

A.P.H.A. Inc.



HANDBOOK

This Handbook is for the benefit of owners and is to be read in conjunction with the Constitution and Regulations and is not an official rule book but a guideline for Members.

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Section O – Handler Class

Horses must be three (3) years and over. No stallions are permitted for handlers 17 years and under.

To be judged strictly on the Handler's ability to handle and show their horse/pony. No consideration should be given to the horse, other than correctly fitting tack.

1. Judging techniques and procedures will vary according to individual Judge's preferences therefore no individual judging form or pattern is given here.
NOTE: It is permissible for a Judge, if he or she desires, to ask the Handler questions on horsemanship and conformation. Questions should be in accordance with the Handlers age and knowledge level.
2. Regardless of where the Judge stands in the ring the following apply:-
 - The Handler shall always lead the horse from the left side (near side) of the horse/pony.
 - All turns shall be to the right with the Handler walking to the right – around the horse.
 - Failure to recognise and correct the faults of the horse/pony's position
 - Conversing with other competitors in the arena during judging is not permitted
 - Loud voice commands to the horse/pony
 - Blocking the Judge's view of the horse/pony
 - Causing the Judge to move to avoid being knocked by the horse/pony
 - Improperly fitting equipment
 - **NO WHIP OF ANY TYPE IS TO BE CARRIED**

GUIDELINES FOR BEST PRESENTED HANDLER & HORSE/PONY CLASSES

Guidelines for Handler class are to be followed as well as the following:-

- A workout is required
- A turnout cane, (up to 18 inches/45 cm in length), may be carried

Introduction

The Australian Palomino Horsebreeders Association Inc. (APHA) was formed in 1948. The Associations aim is to breed well conformed horses or ponies that posses a golden coat with a white or ivory mane and tail that are suitable for all equine pursuits.

To be eligible for Adult Registration all horses and ponies must be Adult Classified from the age of 2 years and pass Classification, horses and ponies are assessed on their confirmation and colour. Horses and ponies younger than 2 years old that are eligible can be Foal Recorded.

History of the Palomino

Palomino coloured horses have appeared in various stages of history therefore where they were first bred has not been clearly defined.

These golden horses were usually prized by royalty and they have been known to have been mounts for ancient Chinese Emperors, the Kings of Yemen and the Royal Spanish court.

One documented account refers to Queen Isabella of Spain (1599 – 1660) who bred these golden horses by crossing them with Barb Arabs. She would only ride a golden horse and they were highly prized. With the fall of the reign of Queen Isabella and King Phillip VI of Spain many of these horses found their way to Mexico with the Conquistador Cortez. These horses were presented to the Spanish Lord Juan de Palomino who marvelled at the beauty of these horses and decided to give them his name which has remained over the centuries.

From 1599 – 1660 Diego de Silva Velasquez, Spain's greatest baroque painter, used the Palomino many times in his romantically extravagant paintings depicting King Phillip VI and Queen Isabella of Spain mounted on these beautiful golden horses. Some appeared as the perfect golden Andalusian with huge flowing manes and tails in war scenes. They also appeared as the more delicate beautiful Arab type with huge eyes, dished faces, curved necks and long thick manes and tails.

Section A - Membership

All applications for Membership should be made to the Administrator of the APHA Inc.

All Membership subscriptions shall be due on the 1st July each year.

Penalty fees apply for late subscriptions that are paid after the 1st September each year. The late fee is determined by the Committee (this does not apply to New Members joining).

Single Membership

A person maybe admitted to Membership of the APHA Inc. subject to such regulations as may from time to time be passed by the Committee. One vote per Membership is permitted at meetings. Annual Membership fee is determined by the Committee. A Single member is able to register, own and show horses.

Partnership Membership

A Partnership maybe admitted to Membership of the APHA Inc. subject to such regulations as may from time to time be passed by the Committee. One vote per Partnership Membership is permitted at meetings. Annual Membership fee is determined by the Committee. A Partnership membership is able to register, own and show horses.

Family Membership

2 Adults & 2 Children, under 18 years, maybe admitted to Membership of the APHA Inc. subject to such regulations as may from time to time be passed by the Committee. One vote per Membership is permitted at meetings. Annual Membership fee is determined by the Committee. Family membership is able to register, own and show horses.

Junior Membership

A Junior is 17 years and under. A Junior is admitted to Membership of the APHA Inc. subject to such regulations as may from time to time be passed by the Committee. Junior Members shall **NOT** hold a voting right at meetings. Annual Membership fee is determined by the Committee. Junior members are able to register, own and show mares and geldings only.

Magazine only - Associate Membership

A person maybe admitted to Membership of the APHA Inc. as an Associate Member subject to such regulations as may from time to time be passed by the Committee. Annual Membership fee is determined by the Committee. Associate members are **unable** to own, register or show horses.

No Voting right, magazine only.

Section M – Showjumping and Dressage

The complete rules for Showjumping and Dressage may be obtained from your state branch of Equestrian Australia (EA).

Section N - Harness

Horses are to be driven in a large circle in both directions. Horses should then be called in to line up for inspection. The horse which the Judge selects is then to work individually.

The horse should leave the Judge at the trot on a straight line then make a large semi-circle (if space permits) and trot directly back to and past the Judge. A harness horse should be able to back the vehicle a few steps. A horse in harness should not show the extravagant and spectacular action of the Hackney but a smooth and balanced trot and a horse/pony which is obviously a pleasure to drive.

Section K – Costume and Fancy Dress Class

Palomino Costume Classes

The first consideration is the overall picture and authenticity of the costume on the horse and rider. Costume, performance and manners will determine the awards.

Fancy Dress

Novelty costumes are worn and no workout is required.

Section L – Western Pleasure

Western Pleasure Class

This class is judged on the performance and conformation of the horse at the discretion of the Judge. Entries will be penalised for excessive speed and being on the wrong leads.

Horses are to be judged on the following gaits:-

1. Walk: True and flat footed
2. Trot: (Jog) square, slow and easy (a ground covering gait)
3. Canter: (Lope) smooth, slow and easy

Horses must work both ways of the ring at all three gaits to demonstrate their ability with different leads.

Horses shall not be asked to extend the canter.

Horses are to be reversed away from the rail or markers. They may be required to reverse at the walk or jog at the Judges discretion but never at the Lope.

The judge must ask for a rein back and may ask for additional work of the same nature from any exhibit. Riders will not be required to dismount for any reason.

Section B – Registration Requirements

1. A Palomino is a horse or pony that falls within one of the following categories :
 - **Palomino Studbook Stallion**
 - **Palomino Studbook Mare**
 - **Palomino Studbook Gelding**
2. A Palomino Stallion, Palomino Mare and Palomino Gelding shall meet the standards of conformation and colour as prescribed by the APHA Inc.
 - a. Have a body coat colour of a newly minted gold coin or three shades lighter or darker.
 - b. Have a mane and tail of white or ivory with no more than fifteen percent (15%) dark or chestnut hair. The Mane or Tail is not to be bleached, dyed or hogged.
 - c. Not to have spots, patches of black, brown or chestnut exceeding in total 25 square centimetres, (4 inches square)
 - d. Have a body free of imperfections and shall be free of white spots except those caused by accident.
 - e. Horses are permitted white markings on the face and legs only.
 - f. The basic colour of the skin shall be dark.
 - g. Both eyes shall be dark and the same colour.
 - h. Not to have markings of a distinct dorsal stripe or zebra stripes.

3. Studbook Stallions or Mares – Sires or Dams are to be registered with APHA Inc. or with another Breed Society approved by the APHA Inc.
4. Palomino Geldings – No parentage required, but must meet the standards of conformation and colour as prescribed by the APHA. Inc.
5. Foal Recorded horses must have registered parents with the APHA Inc. or a society recognised by the APHA Inc. Foals to be recorded by the 31st July in their first year.
6. Non acceptable sires: Stallions not registered with an APHA Inc. approved Breed Society.
7. The Appendix section of the A.P.H.A Inc. Includes the Categories of:-
 - a. Appendix Stallion
 - b. Appendix Mare
8. An Appendix Registration shall be an Horse/Pony that meets the conformation requirements of the Association
 - a. Be of solid or dilute colour, allowing for excessive white markings.
 - a. No Horse or Pony is eligible for Appendix Registration which possesses markings or conditions characteristic of a Appaloosa, Palouse, Spotted Pony or derivatives thereof.
 - b. The Australian Palomino Horsebreeders Association Inc. Rules & Regulations apply to all animals entered in the Appendix Section. e.g.: Membership, Transfers & Leases, Branding etc.
 - c. Appendix Registration entitles the Horse/Pony to breeding rights only.
A Horse/Pony registered in this section is not eligible to show or compete in Palomino classes.

Section I – Ridden Show Classes

Ordinary Ridden Show Classes

The Palomino horse shown under saddle should be judged for conformation, manners and performance. The horse must be sound for the work which is required from it. The horse should be cooperative and obedient towards its rider. The Judge shall work all horse on a large circle in both directions at the walk, trot and canter. The horses the Judge selects may be then worked individually according to the standard required for the class entered.

Ridden Pleasure Class

Horses competing in this class are to be ridden in a snaffle bit. No drop nosebands, Hanoverian, or other nosebands are permitted except for a cavesson noseband.

No whips or spurs are permitted.

Section J – Show Hunter Class

Show Hunter Class

Show Hunters should exhibit more substantial bone than Show Ponies, Galloways and Hacks while still maintaining quality.

Generally the Show Hunter should demonstrate suitability to carry a child or an adult across country.

The workout should be similar to that for open saddle class and may include an in hand gallop (extended canter) if circumstances permit (e.g. enough area in ring).

A Show Hunter should display very good manners.

Best Presented Class

This class is to encourage members to present their horses in the best possible manner, every exhibit is inspected. The Judge considers the whole picture of the horse and handler, grooming, conditioning and manners are the prime considerations.

Horses are judged on appearance, cleanliness and coat quality. Correctly fitted bridles or filly slips are also taken into consideration. Handlers must be neatly and appropriately dressed. Hats and gloves are to be worn, Whips may be carried and Spurs are not to be worn.

Best Body Colour Class

This class is a promotional class and makes a very attractive spectacle. The Body Colour only is considered. Conformation is not judged, no work out is required although for comparison purposes horses may be walked around the ring and called in to line up in a preferred order. They may be then stood head to tail to allow comparison of shading. Spots, smutting and dappling are to be taken into consideration when judging this class. The handlers appearance is not judged however handler must be appropriately dressed.

Best Mane and Tail Class

This class like the Best Body Colour class is a promotional class. The mane and tail are only considered. Conformation is not judged, no work out is required although for comparison purposes horses may be walked around the ring and called in to line up in a preferred order. They may be then stood head to tail to allow comparison of manes and tails. Quality, quantity and cleanliness together with appearance are judged. Horses that enter this class that are plaited maybe requested by the Judge to have a number of plaits removed for inspection. No bleached, dyed or hogged manes or **false tails** are accepted.

The handlers appearance is not judged however must be appropriately dressed.

Section C – Breeders and Membership Responsibilities and Reminders

1. Membership renewals are due and payable on the 1st July each year. Penalties will apply to late payments after the 1st September of each year - New Members excluded.
2. The age of the horse or pony is calculated from the 1st August of each calendar year.
3. Foal Recordings are to be submitted by the 31st July in the foals first year.
4. Progeny of a Stallion registered with the APHA Inc. **Must provide an APHA Inc. Service Certificate.**
5. Foal Recorded horses must be Adult Classified once they have attained 2 years of age (as of 1st August) at a nominated classification day. Horses not foal recorded that are 2 years old or over can be adult classified at a nominated classification day.
6. Nominations for the Foal Futurity to be lodged with the APHA Administrator at the time of Foal Recording. Late nominations enquiries are to be forwarded to the APHA Administrator
7. All APHA Awards performance cards are to be sent to the Administrator by the 31st July each year. Completed cards may be forwarded earlier. Late cards will not be accepted.

Section D – Assessment of Palominos

Classification Point Scores

The points shown are the maximum number obtainable for Adult Classification.

Total colour score = 50 points

5	Mane
7	Tail
27	Coat colour
8	No dark hairs, roaning or spots
3	No dapples

Total Conformation Score = 50 points

Total classification score = 100 points

Section H – Led Classes

Ordinary Led Classes

A Palomino horse maybe plaited except at National Championship Shows and Shows that state manes and tails are to be free & flowing on programs. In the mane and tail class the Judge may request the exhibitor to undo a number of plaits. It is permissible to cut or clip back at the poll a short length of the mane to present a neat appearance to the set of the head.

Bleached, dyed and hogged manes are not acceptable. False tails are permitted in all led classes, **EXCEPT** for the mane and tail class and APHA National Shows where the mane and tails are to be free and flowing. Led classes shall be judged in accordance with the evaluation of colour, conformation and movement.

Blemishes which do not affect the breeding soundness of an animal and which are acquired through accident and not as a result of inferior conformation should not be penalised in a led class. It is hoped that all horses in a class shall be given equal opportunity to show their paces and action and shall perform as the Judge directs.

All horses must be shown in full control in either a bridle or filly slip with throat lash. All entire males two years and over must be bitted and the handler is to be 18 years and over.

Whips carried in led classes may not exceed 110cm. Any excessive use of whips may result in disqualification of the exhibitor by the Judge, Steward or Show Committee.

Apparent lameness on the day will disqualify a horse.

10. A Judge may not judge a horse shown by an exhibitor that he rides or trains except after a period of six months has elapsed since he rode or trained the horse.
11. An exhibitor may not show before a Judge who has paid that exhibitor for boarding or training a horse within a period of 6 months prior to the show.
12. An exhibitor may not show before a Judge from whom he/she has leased the horse that he/she is exhibiting.
13. A Judge may not judge in an equitation class a person to whom he/she has given instruction and coaching for remuneration within a period of six months prior to the show.
14. A Judge shall not, during the period of the show at which he/she is judging, be a house guest of a person who is exhibiting at the show, without the express request or consent of that particular Show Committee.
15. A Judge must not discuss the sale, lease or purchase of any horse/pony during a show at which he is officiating.
16. Good judging depends upon correct observance of the fine points and the selection of the best horse/pony as set out in the conditions of the class. A Judge serves three interests, his own conscience, exhibitors and spectators.

Section E – Foal Futurity

Conditions of Entry

1. Palomino foals that are Foal Recorded with the APHA Inc. born between 1st August and the 31st July of their birth year may be entered in this competition.
2. Nominators of Futurity entrants **MUST** be current Financial Members of the APHA. Inc.
3. One owner may nominate as many foals as desired but nominations cannot be transferred from one foal to another.
4. A change in ownership or lease will not affect the eligibility, providing the transfer of ownership or lease has been accepted by APHA Inc.
5. The Committee reserves the right to cancel or alter this competition and their decision will be final.
6. Place ribbons will be awarded from 1st to 4th place.
7. Prize money will be awarded from 1st to 4th place. The entry fees will form the prize money, after the deduction of running expenses.
8. Nomination fees and dates payable are as follows:-

Nomination Fee

The nomination fee of \$60.00 must accompany the nomination form and be paid by the 31st July before the foal becomes a yearling.

Late Nomination Fee

If entering the Futurity after the 31st July, a penalty nomination fee of \$100.00 must be paid with the nomination form.

Nomination fees are determined by the Committee.

9. All entries **MUST** be accompanied by the appropriate fee at the time of lodging the nomination form or the nomination will **NOT** be accepted.

Section G – Judging Guidelines

10. In order to be eligible for judging, all foals nominated **MUST BE ADULT REGISTERED** by the final Classification day determined by the APHA Inc. Committee.
 11. Entry into this competition will constitute acceptance of the terms of entry as binding and beyond dispute by the entrant.
 12. All cheques or money orders must be made payable to the **Australian Palomino Horsebreeders Association Inc.** and **MUST** accompany the nomination form. All forms and fees are to be sent to the APHA Administrator, PO Box 130 Sunbury Vic 3429.
1. Judges from the APHA Judges List are to officiate at Royal Shows, National Shows and Barastoc. Judges from approved panels may Judge at all other Shows.
 2. No Exhibitor shall approach a Judge with regard to decisions they must first obtain permission from the Show Committee or Chief Steward, who may arrange an appointment with the Judge at a appropriate time and place. No exhibitor has the right to inspect the Judges result sheet where used without the Judge permission.
 3. A Judge through the steward may order from the ring any unruly horse or one whose actions threaten to endanger other exhibitors or exhibits.
 4. Any horse that becomes loose and leaves the ring will be disqualified.
 5. A Judge must inspect any obstacles or courses after they have been set and may require alterations if he/she thinks fit.
 6. A Judge may divide a class and work it in groups if numbers so indicate. The Judge shall then work the finalists in each group together for the placing.
 7. Probationary Judges may be asked to assist senior or guest Judges as either assistant Judges or Stewards.
 8. A Judge shall not adjudicate in any class in which members of his/her immediate family or any of his or their horses are competing.
 9. No horse that has been sold by a Judge or his/her immediate family may be judged by said Judge for a period of 6 months from the time of sale.

Diamond Award

A nomination fee and appropriate performance card fee are to be forwarded to the APHA Administrator with a nomination form for the Diamond Award.

All horses competing for this award **MUST be Adult Registered with the APHA Inc.**

Additional performance cards may be purchased from the APHA inc. Administrator upon request.

Points are to be gained over three consecutive years. That would mean that once a person submits a performance card to the APHA Administrator then they must do so each year. If they fail to gain the Diamond Award in the first three consecutive years then it may be gained in the 2nd, 3rd, 4th years etc.

As of 1st August 2015 horses/ponies who have already achieved the Diamond Award maybe renominated if there has been a change of ownership. Any points already accumulated will not be transferred to the new owners.

Lifetime Award ***

This award runs for the lifetime of the horse. A once only nomination fee is payable for this award. A Lifetime Achievement Award card will be issued to the nominated horse. **All horses competing for this Award MUST be Adult Registered with the APHA. Inc.**

In order to qualify for the award a Palomino must collect a minimum of points consisting of:-

- a) 100 points at Halter under an official APHA Judge or a Judge recognised by the A.P.H.A .Inc. in approved Palomino Classes.
- b) 60 points in Ridden Competition, under an official APHA Judge or a Judge recognised by the A.P.H.A Inc. in Palomino Classes.
- c) 40 points in Halter, Ridden or Driven Classes in Open Competition by a Judge recognised by the APHA. Inc.

The Committee reserves the right to authenticate performances and disallow any that the Committee feels should not be counted. There will be no appeal concerning Committees decisions concerning the performance. The APHA Awards Coordinator will notify the owner that the horse needs further points to qualify in this event.

Section F – APHA Awards

- The Australian Palomino Horsebreeders Association has a series of Awards based on a points system.
- For a horse to be eligible it must be exhibited under its Registered or Foal Recorded name and number.
- The horse must be exhibited in the name of the registered owner/lessee who MUST be a Financial Member of the APHA. Inc.
- Points maybe gained at any show providing there are stallion classes on the program.
- Two thirds of points to be gained in Palomino Classes and one third of points may be gained in Open Classes.
- Triple Points and Double Points will be awarded for the relevant Shows nominated by the Committee. These shows are advertised in the APHA Newsletter and on the APHA Website. Performance cards are to be signed by the Judge or Show Official on the day, unsigned cards will not have points counted.
- Lifetime Award cards are to be signed by Official Judges only.
- All Performance cards are to be sent to the APHA Administrator by the 31st July each year. Cards may be forwarded earlier. Late cards will not be accepted.
- Additional Performance cards will be issued by the APHA Administrator upon request with the appropriate form and fee.

Judges

Official Judges: Judges from the APHA Panel of Judges OR those qualified and recorded officially with other bodies recognised by the APHA Inc.

Transfers

In the event of sale or lease of the nominated horse or pony, the performance award points will be transferred to the new owner or lessee with the exception of horses/ponies that have already achieved a Diamond Award with a previous owner/lessee.

TYPES OF AWARDS

ANNUAL HIGH POINT AWARDS

High Point Weanling

High Point Yearling

High Point Led 2 & 3yr old Palomino Colt, Filly and Gelding

High Point Led Senior Palomino Stallion, Mare and Gelding

High Point Ridden Palomino Stallion, Mare and Gelding

High Point Activity Award

High Point Junior Combination Award

Additional Annual Awards presented by the APHA at no charge are:-

High Point Horse of the Year

High Point Open Led

High Point Open Ridden

High Point Best Presented

To be eligible a horse/pony must be nominated in the High Point Annual Palomino Led or Ridden Awards.

Points for these awards are accumulated over one year however there is a yearly nomination fee per horse or horse/rider combination.

These awards are able to be won more than once.

High Point Led Annual Award

Points are counted from the Performance card from Led Palomino Classes only.

High Point Ridden Annual Award

Points are counted from the Performance card from Ridden Palomino Classes only. Horses must be over 3 years of age for points to count.

High Point Open Led Annual Award

Points counted from Open Led Classes only.

High Point Open Ridden Annual Award

Points counted from Open Ridden Classes only.

High Point Best Presented Annual Award

Points counted from Best Presented Led Palomino Classes only.

High Point Activity Annual Award

A yearly nomination fee is payable for this award. A High Point Activity card will be issued for the nominated horse. Details of performances must be entered on this card and signed by the Judge or Official of the competition. Points are counted from Dressage, Showjumping, Eventing, Endurance, Western performance, Camp Drafting, Pony Club, HRCav, Harness, etc. **Do not include Led or Show saddle classes.**

High Point Junior Combination Award

A yearly nomination fee is payable for this award. A High Point Junior Combination card will be issued to the nominated horse and rider. Details of performances must be entered on this card and signed by the Judge or Official of the competition.

The age of the competitor will be 17 years and under. Points are counted in all competitions that the nominated horse and rider enter eg. Pony Club, Gymkhana, Shows etc. To be eligible for this award the nominated rider must be a Junior or a Full Member of the APHA Inc. and the nominated horse to be Adult Registered with the APHA Inc.