) Slip on (easy care) horse boots or related footwear; or
- d) Pacemakers or prosthetic eyes, if the owner obtains written permission from the Association and the resulting authorisation is noted on the horse's registration certificate.

PROHIBITED DRUGS AND FOREIGN SUBSTANCES:

1. A horse that has had any prohibited foreign substance or drugs administered internally or externally cannot compete. Exception: Acceptable foreign substances listed in Rule 2.9; drugs as administered under rule 2.8.3;
2. A patch of any type, medicinal or otherwise cannot be on a horse when that horse is being exhibited; Exception: A horse that is injured or taken ill, once it has arrived at the official show venue or whilst on the ground during the course of the event, may compete after that horse has been treated by a veterinarian, at that show. The attending veterinarian must sign a certificate which states:
 - a) What the horse is suffering from;
 - b) What treatment, including any substances that have been administered internally or externally; and

3. A horse cannot be injected at a show unless the Veterinarian, that attended the horse at the show, has otherwise instructed. A Vet Certificate showing the treatment required must be obtained.

ACCEPTABLE FOREIGN SUBSTANCES:

1. The following substances are acceptable:
 - Antiprotozoals;
 - Anti-ulcer medication;
 - Insect repellent;
 - Anthelmintics;
 - Rehydration fluids;
 - B vitamins (orally);
 - Regumate/Altrenogest (mares only);
 - Topical ointments not containing Corticosteroids, irritant, or painkillers;
 - Preventative joint restorative therapies and general "over the counter" feed store supplements;
2. Every exhibitor will, upon request of show management or an Association representative, permit a specimen of saliva, urine, blood, or any other substance to be taken for testing. Refusal to comply with such a request will constitute grounds for immediate disqualification of the horse from further participation at the event;
3. If the laboratory report on the chemical analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from the horse indicates the presence of a foreign substance, prohibited drug or medication, this will be taken as prima facie evidence

such substance
has been
administered to the horse.

PENALTIES AND RESTRICTIONS:

Any person found in violation of these rules, will be disciplined, suspended, fined, denied Association privileges, disqualified, expelled from the grounds, and/or expelled from the Association. Non-members will be denied Association privileges for any violation of Rule 2;

1. If, upon examination by Association or show representatives (after Association authorisation) a horse's physiological functioning is found to be outside normal limits, the horse will automatically be reported to the Association;
2. Upon written notification by the Association, the horse's participation privileges in Association approved events will be suspended pending a hearing to determine whether the horse's physiological functioning remains abnormal, with the burden of persuasion on the owner to prove normal physiological functioning;
3. Participation privileges of the horse will remain suspended until any hearing;
4. Any hearing under rule 2.9.4 must be requested by the owner;
5. A conviction of an individual under State or Federal Law, for:
 1. An offence of cruelty to; or
 2. Judicial confiscation of a horse, whether an Australian Quarter horse is involved, will constitute a presumed violation of these rules

Should a member, event participant, official, spectator or supporter be subjected to harassment or intimidation OR witness unjust or unreasonable treatment of a person or animal; a complaint should be made in the first instance to the Event / Show Manager.

- All complaints will be heard.
- All complaints must be recorded in writing and directed to the WAQHA Incident Report Team.
- Both the person reporting the incident or complaint (complainant) and the person the alleged incident or complaint is against (respondent) will be given full details of what is being said against them and can respond (give their side of the story).
- Irrelevant matters will not be taken into account.
- Decisions will be unbiased and fair.
- Any penalties imposed will be fair and reasonable.

If the incident report or complaint relates to suspected child abuse, sexual assault, or other criminal activity, then our Association will report the behaviour to the police.

Every event will have a nominated Event or Show Manager and an Incident Report Team Official.

10.RESPONDING TO COMPLAINTS

WAQHA takes all complaints seriously. Our Association will handle complaints based on the following principles of procedural fairness (natural justice):

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Adult (1) Name: _____

Adult (2) Name: _____

Youth (1) Name: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Youth (2) Name: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

AQHA Membership Number(s): _____

Membership period is from 01 August, expiring 31 July each year.

Apply to become a:

- ☐ Full Member - \$90.00 per year
- ☐ Committee Member - \$60.00 per year
- ☐ Cowhorse Member - \$60 per year
- ☐ Family Membership (2 x adults, 2 x youth) - \$150.00 per year
- ☐ Youth Member (18yrs & under as of 1st Aug) - \$40.00 per year

Payment can be made via EFT or Money Order.

WAQHA BANK DETAILS: BSB: 306-041 | ACCOUNT #: 4196615.

Please use your last name & 'membership' as a reference. Money Order made payable to the WAQHA.

Fee Enclosed \$ _____ I / we agree to abide by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the West Australian Quarter Horse Association (Inc).

Name of the Nominee: _____ (For Constituent/Youth Memberships)

Signature: _____ (Parent or Guardian to sign for Youth)

Date: _____

LIABILITY WAIVER FORM – EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN RIGHT TO SUE

By signing this form I, _____ residing from _____

1. Understand and acknowledge that all aspects of handling, working with and in the vicinity of and riding horses is a dangerous activity and that horses can act in a sudden and unpredictable manner at any time.
2. Acknowledge that any person participating in the Event/Function is only allowed to do so on the distinct understanding that they do so at their risk.
3. Acknowledge that participating in the Event/Function may involve a real risk of serious injury or even death from various causes. I accept all risks necessarily flowing from participating in the Event/Function.
4. Acknowledge that the WAQHA relies on the information provided by me and state that all such information is accurate and complete.
5. Acknowledge the difficulties of participating in the Event/Function and warrant that I am physically fit to participate in the Event/Function and that I have not been advised otherwise by a qualified medical practitioner.
6. Acknowledge that I must disclose any pre-existing medical or other condition that may affect the risk that either myself, or any other person will suffer injury, loss, or damage.
7. Acknowledge that it is a condition of participating in the Event/Function that I follow the instructions of the WAQHA, and any person directly or indirectly always associated with the Event/Function.
8. I indemnify and keep indemnified the WAQHA and any person or body directly or indirectly associated with the Event/Function from all claims, demands and proceedings arising out of or connected with a failure by me to comply with rules and/or directions given to me by the WAQHA, and any person or body directly or indirectly associated with the Event/Function.
9. I indemnify and keep indemnified the WAQHA and any person or body directly or indirectly associated with the Event/Function against all claims made by any other person for injury or damage howsoever caused arising out of participation in the Event/Function, whether due to any negligent act, breach of duty, default and/or omission on the part of the WAQHA and any person or body directly or indirectly associated with the Event/Function, or otherwise.
10. I agree to abide by the Regulations of the Federal and State Government regarding Covid-19 and any additional rules and recommendations that have been implemented by the WAQHA/AQHA.
11. Furthermore I/we disclose that I have read and agree that the liability of the WAQHA & Australian Quarter Horse Association for any death, personal injury (as defined in the Fair-Trading Act 1999) or damage to property that may be suffered by me (or a person from whom, or on whose behalf, I am acquiring the services) resulting from the supply of recreational services is excluded.

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ THIS FORM OR THAT IT HAS BEEN EXPLAINED TO ME. I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS AND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT. I HAVE SIGNED THE DOCUMENT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT MADE TO ME AND INTEND MY SIGNATURE TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW.

Signature of individual Person applying for this membership, the Nominees signature for a Constituent Membership or the Parent/Guardian signature for a Youth Application

Signature:

Date:

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if under 18).....Date.....



REGISTERED QUARTER HORSE DETAILS

Please provide the following information on any Quarter Horse you Own/Lease and intend showing, to assist this Association in collating points, etc.

Horses Name: _____

AQHA Reg No.: _____ Sex: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Owned / Leased (circle) Owner AQHA Membership No. _____

Horses Name: _____

AQHA Reg No.: _____ Sex: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Owned / Leased (circle) Owner AQHA Membership No. _____

Horses Name: _____

AQHA Reg No.: _____ Sex: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Owned / Leased (circle) Owner AQHA Membership No. _____

Horses Name: _____

AQHA Reg No.: _____ Sex: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Owned / Leased (circle) Owner AQHA Membership No. _____

Horses Name: _____

AQHA Reg No.: _____ Sex: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Owned / Leased (circle) Owner AQHA Membership No. _____
