



Rules for the 39th All American Buckskin Horse Congress - 2016

The All American Buckskin Horse Congress is a show designated to allow **ABRA** registered horses across the country a chance to compete for **National ABRA points**. **THIS IS NOT A SCHOOLING SHOW. EACH HORSE MUST BE ENTERED IN AT LEAST ONE CLASS IN ORDER TO SECURE A STALL RESERVATION. TACK STALLS WILL BE MARKED ACCORDINGLY AND USED FOR THAT PURPOSE ONLY!**

ABRA EXHIBITORS:

ABRA registration papers, or a valid ABRA work order, with the exception of weanlings (weanlings do not need to be registered or have a work order to show in the Congress; however, a DUN FACTOR weanling **MUST** have an ABRA work order). The following needs to be submitted with the congress entry form:

- A photocopy of the horse's ABRA registration papers front and back
- A photocopy of owner's current ABRA membership card
- A photocopy of exhibitor's current ABRA membership card
- A photocopy of the ABRA lease agreement if applicable
- **All ABRA exhibitors in all classes must present ABRA registration papers OR ABRA lease agreement to verify current ownership of the horse and the associated ABRA membership cards at the show.**
 - **PERFORMANCE HORSE:** To be eligible to compete in the performance halter classes, a Register of Merit in performance must be earned and recorded on the horse's record. Proof of Register of Merit **MUST** be provided to show management. A performance Register of Merit must be earned in the division in which it is to compete (i.e. Amateur division, the performance Register of Merit must have been earned in the Amateur division.) Submit a copy of this ROM with entries if registering for Performance Halter.
 - A horse may not show in the age division halter class and the performance halter class at the same show in a particular division. (i.e. may not enter Amateur Halter Mares and Amateur Performance Halter Mares at the same show.)

ALL COLOR EXHIBITORS:

- Non-ABRA horse entries do not require registration papers unless showing in an age specific class (i.e. AC Yearling Longe Line, AC Open Junior Horse Hunter under Saddle) however, all of the horse's information does need to be on the entry form.
- AC Adult (Non-Pro) exhibitors should have a current amateur or novice card from any horse association. Please provide a copy of your membership card with entries. If exhibitor is not a current amateur/novice/non-pro member of another organization, please note that on the entry form. Non-Pro classes are meant for amateur/novice/non-pro exhibitors only.
- AC Novice Youth and AC Novice Adult classes are intended for novice exhibitors. These classes are not designed for experienced riders on novice horses.

ALL EXHIBITORS:

- A current **Negative Coggins** is required to show and stall any horse and must be presented before unloading the trailer.
- A 10 day current Health Certificate with temperature recorded is required for any horse not from the state of Michigan and must be presented before unloading the trailer.
- January 1, 2016 is the cutoff date for age specific classes for both horses and exhibitors. For Youth, it is their age as of January 1, 2016 and for horses it is the age they turn in 2016. **NO YOUTH MAY EXHIBIT STALLIONS!**
- **Any entries submitted without the required papers and membership cards will be returned to sender. Late fees may apply if complete information is not sent back postmarked by September 2, 2016.**

GENERAL RULES:

- Anyone not abiding by the camping or facility rules will be asked to leave. There is **NO SMOKING** allowed on the premises.
- **Class entries postmarked after September 2nd must include the proper late fees per class. Additional classes can be added five classes before the respective class. Trail classes may be added before 5 pm the day of Trail on Thursday.**
- No refunds will be provided unless a valid veterinary certificate is received by the show secretary prior to the show. The Buckskin Horse Association of Michigan Board of Directors must approve all refunds and only 75% of the entry fee will be refunded. Stall fees are non-refundable.
- **Exhibitors will not be allowed to enter the ring with any initials or advertisement on their tack or clothing that promotes their trainer or themselves.** (Tack or clothing brand identification labels are exempt.)
- Exhibitors will not be allowed to enter the ring with incorrect or missing exhibitor numbers. Any exhibitor without a number is disqualified.
- No exhibitor will be allowed to enter the show ring after the gate is closed.
- A tack change must be requested at the gate at least three classes prior to the class in which the change is needed.
- A maximum of 3 minutes will be allowed after the tack change is announced.
- A junior horse is a horse 5 years or younger; senior horse is a horse that is 6 years or older. Bits and other equipment will be checked at the judge's discretion for ABRA and All Color horses. ABRA rules apply for both ABRA and All Color Horses. When ABRA is silent then AQHA rules apply.
- All dogs **MUST** be on a leash with handler at all times or confined in a stall, kennel, or your camping trailer or a fine of \$50 will be assessed to the dog's owner or handler. There will be one warning and then the dog will be confiscated and put in a kennel until the owner pays the \$50 fine. Please be courteous of your neighbors and keep them quiet and under control.
- Exhibitors and owners agree to abide by all the rules and regulations of this packet by signing the entry form.
- Any unsigned form will not be accepted.
- **NO BIKES, SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS OR ROLLER BLADES in the pavilion at any time.**

Drug Regulations

- Drug testing will be based on the ABRA Drug Rule Policy. The drug policy is in the show office for review.

Sweepstakes

- Sweepstakes classes are the only payback classes offered at the All American Buckskin Horse Congress. 60% of total purse is paid back to the first thru four places.
- Paybacks will be mailed within 4 weeks after the Congress.

Versatility Class

- Versatility class consists of Hunter Under Saddle, Western Pleasure, and Barrels. One horse/one rider combination.
- There is a maximum of 3 minutes allowed for tack changes inside the ring. Two helpers are allowed for tack changes. The announcer will tell the exhibitor and helper to go to their designated spot along the rail and he/she will announce when the time will start. All helpers must be out of the ring before the 3 minutes have passed.
- Each class will be scored separately; winners will be determined by the highest combined point total. The tiebreaker will be the speed class.

Walk Trot Classes

- These classes are for **Novice riders only** and not for schooling young horses. It was designed to encourage the beginner to ride and compete at BHAM events.
- Walk Trot exhibitors may not show in 3 gaited riding classes.

Snaffle Bit Rules

- Smooth snaffle bit with broken mouthpiece (conventional "O" ring, egg butt or "D" ring) no larger than 4 inches (1 inch in from cheek must be a minimum of 3/8 inch in diameter with gradual decrease to the center of the snaffle).
- Optional loose curb strap (leather or nylon only).
- Reins are to be attached above the curb strap. Standard split reins are mandatory.
- Martingales, nosebands or tie downs are not allowed.
- A braided rawhide or leather bosal may be used in lieu of a snaffle bit, no larger than an inch in diameter at the nose; must be a minimum of one finger space (approximately an inch between the bosal and the nose). Absolutely no metal under the jaw or on noseband in connection with the bosal.
- Snaffle bit and bosal will be inspected at the judge's discretion.
- Any entry must be shown with both hands on the reins maintaining light contact with the horse's mouth. Reins may or may not be crossed.
- All horses will be judged as a pleasure horse at the walk, jog, lope, and back as well as on the transitions between the gates. Horse must work both ways at all three gaits. Judges may require backing only of finalists in the class. Horses must reverse to the inside, away from the rail. They may be required to reverse at the walk or jog, but shall not be asked to reverse at the lope.

Class Prizes and Ribbons

- One first place prize and one second place prize will be given for every class except Sweepstakes classes.
- The computer will tally the points from each judge and come up with one winner for every class that will be awarded the 1st place prize and so on to 10th place.
- A tiebreaker judge is randomly selected by the computer to break any ties.
- All classes will be judged by four judges, but there will be only one Champion of each class and one Reserve Champion. There will be 3rd -10th place ribbons for the overall top 10. Smaller ribbons are available to pick up in the office, once the results are entered, for an individual's placing under each judge. There will be points accumulated for each judge up to 10 places.

High Point Rules

- High Point is based on 1 rider/1 horse combination. Except ABRA Open Horse, the points go with the horse. Pee Wee 11 & Under, AC 40 & Over and ABRA Amateur Select will have different high point and reserve high point prizes because fewer classes are offered in those divisions.
- High Point contenders will accumulate points from each judge in the following designated High Point classes for their section:

ABRA Amateur – Class #'s 12, (17 or 18 OR 25 or 26 OR 34 or 35), 68, 79, 90, 104, 120

ABRA Amateur Select – Class #'s 13, (17 or 18 OR 25 or 26 OR 34 or 35), 69, 105, 121

ABRA Youth 14-18 – Class #'s 10, (27 or 28 OR 36 or 37), 70, 81, 92, 106, 122

ABRA Youth 13 & Under – Class #'s 10, (27 or 28 OR 36 or 37), 72, 85, 94, 108, 124

ALL COLOR Adult (NON-PRO) – Class #'s 15, (46 or 47), 66, 78, 91, 102, 129

ALL COLOR Youth 14-18 – Class #'s 11, (46 or 47), 71, 82, 93, 107, 126

ALL COLOR Youth 13 & Under – Class #'s 9, (46 or 47), 73, 86, 95, 109, 128

ALL COLOR NOVICE YOUTH – Class #'s 7, 75, 88, 96, 110, 115

ALL COLOR NOVICE ADULT – Class #'s 8, 76, 89, 97, 111, 116

ALL COLOR PEE WEE 11 & UNDER – Class #'s (5 or 6), 74, 112, 114, 117

ALL COLOR 40 & OVER – Class #'s (45, 46, or 47), 67, 103, 130

ABRA OPEN HORSE – Class #'s 14, (22 or 23 or 24) OR (31 or 32 or 33) OR (41 or 42 or 43), 48, 54, (83 or 87), 101, 113, (119 or 123)

Points are calculated from each judge for all awards as follows:

Number in class:	10 or more	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
1st	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
2nd	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
3rd	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
4th	7	6	5	4	3	2	1			
5th	6	5	4	3	2	1				
6th	5	4	3	2	1					
7th	4	3	2	1						
8th	3	2	1							
9th	2	1								
10th	1									

Protests

- A protest may be made to the Congress Committee by an exhibitor, an agent, a trainer, or the parent of a Youth Exhibitor who is currently entered in the 2016 All American Buckskin Horse Congress, for violation of these Congress Rules, and/or ABRA Rules. It must be:
 - In writing
 - Signed by the protestor
 - Addressed to the Secretary of the Show
 - Accompanied by a deposit of \$50.00
 - Received by a member of the Congress committee within 48 hours of the alleged violation.
- A Congress Committee receiving a protest may promptly hold a hearing of at least 3 and no more than 5 of its members and obtain from witnesses, entry blanks and other sources, all necessary information and evidence; all persons directly concerned shall be notified and given the opportunity to appear. If the protest is sustained, the deposit shall be returned to the protestor; if not sustained, the deposit shall be forfeited to the show.
- In the event the Congress Committee cannot reach a decision in regard to a protest involving an ABRA Exhibitor, the protest must be referred to the American Buckskin Registry Board of Directors and accompanied by the \$50.00 protest deposit. If the Board sustains the protest, the deposit shall be returned to the protestor; if the protest is not sustained, the fee shall then accrue to the Association.
- A protest may be made directly to the American Buckskin Registry Board of Directors by an official of a show or by an ABRA Board Member for violation of ABRA rules. It must be:
 - In writing
 - Signed by the person making the charge
 - Addressed to the ABRA Board of Directors and mailed to the ABRA executive secretary within 48 hours of the alleged violation.
- A protest must state the full name and address of the accused and contain a complete and definite statement of the acts which constitute the alleged violation. Precise details regarding a violation of the rules are necessary. The maker must be prepared to substantiate the protest by personal testimony or by sworn statements, witnesses or other evidence. The American Buckskin Registry Association may investigate any protest or charge; may intervene in any protest and present evidence concerning any protest or alleged violation at its discretion.