

Potential Bylaw Changes

****Bylaw changes require membership vote, members should have received a ballot for this change with their ballot mailing****

Current Rule: ARTICLE III Section 1. Authority and Responsibilities D. The Board of Directors shall adopt, amend and/or eliminate a rule or regulation in a manner prescribed under the rules which will allow the membership to have prior knowledge and input before Board action on proposed changes. Proposed changes in rules or regulations will be published in the Journal and posted on the MFTHBA Internet site as appropriate a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to the Board meeting at which action is to be undertaken. Any changes in rules, with the exception of bona fide safety or legal issues, will become effective January 1 of the following year. Safety or legal issues will be handled in a manner to protect the membership and horses, as warranted. This Paragraph D will take effect following publication of the 2008 Official Handbook.

Change: Replace “ Proposed changes in rules or regulations will be published in the Journal and posted on the MFTHBA Internet site as appropriate a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to the Board meeting at which action is to be undertaken.” To “Proposed changes in rules or regulations will be published in the Journal and posted on the MFTHBA Internet site as appropriate a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to the Board meeting at which action is to be undertaken.” Delete “published in the Journal and”

Reason for Change: With the changes to the Journal publication schedule, the schedule for distribution is not set. This results in challenges in meeting the 60 day requirement for publication. In addition, the pages within our Journal are limited so space can become a challenge in printing long proposals. Rule would not eliminate the availability of publishing the changes within Journal but would allow us flexibility when the Journal is not available to publish changes. Currently less than 3 percent of the MFTHBA membership selects to receive the Journal in print with the majority of these individuals also having an email on file with the association where information may be sent. Those not choosing to receive the printed version receive information from the MFTHBA through electronic sources.

Potential Rule Book Changes

****Rule changes are voted on by the MFTHBA Board of Directors following a comment period by the MFTHBA membership. These rules will be voted on in December.****

Current Rule: Page 22 Elections, Section 1. Annual or Special Elections and Ballot Initiatives D. Nominations for Annual Election of Officers and Directors positions will be completed on or before August 1 and ballots mailed on or before August 15. Completed ballots voted and returned must be received by the outside accounting firm or other qualified neutral entity handling the tabulation of votes on or before October 15.

Change: October 15 date to October 1.

Reason for Change: Results from the election are announced at the October Board of Directors meeting which is held the second Tuesday of October. An October 15 deadline may not allow results to be tabulated prior to the meetings and, if the meeting occurs prior to October 15, results could not be announced.

Current Rule: page 23 Elections, Section 1. Annual or Special Elections and Ballot Initiatives, I. Election results will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the Members in Ava, Missouri on the fourth Saturday in October, or other date in October as determined by the Board of Directors. In the event of a Special Election or Ballot Initiative, the results will be announced at the first available Board meeting following receipt of the results.

Change: Remove reference to the fourth Saturday. Reword to say “Election results will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the Members in Ava, Missouri on the fourth Saturday in October, or other date in October at a meeting determined by the Board of Directors.

Reason for Change: The MFTHBA does not traditionally host a formal annual meeting. Results are announced at the October Board meeting. We may want to remove all references to an annual meeting. We don’t do it and when we did we didn’t have very good participation.

Current Rule: page 23 Elections, Section 3. Eligibility to Vote. B. All voting members eligible as of July 1 to receive a ballot will have the opportunity to vote as follows; 3. Vote for Director to represent the region in which both the voting member and the Director candidate reside. Numbered Director positions (No. 1 through No. 7) will start a process of phasing out beginning in 2008. In 2008, all ten (10) regions will have the opportunity to nominate and elect Directors. In subsequent years, a rotation system will be in place as shown below; and members in regions where a Director position is up for election will vote for their candidate of choice to fill the vacancy.

Change: Page 23 Section B-3 Delete information starting with starting with “Numbered Director positions (No. 1 through No. 7),... until “In the elections following 2008, each Director candidate will stand for a 3-year term in the elections as shown:...”

Reason for Change: This information isn’t needed now that the phase in process has already been implemented. Removing the information will shorten the rule book. Information should be preserved in historical documents.

Current Rule: page 24 Section 5. Vacancies: A. Directors: If a position of Director is vacated, the Board of Directors shall appoint a successor to serve until the next election. The vacancy shall not be filled for 30 days following the effective date of the vacancy to allow interested eligible members to make themselves be known as potential candidates for the vacated position.

Change: Replace “If a position of Director is vacated, the Board of Directors shall appoint a successor to serve until the next election.” To read “If a position of Director is vacated, the Board of Directors shall appoint a successor to serve until the end of the position’s term.”

Reason for Change: The current rule contradicts the bylaws (ARTICLE III Section 5. Vacancies A. Directors). Bylaws take precedence over the Rule Book and therefore this rule should match that of the Bylaws.

Current Rule: page 29 Section 2. Actions Resulting from Failure of Members or Non-Members to Comply with Rules C. Upon receipt of a properly initiated complaint, the MFTHBA office shall immediately transmit a copy of the complaint and all supporting evidence to the Board of Directors. The MFTHBA office shall at the same time transmit copy of the complaint and all supporting evidence to the member against whom the complaint is filed, via first class mail to the member’s address of record, delivery receipt requested.

Change: Replace “via first class mail” with “via certified mail with return receipt requested”

Reason for Change: Complaints are sent certified mail from the MFTHBA office. This provides verification that the letter is in fact received. Since this is the procedure utilized, the rule book should be updated.

Current Rule: page 34 Section 1. Official Registration Records of MFTHBA, B. Certificate of Registration: 4-9

Change: Correct formatting. Should be indented to match 1-3.

Reason for Change: Corrected formatting will make it easier for individuals to navigate the rule book.

Current Rule: Page 35 Section 1. Official Registration Records of MFTHBA, B. Certificate of Registration: 7. Absence of required Signature: In any case where these rules and regulations require the signature of a person who cannot be located, the following procedure will be followed: b) If all attempts fail, evidence of all attempts must be submitted to the MFTHBA office. The office staff will then post a notice in the Journal and on the MFTHBA web site asking the person or anyone knowing the location of the person in question to notify the office immediately. This notice will be published for two (2) months.

Change: Remove the reference to The Journal. "The office staff will then post a notice ~~in the Journal and~~ on the MFTHBA web site asking the person or anyone knowing the location of the person in question to notify the office immediately."

Reason for Change: Since the Journal has gone to a periodic publication, it may not be possible to post a notice in the Journal and meet the 2 month time frame. Depending on the timing of the issue, the next Journal may not be published for a couple months. If an individual needed to wait two months for the Journal to be printed followed by two months of publication, it would impact the office's ability to resolve the issue of the current owner in a timely manner. Currently less than 3 percent of the MFTHBA membership selects to receive the Journal in print. The rest receive information from the MFTHBA through electronic sources.

Current Rule: Page 35 Section 1. Official Registration Records of MFTHBA, B. Certificate of Registration: 9. In the event of a horse's death, registration papers should be returned to the MFTHBA office for updating of the registry. MFTHBA office must be notified of date of death. Registration Certificate will be returned to the owner with notation of horse's date of death.

Change: Delete requirement to send in MFTHBA papers. Change to read: "In the event of a horse's death, the owner should notify the MFTHBA office. The MFTHBA office must be notified of the date of death. Once notified the official record in the MFTHBA office will note that the horse is deceased."

Reason for Change: One of the duties is to maintain accurate records. According to the MFTHBA office staff, many MFTHBA owners do not want to send their papers back to the MFTHBA office to have them marked as deceased. The change in the policy would assist the MFTHBA in meeting its mission. A form would be developed that individuals could complete and sign. The form could also be made available online. In addition to helping maintain accurate records, recording deaths of horses also helps prevent fraudulent activity with old papers. All horses recorded as deceased are so noted in the Online Registry Database.

Current Rule: Page 35 Section 2. Eligibility of Recorded Horses B. Stallion Breeding Report: 1. A Stallion Breeding Report shall be submitted to the MFTHBA office for each breeding stallion. Stallion Breeding Reports are due not later than the following January 15 of each year, beginning in 2007. This report shall name each mare exposed to that stallion in the current year. The Stallion Breeding Report serves as verification of information supplied on Registration Application.

Change: Delete beginning in 2007. "Stallion Breeding Reports are due not later than the following January 15 of each year, ~~beginning in 2007.~~"

Change: "This report shall name each mare exposed to that stallion in the current year." To "This report shall ~~name each mare~~ include the registered name and registration number of each mare exposed to that stallion in the ~~current~~ past calendar year"

Reason for Change: The date of the rule's implementation should be kept in the Association's historical record. Including this information here may cause confusion since some may interrupt its inclusion to be a reference to a stallion's date of birth. The second sentence clarifies the requirements for submitting the reports. Many reports arrive at the office without registered names and registration numbers of mares. Including this information, as requested on the form, will allow the office to verify the information on the certificate of registration. Reports are due the following year, meaning the report includes information from the past calendar year not the current year.

Current Rule: Page 36 Section 2. Eligibility of Recorded Horses D. DNA Required: Any filly born in 2006 must be DNA tested prior to registration. For any filly born in 2007, the dam must be DNA tested prior to registration of her filly. The 2007 filly does not have to be DNA tested. Beginning in 2008, any producing mare and all breeding stallions must be DNA tested before their offspring are eligible for registration.

Change: DNA Required: Any producing mare and all breeding stallions must be DNA tested before their offspring are eligible for registration.

Reason for Change: This rule is confusing for those attempting to register a horse. By grandfathering in horses that fall under the 2006 and 2007 rules, it will make it easier to communicate the DNA rule.

Current Rule: Page 36 Section 2. Eligibility of Recorded Horses D. DNA Required: 1-6

Change: Correct Formatting. Indent items 1-6 to match the rest of the Rule Book.

Reason for Change: Corrected formatting will make it easier for individuals to navigate the rule book.

Current Rule: Page 37 Section 2. Eligibility of Recorded Horses G. Horses Age and Sex: 1. The age of a horse shall be computed on the basis of a calendar year starting on January 1 of the year foaled. It is a weanling during the calendar year in which it is foaled and a yearling during the first calendar year following its foaling date, regardless of the time of year foaled. a) For Show Purposes ONLY, beginning with the year 2014 foals born September 1 through December 31 are considered to fall in the following year. This provision is not valid for MFTPR.

Change: delete ", beginning with the year 2014. Rule will read a) For Show Purposes ONLY, beginning with the year 2014 foals born September 1 through December 31 are considered to fall in the following year. This provision is not valid for MFTPR.

Reason for Change: The rule applies to all horses, not just those born after 2014. Removing the reference to the date removes potential confusion regarding how the rule is implemented.

Current Rule: Page 38 Section 4. Artificial Insemination & Embryo Transfer A. Artificial Insemination with Shipped Semen: 4. Stallion owners must obtain an AI/ET-Stallion permit from MFTHBA, and Mare owners must obtain an AI-mare permit from MFTHBA before any offspring resulting from the artificial insemination breeding can be registered in the MFTHBA Stud Book. The permit will be issued to the current owner only after DNA testing has been completed at the MFTHBA authorized laboratory. This permit need not be renewed unless there is a change of ownership of the stallion or the mare. Permits are not transferable; if ownership changes, application must be made for a permit in the name of the new owner.

Change: Replace AI/ET Stallion Permit with "Application for Semen Transport" and AI-mare permit with "Application for Mare Permit." Rule will read "Stallion owners must obtain an ~~AI/ET-Stallion permit~~ Application for Semen Transport from MFTHBA, and Mare owners must obtain an ~~AI-mare permit~~ Application for Mare Permit from MFTHBA before any offspring resulting from the artificial insemination breeding can be registered in the MFTHBA Stud Book."

Reason for Change: This change will make the form titles consistent with those available from the MFTHBA. Making these titles consistent will reduce confusion regarding which forms are required.

Current Rule: Page 39 Section 4. Artificial Insemination & Embryo Transfer B. Embryo Transfer: 1. Stallion owners must obtain an AI/ET-Stallion permit from MFTHBA, and Mare owners must obtain an Embryo Transfer Mare permit from MFTHBA before transfer. The permit will be issued to the current owner. This permit need not be renewed unless there is a change of ownership of the stallion or the mare. Permits are not transferable; if ownership changes, application must be made for a permit in the name of the new owner.

Change: Deleted Stallion owners must obtain an AI/ET-Stallion permit from MFTHBA. Replace “Embryo Transfer Mare permit” with Application for Embryo Transfer. Rule will read “1. ~~Stallion owners must obtain an AI/ET-Stallion permit from MFTHBA, and Mare owners must obtain an Embryo Transfer Mare permit~~ Application for Embryo Transfer from MFTHBA before transfer.”

Reason for Change: Stallion owners do not need to obtain an ET permit. ET can be done utilizing live cover; therefore, the only permit necessary would be an AI permit if AI was being utilized. In this case Section 4 A would apply. This change also updates the form name to be consistent with the form available from the MFTHBA. Making these titles consistent will reduce confusion.

Current Rule: page 39 Section 5. Color Guide Some horses have several color patterns evident either visually or in their genetic makeup. Choose the color category which most accurately describes your horse. Look at the bold area of each color description. Your horse must fit that part of the description to be registered as that color. Should you need to further clarify subcategories of the color (when a computer code is not available) please do so in the markings details section. Because of past inaccuracies in color descriptions, prior registration papers do not necessarily reflect the correct color of parents, and the MFTHBA will try to work with members in establishing correctness from this point forward.

Change: correct “...and the MFTHBA will try to work with members in establishing correctness from this point forward.” To read “...and **the** MFTHBA will try to work with members in establishing correctness from this point forward.”

Reason for Change: Correction of a typo.

Current Rule: page 39 Section 5. Color Guide BA: BAY Gold Bay – Body yellowish tan.

Change: Delete Bay Gold Bay—Body yellowish tan

Reason for Change: This color option is not offered on the MFTHBA certificate of registration. It is an option for entry into the database however without it being on the form, few people will utilize the color choice. In addition, this color could be confused with Buckskin.

Current Rule: Section 5. Color Guide BD: BLACK DILUTE - Smokey Black – a black-appearing horse with a dilute parent (palomino, buckskin, cremello, perlino) that has the capability of producing 1) a palomino or buckskin when bred to chestnut, or 2) a cremello/perlino if bred to a palomino, buckskin or smokey black. Can only be verified by offspring at this time unless one of the parents is a verified cremello, perlino or smokey cream.

Change: Change Smokey to Smoky throughout. Add smoky cream and smoky black to (palomino, buckskin, cremello, perlino). Delete “Can only be verified by offspring at this time unless one of the parents is a verified cremello, perlino or smokey cream.” Replace with “Color can be verified through genetic testing.”

Reason for Change: Color genetic information lists the spelling of smoky without an “e.” This change will make the MFTHBA consistent with that of color genetic resources. The listing currently available does not list all the possible dilute parent that could produce a smoky black offspring. Adding smoky cream and smoky black makes the listing more thorough. Genetic tests are now available to verify the presence of a dilute (i.e. cream) gene.

Current Rule: page 40 Section 5. Color Guide CM: CREAM - Cream body. Must have pink skin and blue eyes.

Change: Delete CM: CREAM - Cream body. Must have pink skin and blue eyes.

Reason for Change: This color option is not offered on the MFTHBA certificate of registration. It could be confused with cremello, or perlino which are options on our certificate of registration.

Current Rule: page 40 Section 5. BR: Black Roan – Bay horse with roaning. (Note: Black and Blue roans are the same thing).

Change: Change name to Blue Roan. Change the description of “bay horse with roaning” to “black horse with roaning” Delete the black roan option on the certificate of registration.

Reason for Change: The generally accepted term is Blue Roan. A blue roan is a black horse with roaning. We allow the option for a bay roan. This would be a bay horse with roaning. Our rule book specifically states that a black roan and blue roan are the same thing; however, they are listed separately on the Certificate of Registration form. This will cause confusion and result in horses being registered as different colors.

Current Rule: page 40 Section 5. HO: Honey Roan – Yellow horse with roaning.

Change: Change yellow to palomino. Change Honey Roan to Palomino Roan

Reason for Change: The correct description of “yellow” would be palomino. If the horse is a light sorrel, it would be registered as a sorrel/chestnut roan. This change will further clarify the description for those wanting to register a honey roan horse.

Current Rule: page 40 Section 5. WH: WHITE – Dominant color gene which produces a white bodied horse with pink skin and dark eyes. Dominant white horses have a white parent and produce white offspring 50% of the time when bred to dark colors and 100% of the time when bred to another dominant white.

Change: page 40 Add: “This color should not be confused with gray. The color is rare within the breed”

Reason for Change: Provided clarification on the different between a gray and white.

Current Rule: page 42 Section 6. Transfer of Ownership D. Seller’s Responsibility: The seller does not pay the transfer fee. The seller shall not be responsible for any membership fees due from buyer. The seller (owner at the time of sale) shall have the responsibility for completion of the written transfer in entirety and furnishing the actual certificate of registration to the buyer. The seller shall endorse, date and complete the new owner’s name and address on the certificate before giving it to the buyer.

Change: Add 1. (Optional) Seller may complete MFTHBA Transfer Report form available from the MFTHBA office and on the MFTHBA web site in order to facilitate transfer filing. The form must be completed in its entirety and submitted by the seller to the MFTHBA office. MFTHBA office will mark the horse’s ownership as pending until additional required paperwork and fees are received from the buyer.

Reason for Change: Many sellers have concerns regarding horses that are sold but are not transferred. The seller remains the owner of record. Years later a transfer may be requested but the original owner may be deceased or unavailable. This additional process would assist the MFTHBA in meeting its mission of maintaining accurate records by allowing horses sold to be accurately noted as transfer pending, would allow the MFTHBA to have records on file regarding who the horse was sold to and would allow the MFTHBA to contact the new owner about transferring the horse

Current Rule: page 47 Section 1. Membership Categories and Eligibility A. Memberships shall be of four categories: Lifetime, Individual, Youth and Corporate. Application for membership shall be made under procedures prescribed by the MFTHBA Board of Directors, and all applicants for membership shall file written application in such form as the Board of Directors shall determine. Ownership of a horse is not a requirement for membership. Lifetime, Individual and Youth Memberships are issued on an individual basis and are not transferable.

Change: Replace “Memberships shall be of four categories” with “Memberships shall be of ~~four~~ five categories”

Reason for Change: The MFTHBA offers five membership options: Lifetime, Individual, Junior, Youth and Corporate. The change corrects the paragraph to reflect the five options.

Current Rule: page 50 Section 4. Affiliated Organizations A. Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Youth Association (MFTHBYA). 4. Activities: c) Royalty Program: Compete for Youth Royalty Titles.

Change: Replace “Royalty Program: Compete for Youth Royalty Titles.” with “All Star Program.” Change to read c) ~~Royalty Program~~ All Star Program: Compete for ~~Youth Royalty~~ All Star Titles

Reason for Change: The MFTHBYA replaced the Royalty Program with the All Star Program

Current Rule: page 51 Section 4. Affiliated Organizations B. MFTHBA Affiliates: 9. Affiliate officers are encouraged to present a report to the MFTHBA Board of Directors at the annual Affiliate Meeting held each September during the Show & Celebration at Ava, MO

Change: Reword 9 to read “Affiliate officers are encouraged to present a yearly report to the MFTHBA Board of Directors at the annual Affiliate Meeting held each September during the Show & Celebration at Ava, MO”

Reason for Change: The last few years, the affiliate committee has not hosted an affiliate meeting during the celebration. While a meeting could still be held, removing the sentence allows the committee more flexibility on where and when it is hosted.

Current Rule: page 51 Section 4. Affiliated Organizations B. MFTHBA Affiliates: As an added benefit, complimentary space is available in the Journal, with group or individual pictures of events encouraged. Announcements of Affiliate-sponsored trail rides, clinics, shows, youth activities and other events are sought for this publication. Printing of Affiliate-sponsored horse show event placings will be limited to 1st through 3rd due to space requirements.

Change: Replace with “As an added benefit, when available, complimentary space is available in the Journal ~~with group or individual pictures of events encouraged~~ to promote affiliate activities. In addition announcements on Affiliate-sponsored trail rides, clinics, shows, youth activities and other events are sought for this publication on the MFTHBA website. ~~Printing of Affiliate sponsored horse show event placings will be limited to 1st through 3rd due to space requirements~~ may also be posted on the MFTHBA website.”

Reason for Change: Correction clarifies the availability of space and promotional opportunities available for affiliates through the MFTHBA.

Current Rule: page 51 400 - Meetings & Board of Directors Procedures Section 1. Meetings: A. Meetings of Members include both Annual and Special meetings. 1. The Annual meeting is scheduled for the fourth Saturday in October, or other date as set by the Board, and is for the purpose of announcing election results, plus transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.

Change: Replace with “The Annual meeting is scheduled for the fourth Saturday in October, or other date as set by the Board, and is in October on a date set by the Board for the purpose of announcing election results, plus transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.”

Reason for Change: The change clarifies when the annual meeting will be held.

Current Rule: page 52 Section 2. Board of Directors Procedures: A. Proposed Rule Adoptions, Changes and Revocations 3. Upon approval of the motion, the proposed change or changes will be published in the next two issues of the Journal, as well as being published on the MFTHBA website, a minimum of 60 days prior to the Board meeting at which the proposed change will be placed on the meeting agenda. This will allow for membership input to the Board for their consideration.

Change: Replace with “Upon approval of the motion, the proposed change or changes will be published in the next two issues of the Journal, as well as being published on the MFTHBA website a minimum of 60 days prior to the Board meeting at which the proposed change will be placed on the meeting agenda. This will allow for membership input to the Board for their consideration.”

Reason for Change: With the changes to the Journal publication schedule, the schedule for distribution is not set. At a minimum two editions would be 120 days, but could be more. This results in recommendations for potential changes to the rule book needing to be made very early in the year. By rewording the rule, it allows for time to notify members but also allows members more time to recommend potential changes. Currently less than 3 percent of the MFTHBA membership selects to receive the Journal in print. The rest receive information from the MFTHBA through electronic sources.

Current Rule: Page 55 B 3. Applicant shall have their name presented to the Board of Directors, for the Board’s final consideration of renewal of an MFTHBA judge’s card to be effective for a three- year period upon completing a Judges Seminar, or a one-year extension via Internet renewal, as appropriate. Additional endorsement for versatility and/or ranch horse will be added if so qualified

Change: Delete requirement to attend a judges seminar and the option for an internet renewal. Change to read: “Applicant shall have their name presented to the Board of Directors, for the Board’s final consideration of renewal of an MFTHBA judge’s card to be effective for a three- year period. Additional endorsement for versatility and/or ranch horse will be added if so qualified”

Reason for Change: In 2014, the MFTHBA Board voted on the following rule change “Effective January 1, 2014 Page 54, Section B2. Every 3 years the individual must reapply for approval, attending and completing an official MFTHBA judges seminar consisting of educational segments on performance, model and versatility, as well as ethics, protocol and general information to judging and updated rules. CHANGE TO: Every 3 years, applicant must apply for renewal of judges card and pay designated fee. (omit#3, 4 & 5) Motion to approve by Larry Kilroy, seconded by Eddie Moore, motion carried.” This rule change removed the requirements for judge renewal applicants to attend a training. In addition, it made only three year cards available. During this change, the above sentence was not removed from the rule book when the change was voted on. This change makes the rule book consistent with the intent of the Board at that time.

Current Rule: Page 55, 500 – General Rules for Judges and Ring Personnel, Section 1. Judges Requirements, B. For renewal of an existing judge’s license, the following will apply:

1. Individual must maintain current membership in MFTHBA and be a member in good standing. Any individual who has not renewed their MFTHBA membership will have their name removed from the list of licensed MFTHBA judges;
2. Every three years, applicant must apply for renewal of Judges card and pay designated fee.
3. Applicant shall have their name presented to the Board of Directors, for the Board’s final consideration of renewal of an MFTHBA judge’s card to be effective for a three- year period.

Proposed Change: New number 3. Upon receipt of a renewal application, the judge will be required to complete an exam. The renewal exam will be designed to objectively measure an applicant’s knowledge of the MFTHBA’s rules and standards. A judge must receive an 85% or higher on the open book exam to be eligible to renew their card. A judge failing to receive an 85% will be required to attend a judges seminar and retake the exam prior to renewal.

Renumber current 3 to 4.

Reason for Change: Currently the MFTHBA does not require any additional training or testing to renew a judges card. A MFTHBA carded judge is responsible for implementing the policies and procedures outlined in the MFTHBA rule book. In a three year period, the MFTHBA rule book can be modified or updated. Requiring judges to take an exam will assist them in staying current on the MFTHBA rule book and serves as a refresher course on the MFTHBA policies and procedures. Exams could be completed through online training or through a written form. Neither testing method would require a judge to travel to complete the requirement.

Current Rule: page 55 500 – General Rules for Judges and Ring Personnel Section 1. Judges Requirements B. For renewal of an existing judge’s license, the following will apply: 4. AAA judges may renew their cards by reading and signing off as having read the rule book/updates and pay a \$25 renewal fee. No seminar or written test will be required; however, AAA judge must be rated every 3 years. Applicant names will be submitted to the Board of Directors for final consideration for renewal.

Change: Delete rule

Reason for Change: The MFTHBA no longer utilizes the AAA judging system.

Current Rule: page 56 500 – General Rules for Judges and Ring Personnel Section 2. Judging Responsibilities B. Judges skill, personal ethics and conduct is of primary importance in maintaining the reputation of MFTHBA shows, and in support of this concept, the following must be observed: 3. During the period of a show at which the judge is officiating, the judge shall not be the house guest of a person who is exhibiting, or whose family is exhibiting at such show.

Change: Change 3. To read “During the period of a show at which the judge is officiating, the judge shall not be the house guest of a person who is exhibiting, or whose **immediate** family is exhibiting at such show.”

Reason for Change: The addition of the word “immediate” further defines who is classified as family.

Current Rule: page 56 500 – General Rules for Judges and Ring Personnel Section 2. Judging Responsibilities B. Judges skill, personal ethics and conduct is of primary importance in maintaining the reputation of MFTHBA shows, and in support of this concept, the following must be observed: 8. A Judge may not have had a horse in training with an exhibiting trainer within 60 days prior to a National Show in which he/she judges.

Change: Remove the reference to the National show. Change to read “A Judge may not have had a horse in training with an exhibiting trainer within 60 days prior to a show in which he/she judges.”

Reason for Change: Many affiliates and other organization reference our rule book for their requirements. This requirement should apply to any show the MFTHBA carded judge would be employed to judge; therefore, the rule should be written more broadly.

Current Rule: None

Change: Add page 58 500 – General Rules for Judges and Ring Personnel Section 2. Violations

- A. Minor Violations: Minor violations can occur at any show that references the MFTHBA rule book for its judge guidelines. A minor violation are procedural violations that include a judges failure to comply with the guidelines of the Judges Responsibilities or Show Rules, Policies and Procedures. Minor Violations will be based on offenses occurring within any three year period.
 1. Notification: The MFTHBA may be notified of a minor violation by show management, the Board of Directors of the hosting organization, a MFTHBA carded judge, MFTHBA Judges Training Committee member or a member of the MFTHBA Board of Directors.
 - a. Notification must be received within 10 days of the end of the show where the violation occurred.
 - b. Notification should provide specifics regarding the rule or procedure that was implemented incorrectly.
 2. Upon notification of the violation, the information will be sent to the MFTHBA Judges Training Committee for review. The MFTHBA Board of Directors will also receive notification. If the committee feels the complaint is a minor violation, the committee will immediately send a notice to the MFTHBA Board of Directors informing them of the proposed action. Upon approval from the MFTHBA Board of Directors, the MFTHBA carded judge will be mailed a certified letter outlining the minor violation.
 - a. The certified letter must be mailed within 15 days of the receipt of the initial notification of the violation.
 3. Actions:
 - a. First Offense: Notice of violation
 - b. Second Offense: Notice of violation
 - c. Third Offense: Notice of violation
 - d. Fourth Offense: Notice of violation plus the judge will be required to retake judges test and receive a 85% score prior to judging another show.
 - e. Fifth Offense: Notice of violation plus card is suspended until the judge retakes the judges training seminar and passing the judges test with an 85% score.
 - f. Additional Offense: Notice of violation plus card is suspended until the judge completes the entire certification process outlined in Part 500 Section 1.

- g. In the event that a judge receives three violations for the exact same offense, on the third offense the action taken will be those identified under the fourth offense category.
- B. Moderate and Major Violations: Moderate and Major violations are based upon the entire judges career. Moderate and Major violations may occur inside or outside the arena. Definitions of Moderate and Major violations are found under Section 100 Rules, Regulations and Standards, Section 3.
 - 1. The process to file a moderate or major violation will follow the procedures outlined in Part 100, General Violations, Section 2. These violations will be handled per the process outlined here and will be held to the Penalties and Fines outlines under Part 100, General Violations, Section 3.
 - 1. Suspensions: In addition to penalties or fines described above, a judge will also face suspension of their judge's license.
 - a. Moderate Violation
 - 1. First Offense: up to 3 month suspension of MFTHBA Judges Card
 - 2. Second Offenses: minimum 3 month suspension up to 6 month suspension of MFTHBA Judges Card
 - 3. Third Offense: minimum 6 month suspension up to 1 year suspension of MFTHBA Judges Card
 - 4. Each addition Offense: minimum 1 year suspension up to 2 year suspension of MFTHBA Judges Card
 - b. Major Violation
 - 1. First Violation: 1 year suspension of MFTHBA Judges Card
 - 2. Second Violation: minimum of 1 year suspension up to permanent removal of MFTHBA Judges Card
 - 3. Third Offense: minimum of 1 year suspension up to permanent removal of MFTHBA Judges Card
 - 4. Fourth Offense: permanent removal of MFTHBA Judges Card
 - 2. Immediate Suspension. The MFTHBA may suspend immediately any Judge for any offense that it deems detrimental, improper, unethical, dishonest, or prejudicial to the best interest of the MFTHBA.
 - a. Any judge with a complaint filed against them under Part 100, General Violations, Section 2 that meets the major violation definition will have their card temporary suspended until the issue is resolved or penalty is assessed.
 - b. Other issues resulting in the need to implement an immediate suspension will require 2/3 vote of the MFTHBA Board of Directors.
 - 3. In the event a MFTHBA judges has their card suspended their name and date suspension ends will be published on the MFTHBA website and provided to any organization requested a MFTHBA carded judge list.

Reason for Change: The MFTHBA does not have a formal written policy on providing feedback to carded judges. However, letters are sent to notify judges when they haven't implemented the policies

and procedures outlined in the MFTHBA Rule Book as intended. Because the Judges Training Committee changes year to year, without a written procedure the process may not be implemented consistently from year to year. This addition formalizes the process and will ensure consistency in implementation. Minor violations letters are intended to be educational for our judges. The moderate and major violations were included to address issues that may arise under the formal complaint process currently included in our rule book. The current procedure does not outline the impact to a judge's card in the event one of these violations occurs. This addition is meant to ensure that all judges are treated equally.

Current Rule: page 73, C. Exhibitor Status: ... Shows at other locations may require the possession of an amateur Card or Professional Card at the individual show management's option.

Change: Add an "A" to the word amateur. "Shows at other locations may require the possession of an Amateur Card or Professional Card at the individual show management's option"

Reason for Change: Corrects Spelling error

Current Rule: page 73, C. Exhibitor Status: 1. Amateur Status: A person is an amateur who, upon attaining age 18 as of January 1 of the then current year, does not engage in any activities which would cause him/her to be classified as a professional. See No. 4, Professional Status as shown below. An amateur may exhibit in any class that is not restricted to them as to age, gender, or other requirements in these rules or on the show bill. The following will not affect amateur status:

Change: Change note to indicate No. 2 is Professional Status. It should read "See No. 2, Professional Status..."

Reason for Change: No. 4 refers to Novice Status, not Professional Status. Professional Status is defined in number 2.

Current Rule: page 74, 4. Novice Status: A person desiring to compete on the novice level can be either an adult or youth, and hold or be eligible for MFTHBA membership. Those who qualify for Professional status may not show in novice classes. Specific requirement for novice classes is set forth in the rules covering Division Designations –Open, Amateur, Youth, Novice & Other. Basic requirements include the following:

- a) Adult or Youth Novice, Performance and/or Model – Eligibility: exhibitors cannot have won more than three (3) first places in novice or non-novice Foxtrotter classes in any division during any calendar year, or a high point award in the same division;
- b) Adult or Youth Novice, Versatility – Eligibility: exhibitors cannot have won more than three (3) first places in novice or non-novice for a specific type of class (i.e., Western Pleasure, Reining, etc.) in MFTHBA shows during any calendar year, or a high point award in the same division.
- c) In order to show at either of the two national shows at Ava, MO in Novice classes:
 - 1) All novice exhibitors must be MFTHBA members.
 - 2) No exhibitor having previously won the Novice class at either of the two national shows may continue to show in Novice classes.
 - 3) Novice exhibitors must hold an Amateur Card if they desire to show in Amateur classes at the two national shows.

Change: Delete 4. Novice Status under Exhibitor Status section

Reason for Change: This information is covered under Division Designation. Having novice information under Division Designation is appropriate since the MFTHBA does not issue Novice cards. A novice rider would be required to get an Amateur card. In addition, the information is repetitive.

Current Rule: page 75, B. Show Ring Procedures and Policies – Exhibitors 1. Regarding entries, each horse is shown only in the horse’s respective class, and this class is determined by age, sex, and/or class type. For the purpose of eligibility for competition, the age of a horse shall be computed by the calendar year, starting January 1 of the year foaled. The exception to this is that beginning in 2000 any foal born from October 1 through December 31 shall be considered for show purposes only, to fall in the following year.

Change: Change “The exception to this is that beginning in 2000 any foal born from October 1 through December 31 shall be considered for show purposes only, to fall in the following year.” To read “The exception to this is that any foal born from September 1 through December 31 shall be considered for show purposes only, to fall in the following year.

Reason for Change: The date was changed to September 1. This is reflected earlier in the rule book. In addition, there is no need to reference the original date the exception was made since the rule is retroactive and applies to all horses.

Current Rule: page 78: E. Exhibitor Conduct – Practices Discouraged or Disallowed: 4. The use of electronic assistance in the show ring/arena is prohibited at the MFTHBA’s two national shows, the Three-Year Old Futurity/Spring Show and the Show & Celebration, held in Ava, MO, with the following exceptions: Use of electronic assistance devices is approved in the Performance arena only for Youth preliminary classes, Novice classes, and Special Needs exhibitors.

Change: Use of electronic assistance devices is approved in the Performance arena only for Youth preliminary classes, Novice classes, and Special Needs exhibitors.

Reason for Change: The original writing of the rule only allows youth to utilize electronic devices in preliminary classes. This contradicts another rule which only allows it in all youth classes. This change makes the rules consistent.

Current Rule: page 79 E. Exhibitor Conduct – Practices Discouraged or Disallowed:

6. The use of shoes other than standard (such as cowboy or keg) shoes is to be discouraged and the horse in violation of the following will be disqualified. Shoes generally weigh 10 oz. A No. 1 toe weight is 16 oz., a No. 2 toe weight is 18 oz., and a No. 3 toe weight is 21 oz. The set allowable weight for each shoe shall not exceed twenty-one ounces (21 oz.), with no additional weight or weights allowed. Inspection of shoes for weight compliance at the Show & Celebration in Ava, MO will be performed on the World Grand Champion Performance class winners (1st and 2nd places) as follows:

a) In addition to the World Grand Championship Five-Year & Older 3-Gait Open and Amateur classes, show management has the option to select additional classes for verification of shoe weights on World Grand Champion and Reserve World Grand Champion winners.

6)Horses may be shown in both Amateur and Open Divisions at MFTHBA approved shows, at the discretion of show management. At the Three-Year Old Futurity/Spring Show and the Show & Celebration, however, competition is restricted to one division only, either Amateur Division or Open Division, and no horse may be shown in both divisions. Exception: Open Amateur classes are nondesignated, therefore a horse may be shown in Open Amateur and either Open or Amateur classes. (See page #78 2.c)

Change: Change item 6.a.6 to item 7

Reason for Change: This clarifies that this rule does not pertain to pulling shoes.

Current Rule: page 79 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: While exhibitors are classified as Professional, Amateur or Youth, plus Senior and Novice, as defined in Exhibitor Procedures & Policies, B, the divisions in which they can participate have additional descriptions as shown. Effective in 2009, the Amateur Division shall have the option for three categories of exhibition in which the Amateur is required to own the horse: Amateur Owned, Amateur-Limited Exhibitor, and Amateur Owned & Trained. In addition, amateurs may show in the Open Amateur Division without restriction as to ownership of the horse, except that the owner must be an MFTHBA member. At show management’s discretion, individual class designations may include additional requirements. Unless restricted by age and gender of the exhibitor or the horse, members can participate as follows:

Change: delete reference to Novice and Senior. While exhibitors are classified as Professional, Amateur or Youth, ~~plus Senior and Novice~~, as defined in Exhibitor Procedures & Policies, B, the divisions

Reason for Change: Senior is not defined in Exhibitor Procedures and Policies. The earlier recommendation was to remove Novice from here as well. This would clarify that there are three designations for riders: Professional (open), Amateur and Youth. These designations match the required cards riders must have.

Current Rule: page 79 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: While exhibitors are classified as Professional, Amateur or Youth, plus Senior and Novice, as defined in Exhibitor Procedures & Policies, B, the divisions in which they can participate have additional descriptions as shown. Effective in 2009, the Amateur Division shall have the option for three categories of exhibition in which the Amateur is required to own the horse: Amateur Owned, Amateur-Limited Exhibitor, and Amateur Owned & Trained. In addition, amateurs may show in the Open Amateur Division without restriction as to ownership of the horse, except that the owner must be an MFTHBA member. At show management’s discretion, individual class designations may include additional requirements. Unless restricted by age and gender of the exhibitor or the horse, members can participate as follows:

Change: Change “~~Effective in 2009, The Amateur Division shall have the option for three categories of exhibition in which the Amateur is required to own the horse: Amateur Owned, Open Amateur, Amateur Limited Exhibitor and Amateur Owned & Trained.~~” Add “In addition, other sub-category class descriptions for the Amateur Division include Limited Exhibitor, Amateur No Professional Training 90 days Prior and Novice. Specific requirements for these classes are provided in this section.”

Reason for Change: Modifying this sentence makes it consistent with class descriptions that follow.

Current Rule: page 79 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 1. Open Division Classes: a) Horse Ownership: There is no restriction as to ownership of the horse except that it must be owned by a person or co-owned by persons or entity holding current MFTHBA membership(s). At either of the two national shows, the Three-Year Old Futurity/Spring Show or the Show & Celebration at Ava, MO.

Change: Delete “~~At either of the two national shows, the Three-Year Old Futurity/Spring Show or the Show & Celebration at Ava, MO.~~”

Reason for Change: This sentence is not complete. In addition, since affiliated shows utilize our rule book as well, this description would not just apply to these two shows.

Current Rule: page 80 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 1. Open Division Classes. 3. Amateur Owned Division Classes: a) Horse Ownership: At either of the two national shows, the Three-Year Old Futurity/Spring Show or the Show & Celebration at Ava, MO, horse must be owned by the Amateur member who is exhibiting the horse or owned by immediate family members as defined in the following statement, or by certain legal entities as described below. Immediate family members are spouse, child, stepchild, parent, grandparent, grandchild, step-grandchild, step-parent, sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, and in-law. Separate legal entities, such as family corporations, trusts or partnerships, are also qualified as authorized owners of the amateur exhibitor’s horse so long as all legal and equitable owners and beneficiaries of the legal entity are individuals specifically meeting stated amateur and family designations contained in these rules. In the case of co-owned horses, all owners must be members of the exhibitor’s immediate family or the acceptable entities mentioned above.

Change: Change “~~At either of the two national shows, the Three-Year Old Futurity/Spring Show or the Show & Celebration at Ava, MO, horse must~~ The exhibited horse must be owned by the Amateur member who is exhibiting the horse or owned by immediate family members as defined in the following statement, or by certain legal entities as described below.

Reason for Change: Since affiliated shows utilize our rule book as well, this description would not just apply to these two shows. In addition, if at some point the MFTHBA hosts an additional show, we would not want the MFTHBA rule book restricted to just the shows mentioned.

Current Rule: page 80 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 1. Open Division Classes. 3. Amateur Owned Division Classes: 2) Horse to be Exhibited: Must meet the age and gender requirements of the class. Division designation, Open or Amateur, at the Spring Show and Celebration in Ava, MO will be observed. Horses are required to be registered with the MFTHBA. No other restrictions will be placed on the horse.

Change: Update formatting. Should be item c) under this section not item two under b)

Reason for Change: This change makes the formatting consistent with other sections.

Current Rule: page 81 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 1. Open Division Classes. 4. Amateur-Limited Exhibitor Division Classes:

Change: Move under a New “G” Amateur Class Designations”

Reason for Change: This will make classes easier to understand and provide increased flexibility for show managers in developing classes to meet their show’s needs.

Current Rule: page 82 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 1. Open Division Classes. 6. Novice Division Classes:

Change: Move under a New “G” Amateur Class Designations”

Reason for Change: This will make classes easier to understand and provide increased flexibility for show managers in developing classes to meet their show’s needs.

Current Rule: page 82 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 1. Open Division Classes. 7. Youth Division Classes:

Change: Renumber to Number 5

Reason for Change: This will make classes easier to understand.

Current Rule: page 82 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other:

Change: Add G Additional Amateur and Youth Descriptions: The following information provides additional descriptions utilized at MFTHBA sponsored shows. Each class will require the appropriate Division descriptions (i.e. Open, Open Amateur, Amateur Owned Amateur Owned and Trained or Youth) to be listed on the showbill.

Reason for Change: This will make classes easier to understand and will increase flexibility for show management to put together classes that meet the needs of their exhibitors.

Current Rule: page 82 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: G Additional Amateur and Youth Descriptions

Change: Under G Add 1. Limited Exhibitor Classes:

a) Horse Ownership: Must meet the ownership requirements designated by the Division listed on the showbill (i.e. Open Amateur Limited Exhibitor will meet the ownership requirements outlined for Open Amateur).

b) Exhibitor: Must meet the exhibitor requirements for the designated Division (i.e. Youth Limited Exhibitor classes will meet the exhibitor requirements under the Youth Division). In addition, exhibitors may not have won a WGC or Reserve WGC at any time in the competition area of the designated class (i.e. Performance, Model, Versatility or Ranch Horse). This excludes WGC or Reserve WGCs won in the Novice/Apprentice and Youth divisions. Exhibitors may not have won a 1st or 2nd place in any MFTHBA class in the competition area of the designated class (i.e. Performance, Model, Versatility or Ranch Horse), excluding Novice/Apprentice and Youth, in the last two calendar years. Youth who have won Non-Youth WGC, Res WGC, or 1st/2nd place, must meet the criteria outlined in order to in this class.

c) Horse to be Exhibited: Must meet the requirements designated by the Division and other requirements listed on the showbill

Reason for Change: This makes the Limited Exhibitor rule match the Restricted policy we have been using the last few years. In addition, the rule increases the flexibility for show managers by allowing the horse ownership requirements to be determined by the division added with the class descriptions. This would allow Open Amateur Limited Exhibitor, Amateur Owned Limited Exhibitor or Youth Limited Exhibitor classes under the same rule. This currently how the “Restricted” class is implemented. In addition, the wording was broadened to allow the rule to be applicable to model, versatility or ranch horse classes.

Current Rule: page 82 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: G Additional Amateur and Youth Descriptions

Change: Under G Add 2. Novice Classes:

a) Novice designation may apply to either the Horse or the Rider but not both in the same class. It should be clearly listed on the show bill whether the class is a Novice Rider or Novice Horse class.

b) Horse Ownership: Must meet the ownership requirements designated by the Division listed on the showbill (i.e. Open Amateur designated classes will meet the ownership requirements outlined for Open Amateur Division).

c) Exhibitor: Must meet the ownership requirements designated by the Division listed on the showbill. In Novice Rider designated classes, exhibitors may not have won a Reserve World Championship, a Reserve World Grand Championship, or 1st place in any MFTHBA class in the competition area (i.e. Performance, Model, Versatility or Ranch Horse), excluding Novice/Apprentice and Youth divisions. In Versatility only, Novice designation will be applied for a specific class (i.e. Western Pleasure, Reining, etc.). Once an individual has won an Amateur Novice or Amateur Apprentice Division Championship they may no longer show in Amateur Novice/Apprentice classes. Youth who have exhibited and won in Non-Youth classes in the competition area of the designated class (i.e.

Performance, Model, Versatility or Ranch Horse) may not show in this division. Person eligible for Novice classes as of January 1 of the current year will remain a Novice for the calendar year.

d) Horse to be Exhibited: Must meet the ownership requirements designated by the Division listed on the showbill. In Novice Horse designated classes, the horse may not have won a Reserve World Championship, a Reserve World Grand Championship, or 1st place in any MFTHBA class in the competition area of the designated class (i.e. Performance, Model, Versatility or Ranch Horse). In Versatility only, Novice designation will be applied for a specific class (i.e. Western Pleasure, Reining, etc.). A horse eligible for Novice classes as of January 1 of the current year will remain a Novice for the calendar year.

Reason for Change: This makes the Novice rule match the Apprentice policy we have been using the last few years. In addition, the rule increases the flexibility for show managers by allowing the horse ownership requirements to be determined by the division added with the class descriptions. This would allow Open Amateur Novice, Amateur Owned Novice or Youth Novice classes under the same rule. In addition, the wording was broadened to allow the rule to be applicable to model, versatility or ranch horse classes. To further the flexibility, the option was added to allow this policy to apply to a horse as well as a rider, but restricts it from applying to both in the same class. Show managers would have the option to allow a novice horse class in any competitive area (performance, model, versatility or ranch horse) if they choose.

Current Rule: page 83 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 1. Open Division Classes. 8. Other Classes:

Change: Move under a New “F” Other Class Designations

Reason for Change: This will make classes easier to understand and provide increased flexibility for show managers in developing classes to meet their show’s needs.

Current Rule: page 83 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 8. Other Classes

Change: Add F. Other Class Descriptions

1. Pony Classes: Designated Pony classes are Missouri Fox Trotting Pony Registry classes. Only MFTPR registered ponies are eligible to participate in designated pony classes. The pony may be tentatively or permanently registered. Tentatively registered ponies may be height inspected prior to entering a class.

Reason for Change: Clarifies the requirements for the Pony Classes. This is the policy currently being used and is published on the MFTHBA website. However, the requirements are not in the Rule Book.

Current Rule: page 83 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 8. Other Classes

Change: Add F. Other Class Descriptions

2. Out of State: Exhibitors may hold either an Amateur or Professional card. The Out of State class is open to any horse whose owner of record resides outside the state of Missouri. In addition, the exhibitor must also reside outside the state of Missouri.

Reason for Change: This addition formalizes the requirements for the Out of State Classes. This is the policy currently being used. The policy is printed on MFTHBA showbills and is published on the MFTHBA website. However, the class description is not in the Rule Book.

Current Rule: page 83 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 8. Other Classes

Change: Add F. Other Class Descriptions

3. Specialty: The term “specialty” is used to designate the class as a two gait (flat walk and fox trot) class versus the traditional aged horse which require a flat walk, fox trot and canter. In the Open division, specialty would be used to designated a two gait class for horses 4 years and older. In Amateur Divisions it would be used to designate a two gait class for horses 5 years and older.

Reason for Change: Clarifies the requirements for Specialty Classes. The policy is printed on MFTHBA showbills and is published on the MFTHBA website. However, the class description is not in the Rule Book.

Current Rule: page 83 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 8. Other Classes

Change: Add F. Other Class Descriptions

4. Senior Citizens: Age requirement for the class will be set by show management and will be clearly defined on the show bill.

Reason for Change: Clarifies the requirements for Senior Citizens Classes. The rule allows show managers to select the age which best meets the needs of their show.

Current Rule: page 86 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other Show Pleasure Trail Class-2 Gait, English Pleasure 2 Gait, Western Pleasure 2 Gait, Country Pleasure 2 Gait: and Tack & Attire at a Glance:

Change: Move to F. Other Class Descriptions

5. Show Pleasure Trail Class-2 Gait: This class is judged on the performance of the horse over and thru obstacles, with emphasis on manners, response to the rider and attitude. At least six obstacles will be used. There are 3 mandatory obstacles: 1) Opening, passing through and closing gate. 2) Riding over at least four logs or poles. These can be in a straight line, curved, zigzagged or raised. 3) Backing obstacle. Optional obstacles include: serpentine, wooden bridge, mailbox, side pass, carry an object, tarp on ground, etc. Faults that will result in a no score on a particular obstacle, but does not mean disqualification include: doing an obstacle differently than described on the pattern, missing, not attempting or not completing an obstacle, or wrong gait. Disqualification from the class will occur for illegal equipment, more than one finger between split reins, except when changing hands to work an obstacle (note special rules for horses 5 and under), or obviously cueing the horse on the neck to lower the head. Please refer to the MFTHBA rules for details regarding how the Trail Class is scored.

a. Trail/ Western Pleasure/Country Pleasure (if riding Western): Western show apparel, split or romal reins required, cowboy hat or helmet required, no cavessons, ribbons or gag bits

6. English Pleasure 2 Gait: English Pleasure horses should exhibit relaxed, free flowing movement, while exhibiting correct gaits that are of proper cadence. Horses should be obedient, have a bright expression with alert ears, and should respond willing to the rider with light leg and hand contact. The class will be judged on performance, condition and conformation. Maximum credit shall be given to the flowing, balanced, willing horse. Horses will work both directions of the ring at the flat foot walk and Fox Trot. Horses should back easily and stand quietly. English Pleasure can be divided into two sections: Hunt Seat/Dressage Seat and Flat Seat. At some shows, these disciplines will be combined into one class.

a. English Pleasure & Country Pleasure (if riding English)

i. Hunt Seat/Dressage - English style snaffle bit, Kimberwick bits, or Pelham bit(with two reins); hunting, forward seat or dressage saddles; breeches, tall boots and hunt or dressage coats; tie or chocker required; hunt cap, hard hat or dressage top hat or derby required

ii. Flat Seat- Weymouth or Pelham bits may be used in full bridle (double-reined bridle), only refined English shank bits are allowed no aluminum or western grazing bits; cutback, dressage or park type English saddles; saddle suits or saddle suit jacket with Kentucky jodhpurs; ties required; derby or soft hat required

7. Western Pleasure 2 Gait: The western pleasure horse works quietly exhibiting an exceptionally smooth ride without excessive action or animation yet maintaining a natural rhythm. Maximum credit is given to the flowing, balanced, rhythmic and willing horse, which gives the appearance of being fit and a pleasure to ride. Horses must work both ways of the ring at the trail walk, flat walk and Fox Trot. The judge may ask for a halt on the rail to test for quietness, ask for a back on the rail, ask the horse to back clear of the line-up and/or do a 360 degree neck reined turn to the right or left. The judge may also request the reverse to be performed at the walk or the Fox Trot. The following standards of judging will apply: 40% for Fox Trot, 20% for flat walk, 20% for trail walk, 10% for conformation, and 10% for Equitation. Reins must be held in one hand and cannot be changed during performance. Faults which may cause disqualification include: Changing hands or two hands on reins, more than one finger between reins or improper use of romal (see MFTHBA rules).

a. Trail/ Western Pleasure/Country Pleasure (if riding Western): Western show apparel, split or romal reins required, cowboy hat or helmet required, no cavessons, ribbons or gag bits

8. Country Pleasure 2 Gait: Exhibitors may compete in English or Western tack and attire, but tack/attire should not be mixed (English saddle does not go with Western bridle and attire). This class is a two gait rail class that is judged on the quality and consistency of the flat walk and fox trot, as well manners of the horse under saddle. The horse should have a quiet nature and be responsive to the rider's commands. Horses should exhibit a relaxed, willing, free flowing, rhythmic, movement, which shows a fit horse and gives the rider the most pleasurable of rides.

a. Trail/ Western Pleasure/Country Pleasure (if riding Western): Western show apparel, split or romal reins required, cowboy hat or helmet required, no cavessons, ribbons or gag bits

b. English Pleasure & Country Pleasure (if riding English)

i. Hunt Seat/Dressage - English style snaffle bit, Kimberwick bits, or Pelham bit(with two reins); hunting, forward seat or dressage saddles; breeches, tall boots and hunt or dressage coats; tie or chocker required; hunt cap, hard hat or dressage top hat or derby required

ii. Flat Seat- Weymouth or Pelham bits may be used in full bridle (double-reined bridle), only refined English shank bits are allowed no aluminum or western grazing bits; cutback, dressage or park type English saddles; saddle suits or saddle suit jacket with Kentucky jodhpurs; ties required; derby or soft hat required

Reason for Change: These classes are currently listed at the end of the section with no formatting. Moving these classes under the Other Class Description section will make them easier to locate and more visible to show managers. No policies were altered from the descriptions currently in the rule book.

Current Rule: page 83 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 8. Other Classes

Change: Add F. Other Class Descriptions

9. Versatility and Ranch Horse Class descriptions can be found in 700 - SHOW RULES, POLICIES & PROCEDURES Versatility Competition

Reason for Change: This addition reminds exhibitors and show managers that additional class descriptions are outlined in the rule book.

Current Rule: page 83 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other: 8. Other Classes

Change: Renumber bullets a)-c) to:

10. Show management shall have the option of establishing classes for special purposes.
 - a. These classes are not limited in scope by the foregoing class designations or exhibitor status.
 - b. Class description will define the class and must be clearly listed on the showbill (i.e., Costume, Mars-Venus, etc.).

Reason for Change: These bullets are currently under this section in the rulebook. Change simply corrects the formatting to match the updates listed above.

Current Rule: page 83 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other G. General Judging Standards:

Change: Renumber to H. General Judging Standards:

Reason for Change: Change simply corrects the formatting to match the updates listed above.

Current Rule: page 83 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other H. Ladies Sidesaddle Class:

Change: Renumber to I. Ladies Sidesaddle Class:

Reason for Change: Change simply corrects the formatting to match the updates listed above.

Current Rule: page 83 F. Division Designations – Open, Amateur, Novice, Youth & Other I. Three Year Old Futurity Class Regulations

Change: Renumber to J. Three Year Old Futurity Class Regulations:

Reason for Change: Change simply corrects the formatting to match the updates listed above.

Current Rule: page 89 I. Three Year Old Futurity Class Regulations: 2. Entry Form: A completed entry form, available from the MFTHBA Office, at the MFTHBA website, and in The Journal, must show all requested information, including markings and color, in detail.

Change: Update to Read: Entry Form: A completed entry form, available from the MFTHBA Office and at on the MFTHBA website, and in The Journal, must show all requested information, including markings and color, in detail.

Reason for Change: Space does not always allow for inclusion of a full page form in the Journal.

Current Rule: page 89 I. Three Year Old Futurity Class Regulations: 2. Entry Form: A completed entry form, available from the MFTHBA Office, at the MFTHBA website, and in The Journal, must show all requested information, including markings and color, in detail.

Change: Update to read "2. Entry Form: A completed entry form, available from the MFTHBA Office, at the MFTHBA website, and in The Journal, must show all requested information, including markings and color, in detail."

Reason for Change: Several years ago, the MFTHBA stopped conducting special inspections of futurity horses. This inspection compared the horse's markings with the registration papers. Since this inspection no longer occurs, it is not necessary for horse's markings to be included on their Three Year Old Futurity entry form. Removing this requirement would allow the MFTHBA to allow individuals to enter their futurity horses online.

Current Rule: page 89 I. Three Year Old Futurity Class Regulations: 3. Training Rules: a) For those wanting horses to be shown in Amateur Owned & Trained class the exhibitor must first hold a current Amateur Card and be owner of the horse. The exhibitor must be the owner of record on the horse's registration papers with completed transfer of ownership recorded by the MFTHBA prior to the horse reaching 18 months of age. Further, the exhibitor and horse must be in compliance with the section titled Horse Show & Show Ring Procedures & Policies, F. 5. d) of these rules which provides:

Change: Update Reference based on proposed changes Horse Show & Show Ring Procedures & Policies, F. 4.

Reason for Change: This will provide an accurate reference to the information on Amateur Owned and Trained requirements.

Current Rule: page 92 700 - SHOW RULES, POLICIES & PROCEDURES Section 1. Versatility Champions: B. World Champion and World Grand Champion titles: 2. The World Grand Champion Versatility title will be awarded to the winner of each division (Open, Amateur and Youth) at the Annual Show and Celebration. A Reserve World Grand Champion Versatility title may also be awarded in each division. To be eligible for the World Grand Champion title a horse must place in the top ten of at least one class in Category 1 (three-gait classes – Western Pleasure and English Pleasure) and must compete in at least four of the five Versatility categories. Points will accrue and be tabulated from each class in the five Versatility categories listed below.

Change: Update to read: "and must compete in ~~at least four of the five~~ all Versatility categories."

Reason for Change: There are only three versatility categories and horses must participate in all three to be eligible. This change also allows flexibility. If the number of categories is reduced or increased, the rule would still apply.