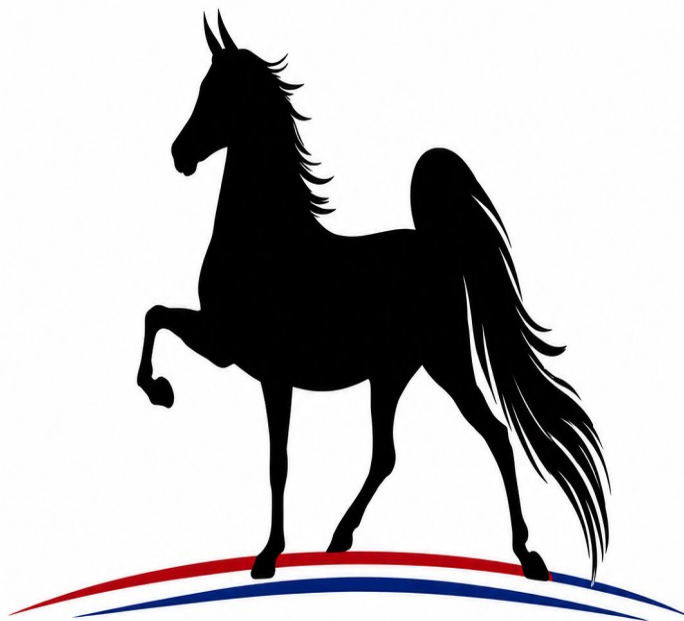


**NATIONAL
GAITED HORSE
— ASSOCIATION —**



SIMPLY STATED - I RIDE GAITED

Table of Contents

Mission Statement	1
Organizational Structure	1

Section I

Definition – Workouts.....	2
Definition of Classes.....	2

Section II

Breed/Divisions.....	3,4,5
Pleasure Horse.....	3,4
Speed Horses.....	5

Section III

Junior Horse Classes.....	5
---------------------------	---

Section IV

General Rules for Showing.....	5,6,7
--------------------------------	-------

Section V

Exhibitor Rules.....	7,8
----------------------	-----

Section VI

Other Rules.....	8,9
------------------	-----

Section VII

Sanctioning Rules.....	9
------------------------	---

Section VIII

Ringmaster.....	10
-----------------	----

Section XI

Judging.....	11,12,13
Judging Requirements.....	13
Three Panel / Judge System.....	14
Judges Fines	15
Judges Panel Committee.....	15

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to promote, protect, and distinguish the National Gaited Horse. Our Association is dedicated to supporting exhibitors and owners of all ages throughout the year with our Shows and Clinics. National Gaited Horse Association is a non-profit organization registered in the state of Tennessee.

The National Gaited Horse serves as the official registry for the Nationalbred Horse. Our National Gaited shows encourage a strong, connection of breeders, exhibitors, and enthusiasts of all ages. The National Gaited Horse Association encourages our youth the opportunity to learn leadership, horsemanship, and most importantly teamwork. This help our youth in becoming the future equine leaders.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

At the November meeting, all officers are elected by popular ballot. Any change brought up is decided by popular vote. All rule changes must be in to the Board of Directors 60 days prior to the General Rule Meetings in March or November. The Association may conduct ANY business twice a year, having the same privileges during each March/November General Membership meetings.

The Board of Directors acts as a Nominating Committee. The floor is always open for nominations from the membership.

The purpose of Associations Headquarters is to provide a place for all chapters to hold their meetings together semi-annually in March and November so that their ideas and opinions concerning promoting and exhibiting horses may be voiced.

Memberships: Individual (18yrs over/1 vote) - Family (2 Adult votes) (exhibitors 17yrs under must have family membership signed by the parent or legal guardian). Membership expires March 31st of the following year, regardless of when joining.

As a member of any National Gaited Horse Association Chapter, a person is automatically a member of the Association.

Any member in good standing is eligible to vote if he/she is present at the March or November meeting. No one allowed to vote by proxy.

For a member to become an officer, he/she must be a member in good standing for a period of three consecutive years prior to running for any office.

Anyone submitting a NSF check to will be ineligible to show until check clears.

Good Standing = ***Probation:** Member can Show during Probation, but cannot vote, hold or run for any office or Judge any National Gaited Sanctioned Show. ****Suspension:** All membership privileges (showing, voting, judging, holding, or running for office) will be revoked for one year from date of suspension.

SECTION I

1. Definition:

- A. The rack is a fast, evenly timed, four beat lateral gait. Three ways in which a horse tends to deviate the desired rhythm are: First, may break into canter or gallop. Second, may tend to trot, and third he may tend to pace. Judges should be alert in watching for these undesirable traits in all classes. Any of these deviations will be classified as a BREAK against the horse.

2. General Workouts:

- A. Is when the horse first enters the ring to perform their required gaits, both ways of the ring. During the final workout, faults by a horse in earlier workouts will be canceled, and the horses in the final workout will be considered a new class.

3. Special Workouts:

- A. Will be any performance of gaits deemed necessary by the Judge after a general workout. Its requirements will be left entirely to the discretion of the judge. A Judge will work the horses both ways of the ring.

4. Definition of Classes:

- A. Gaits to be called for will be a walk, slow rack, and rack on in all classes besides style, speed, 12yrs under classes and pleasure classes.
- B. Style Racking: The gaits to be called for in these classes will be the walk and Style Rack. Since the speed will be left to the exhibitor's discretion, the Judge will use caution and judge on Style only and not the speed of the horse.
- C. Speed Racking: The gaits in this class will be the walk, slow rack, and rack on. Since this class is judged on speed, the Judge will judge during the walk and rack on gaits. (The slow rack is added to give all contestants a brief period to either warm their horses up in a rack or position themselves better for the rack on gait). **never lose form for speed.**
- D. Flat Shod Racking: To be shown with any weight shoe without pads. Bands are allowed. Humane or braced tails are optional. Approved boots may be worn.
- E. In Hand Class: No boots. Humane or braced tails are optional. Halter or Bridle.
- F. Pony Racking: Must measure 58" and under. Measured from the bottom of the natural heel to the withers. Ponies under 5yrs old can get a temporary card, which must be re-newed annually until they are 5yrs old. Amateur riders only.
- G. Championship Class: Horses do not have to show in previous classes to be eligible for championship classes, except in a two or more-day show. In classes that are to be stripped, two grooms may be used.
- H. Qualifying a horse: exhibitor must show horse Both directions of the ring and line up to be judged.

SECTION II **BREED/DIVISIONS**

- 1. Saddlebred (SB):** Extreme fineness and grace, obvious at first glance. Graceful lines obtained through long elegant neck, trim body with good flesh and muscles. Loin and back strong, but somewhat longer than other breeds. Hips should be well muscled with a flat croup and high tail set. Horse should move smartly with a high elastic step, should be well collected and animated, should drive off hocks, and exhibit animated hock action.
- 2. Nationalbred (NB):** Should have an intelligent and neat head, well-shaped pointed ears, clear and alert eyes, and a tapered muzzle. Neck should of moderate length. Shoulders should be short with good coupling at the loins Chest should be of good proportion and width. Body should be deep in the girth and well ribbed. Croup should be moderately sloped. Hips should be well muscled. Should not possess the extreme fineness of the Saddlebred, yet will not have the coarseness of the Walkingbred. Motion will not be as elastic as a Saddlebred, yet more fluid motion than the Walkingbred. Horse should have moderate animated hock action. To be registered at time of foaling, the foal must have a DNA registered Tennessee Walking Horse parent and a DNA registered American Saddlebred parent or both parents must be a DNA registered Nationalbred. Commissioned Nationalbred Horses that meet the current conformation and gait requirements are eligible for being commissioned as a Nationalbred. A current video showing the horse under saddle at a rack for a minimum of 30 seconds going in both directions, without a saddle showing the front, both sides, and back of horses' conformation and color/markings. Any horses in which their DNA proves them to be a purebred breed, will not be eligible for any Nationalbred Registration.
- 3. Walkingbred (WB):** Must have Tennessee Walking Horse registration papers, RHBA registration papers (may be subject to being typed) or a signed RHBA Application (may be subject to being typed) or a Type Card. The Walkingbred should have an intelligent and well-shaped head, slightly pointed ears, alert eyes, and a tapered muzzle. The neck should be strong, yet graceful, shoulders should be muscular and well sloping, back and loin should be short, with good coupling, chest should be wide but with good proportioning. The body should be deep in girth and well ribbed, croup generally sloping, hips should be well-muscled extended to the hocks. Legs should be flat and cordy around a heavy bone. The Walkingbred may exhibit slight hock action. The motion of the front legs should have a bend in the knee. Any pitching or pointing from the front legs and extreme overreaching from the rear legs is to be penalized. At no time should the horse nod it's head in the show ring. Horse must rack square at all times.
- 4. Pleasure Horses: NO BOOTS allowed**
 - A.** Pleasure horses will be judged as follows:

30% Manners	30% Performance	
20% Conformation	15% Grooming	5% Tack

- B.** No tail braces or humane braces, light switches are allowed in designated Pleasure Class. English or Western Show Tack/Attire allowed, do not Combine English and Western Tack/Attire on the exhibitor or horse at the same time. Full Bridles are allowed in designated Pleasure classes.
- C.** Pleasure horses are required to back a minimum of three steps and stand quietly in the lineup.
- D.** Pleasure horses may cross-enter in any class that they meet the criteria for.
- E.** Pleasure horses are to be shown by Amateurs Only, except for Open Pleasure Classes (any rider in the Open Pleasure Class)
- AA. Show Pleasure:** Light switch is allowed, Full Bridles optional. Shoeing is open. No boots allowed. Required gaits will be a Walk and a Show Pleasure rack. Horses may enter the ring at a Walk or a Show Pleasure rack. Show Pleasure Horses will be more animated and collected than the Flat Shod Pleasure horse. Show Pleasure horses should give the impression of being collected while the rider maintains light contact with the reins. The motion of a Show Pleasure horse can be level and above with moderate speed accepted.
- BB. Flatshod Pleasure:** Light switch allowed, Full bridles optional. No boots allowed. Shoeing is flatshod with or without bands. Required gaits will be a Walk and a Flat Shod Pleasure rack. Horse may enter the ring at a Walk or a Flat Shod Pleasure rack. A nice headset with a light contact on the reins and should give the impression of moving freely without any laboring action or excessive speed. The motion of a Flat Shod Pleasure should not be above level, yet it should be more than a Country Pleasure horse.
- CC. Country Pleasure:** No switches allowed. Single rein only. No boots. Horses are to be flatshod, no bands allowed. Required gaits will be a Walk and a Country Pleasure rack. Horses may enter the ring at a Walk or a Country Pleasure rack. Horses are to be ridden with a relatively loose single rein and should give the impression of going at ease with minimum control by the rider. The motion is more than a Trail Pleasure horse, yet it should be less than a Flat Shod Pleasure horse. Horses will be asked to stop on the rail and stand quietly during the class and will walk to the line-up.
- DD. Trail Pleasure:** No switches. No boots. Single reins only. Flatshod with a manufactured keg shoe, no bands allowed. Required gaits will be a walk and a Trail Pleasure rack. Horses may enter the ring at a Walk or a Trail Pleasure rack. Horses are to be ridden with a relatively loose single rein and give the impression of going at complete ease with very minimum control by the rider. Horses gait will have a low lift that is valued for its comfort and ease. Horses will be asked to stop on the rail and stand quietly during the class and will walk to the line-up.

EE. Speed Racking: English Tack/Attire only (except Country Speed) White protective boots are allowed in any speed class. The gaits to be called for in this class will be the walk, slow rack, rack on. Since this class is judged on speed, **never lose form for speed.** Excessive cutting of the ring to be penalized.

Country Speed (any size shoe/no bands/no pads) (English or Western Tack / Attire) (extreme speed to be penalized) (stand quietly and backup easily)

Keg Shod Speed (3/8 x 3/4 max shoe/no pads/no bands) (English Tack only)

FF. Keg Shod Division: English Attire/Tack Only- Bridle can be single or double reins. No humane or braced tails allowed, light tail switch allowed. No boots allowed in any Keg Shod Class **except for Keg Shod Speed.** Maximum 3/8 x 3/4 manufactured keg shoe only, no pads/bands/toe weights or additional weight added to the shoe. Borium is allowed on the shoes.

GG. Beginner Walk/Favorite Gait: Gaits will be a walk/favorite Gait (escort allowed) (English or Western) Riders showing for 3 yrs or less/any age rider. Riders may show in any other class at the same show, but not show in this class after 3yrs of showing in the Beginners Class. Riders can extend the 3 year ruling, with the approval from the Board of Directors.

SECTION III

1. Classification for Junior Horses:

A. For all horses showing in either two, three, or four year old age classes, age cards will be issued based on registration papers to show markings and identify the horse. Cards to be presented at the entry booth. For showing purposes, Walkingbred horses will run from Oct 1st to Sep 30th, Nationalbreds and Saddlebreds to be Jan 1st to Dec 31st.

B. No horse will be given a permanent mouthing card prior to June 1st.

SECTION IV

1. General Rules for Showing:

A. Grooming: 15% The horse should be free of dirt and foreign matter, brushed and shined. Remove all long hair about the head, inside of the ears, the jaw, fetlocks, coronet band, and bridle path. All tack should be free of dirt and foreign matter.

B. Shoeing: Open, see class descriptions for specific shoeing requirements.

C. Set Tails: Humane or braced tails are optional in all approved classes.

D. Protective Boots: White, Bell rubber-type, leather quarter, and hinged bell boots may be used in designated classes.

E. Equipment: Spurs or whips are optional in all classes.

F. Tack: 5%

1. **Bridle:** English with 2 or 4 reins in designated classes No horse shall be shown with a snaffle bit only, tie-down, or martingale.
2. **Saddle:** Flat, English-type saddle in all classes, with the exception of classes that allows western tack.
3. **Breast straps:** Allowed in Speed Classes only, unless horse is being shown in Western Tack and Attire.

G. Headset: Horse's head flexed slightly at the poll, high head carriage, an angle formed by plane of forehead and nose matching angle of withers. The nose should be equal to or above a line drawn from rump over the withers. Not laying on the bit, ears forward, nostrils flared, eyes alert. These are only considerations on a horse that is first and foremost racking.

H. Motion: Should be as described for each breed as listed in the Rule Book.

I. In Hand or Halter Class: Entries are judged individually at a Walk and gait on the line, then standing, and must be serviceably sound. Horses should stand squarely on all four feet with front legs perpendicular to the ground.

J. Clothing: English Tack/Attire required in all performance classes. English or Western Tack and Attire allowed in all Pleasure Classes. Do not combined or mix English and Western Tack/Attire at the same time, on the same horse.

English Dress Code

- * English/Saddleseat Style Coat
- * Shirt with a collar, tie, vest (optional) (long sleeves if coat is not required)
- * Pants, English style pants
- * Boots, appropriate with English attire
- * Hair neatly contained so as to not cover back number
- * Hat/English (optional for ladies) (helmets allowed)
- * Gloves, are optional in all classes

Western Dress Code

- * Long sleeve shirt with collar, tucked in (western ties optional)
- * Vest, optional in all western classes
- * Pants, Long pants (show type jeans allowed) (Belt optional)
- * Boots, Western style
- * Hat, Western style required (helmets allowed)
- * Hair neatly contained so as to not cover back number
- * Chaps, optional in all western classes

K. Use of Acids and Drugs: The use of chemicals, acid, or tranquilizers to produce unnatural action will not be tolerated. Proof of violation of this section will result in suspension of the exhibitor in any shows sanctioned by the National Gaited Horse Association.

L. Chains/Rollers are not allowed on any horse, at any time while on the Show grounds. Pawing and or kicking chains will be allowed in the stall or trailer as needed.

SECTION V **EXHIBITOR RULES**

1. Under no circumstances shall a contestant smoke while in the ring during their class.
2. No exhibitor may physically interfere with any other exhibitor, or exhibitor's horse during the show.
3. Exhibitors should attempt to keep their horses on the rail when possible and to pass to the inside of the ring if possible.
4. Youth 12yrs and under classes will not be asked to rack on.
5. Amateur, Youth and Pleasure classes cannot be used as qualifying classes for Stake or Championship classes.
6. Rookie (Amateur rider with 5yrs or less showing any horse)
7. Novice Rider (Amateur rider with 6 Blue Ribbons or less)
8. **Trainer:** Any person who trains, or rides, who has accepted money or gain for training or riding another's horse. Anyone working at a stable for money (directly or indirectly) or gain that rides or trains a horse belonging to his or her employer or any employer's customers, is not considered an Amateur. **Training:** Anyone who shows, breaks, drives, long lines, lunges, or schools another's horse for money or gain. **Gain:** (profit) pecuniary (pertaining to money) gain; benefit from any act done, business transacted or investment made; barter. Any untrue information will be subject to a \$250 fine.
9. **Amateur:** Amateur Status is on the Membership Application. Applicant must have not been a trainer in the past three (3) consecutive years prior to applying for Amateur Status. Can only change Amateur/Trainers status once per lifetime.
10. Amateur/Owned/Trained Horses cannot be in a trainer's barn for riding, training, or instruction 90 days prior to showing. Stud, Farrier, Vet and transportation services are exempt. Horse must be owned by the exhibitor or the exhibitors immediate family.

11. An exhibitor must be a member to show at a sanctioned show. Owners of horses being shown must also be a current paid member. (Lead-Line or Stick Horse classes are excluded)
12. An exhibitor cannot show under a judge that they have any relationship with either through boarding, pasturing during the past thirty (30) days. An exhibitor cannot show a horse under any judge that they may have money, interest, or partnership or that they have trained, boarded, or sold within thirty (30) days prior to the show.
13. **Qualifications for Youth Classes:**
 - A. Age limit - 17 years and under, as of January 1st.
 - B. Classes may be split by ages of exhibitors into 12yrs under or 17yrs under.
 - C. Stallions to be treated like any other horse.

SECTION VII

OTHER RULES

1. Any member of the Board or Judges Panel who has owned, sold, or been associated through partnership or close friendship with the owner, or who has boarded any horse that is to be mouthed, typed, or is under protest; shall be disqualified from acting on the Board or Judges Panel upon proper motion of disqualification from the Board or Judges Panel.
2. Anyone showing verbal abuse to any Association Officer, Panel Member, or Show Official on the day of or during the show will have the standard forms of punishment applied to them. Anyone showing physical abuse to the above or a National Gaited Horse member on the day of or during the show, will be immediately asked to leave and will be suspended for a period of 1 year from all sanctioned shows.
3. Standard forms of punishment are as follows:
 - First Offense: Warning letter sent
 - Second Offense: \$250 Fine plus one-year probation.
 - Third Offense: Barred from showing for a period of one (1) year.
4. Fine for knowingly and willingly showing horses in the wrong division:
 - First Offense: \$300.00 Fine
 - Second Offense: \$500.00 Fine
 - Third Offense: Barred from showing for a period of One (1) year.

All fines not paid: Automatically barred until fines are paid.
5. No spectator may interfere in any way with any exhibitor or horse while in the show ring.(exceptions are in case of an emergency)
6. One groom per horse is allowed in the ring during line up and two grooms per horse if the class is to be stripped for conformation.

7. If a class in which horses compete individually is stopped while in progress

due to storms, accidents, or other emergencies, the following procedure shall govern: When the class is re-commenced it shall be held over in its entirety and no considerations shall be given to the performance during the original session.

8. Time Outs: (7) minutes or two (2) time outs. Breakage of equipment or tack, replace a shoe or rectify a similar accident. The exhibitor must go to the center of the ring for any such emergency, which will constitute a request for a time out. Time shall start when exhibitor goes to center of the ring and is recognized by the ringmaster. In the event of a horse casting a shoe, time shall not start until the farrier picks up the horse's foot. An additional (3) minutes maximum will be allowed to find a lost shoe. If after the expiration of (7) minutes the repair has not been made, the exhibitor may proceed as is or be excused. The ringmaster shall be held responsible for timing, unless an official timer is present. Anyone with a charged time may have two attendants. If a shoe is cast outside of the ring, the horse may not enter the ring and ask for a time out. Tack, if it is truly broken or displaced, may be removed or replaced with identical tack.
9. If no equipment is broken when time out is asked for, the ringmaster may ask the exhibitor to be excused.
10. The class will officially start when the gate is closed and the announcer calls the class to order.

SECTION VI **SANCTIONING SHOWS**

- A. Must use a Licensed National Gaited Horse Judge for all National Gaited Horse Classes. Contact Judges Panel Committee member for a list of approved Judges.
- B. A copy of the Rule Book must be provided to the Judge or Show Chairman at least one week before the show.
- C. Show Chairman must pay equal prize monies as other breeds in the same show.
- D. Show Sponsors may determine if payback or not, and post it on Class Sheet.
- E. Championship Classes must pay equal prize money as paid to all three breeds.
- F. A minimum of Twelve (12) National Gaited classes are required for a show to be sanctioned, three of them must be pleasure classes.
- G. Three classes that must be in the show are: Saddlebred, Nationalbred, and Walkingbred. Shows must have a Championship class or a Stake class for each of the 3 breeds listed above.

(9)

- H. Other suggested National Gaited Horse classes are as follows:

1. Junior Horses 2yr, 3yr, 4yr old
2. Amateur
3. Amateur Style
4. Amateur Owned/Trained
5. Country Pleasure Adult & Youth
6. Flat Shod Pleasure Adult & Youth
7. Flat Shod Style
8. Flat Shod Open
9. In Hand (halter or bridle)
10. Youth (12/17 yrs. & under)
11. Youth Style
12. Ladies / Men's
14. Novice Rider / Rookie Rider
15. Open Racking
16. Pony (58" under)
17. Mares / Stallions & Geldings
20. Show Pleasure Adult & Youth
21. Speed Open
22. Style
23. Trail Pleasure Adult & Youth

SECTION VIII **RINGMASTER**

- A. The ringmaster should check the horses as they enter the ring for qualification of classes.
- B. It is the responsibility of the ringmaster to see that the rules as set forth are strictly enforced within the ring.
- C. Anyone leaving the ring should ask permission of the ringmaster before leaving. It is the ringmaster's responsibility to inform the judge of any exhibitor that he has dismissed. Leaving the ring without permission will disqualify that exhibitor and horse from further participation in the show.
- D. It will be the ringmaster's responsibility to assist the Judge and control all phases of the show while in session. During each class, they should be alert, watching for exhibitors who endanger others by improper ring manners, abuse of their horses, profanity, while showing, and unnecessary cutting corners of the ring while to the back of the judge. These, or any other unsportsmanlike acts will result in immediate dismissal from the ring and the violator will be barred from further participation in that show by the ringmaster.
- E. A ringmaster may not officiate in any division of a show in which their horse or a member of their immediate family is an exhibitor. Boarding, Farrier, Stud and Vet services are excluded.

SECTION IX

JUDGING

In order that judging throughout the Association be consistent, the Judge will use the following guidelines:

1. Judging by the Percentage:

- A. 50% on style or speed and trueness of gait
 - 25% on Slow Rack
 - 25% on Rack On
- B. 10% on Walk
- C. 20% on Conformation
- D. 15% on Grooming
- E. 5% on Tack

2. The Rack: The rack is an evenly timed, four beat, lateral gait in which each foot meets the ground separately at equal intervals.

3. Judges shall penalize:

- A. Loss of form due to excessive speed. At all gaits, the horse should be flexed at the poll with the muzzle tucked. A tendency to pace, slow gait, or other deviations from the true rack shall be penalized.
- B. Horse will be penalized for excessively lapping the arena after the judge calls for a walk. No horse should require more than one half lap to come to a walk.
- C. **Walk – 10%** A walk of a performance horse is a straight way of going that is slow, consistent and under control, animated and graceful. A Pleasure horse walk is described in the Pleasure Horse divisions.
- D. **Conformation – 20%** according to the standards for each breed.

4. Rules for Judges:

- A. A Judge shall not discuss with an exhibitor the purchase, sale or lease of any horse during a show they are judging.
- B. A Judge cannot judge a horse that is unsound or bleeding excessively from undue causes.
- C. Judges will not engage in conversation with the exhibitor while show is in progress, unless in an emergency.
- D. A Judge cannot judge any horse in which they have money, interest, or partnership, or that they have trained boarded or sold within 30 days. A Judge cannot judge any rider or horse that they have had any relationship with, either through boarding, pasturing during the past 30 days. A Judge cannot judge any horse with whom the judge shares a barn or boarding relationship. Stud services are exempt.

- E. When a Judge is contacted by a show committee, he must return the phone call and give a decision within three days.

- F.** A Judge shall not during the day prior or during a show at which they are judging be the house guest of an exhibitor or whose immediate family is exhibiting at said show.
- G.** Judge can only confer with ringmaster before class is tied. Once class is tied, judge may only confer with another Judge, show committee, or ring master.
- H.** Failure of a judge to attend a show to which they committed to judge will call for disciplinary action except in cases of extreme emergency. A Judge who is unable to attend a show they have committed themselves to judge, will contact the Judges Panel and give them the reason for not attending. This will go into the judge's file.
- I.** A Judge shall not use profanity, smoke, or drink alcoholic beverages during the show or while judging the show.
- J.** If a licensed judge refuses an award or winning while exhibiting, they will be written up and brought before the Judge's Panel.
- K.** Any Judge whose health may for good reason be questioned by the judge's panel, may be asked to have a physical by a licensed medical doctor before they can judge.
- L.** Any Judge who constantly makes derogatory remarks about the Association shall be disciplined by the Judge's Panel.
- M.** A Judge is a representative of the National Gaited Horse in or out of the ring, and should conduct themselves as such.
- N.** It will be the Judge's discretion whether to walk the line-up in non-stripped classes. The Ringmaster can check and report any problems to the judge.
- O.** Judges should wear proper apparel. Must be neat and clean in appearance. Hat is optional. Men – Coat and tie. Ladies – Nice pants suit or suitable dress. No western wear.
- P.** A judge cannot touch a horse except in an emergency.
- Q.** No Judge can judge more than 2 sanctioned shows per year, including State Shows, unless otherwise approved by the Panel. When a judge agrees to judge the World Show, they cannot judge any other National Gaited Horse Shows during that year.
- R.** Judges are not to be on the Show grounds more than 1 hour prior to the start of the show. If multiple day show, then the first day through the end of show. Judges should leave the show grounds immediately after the show is over.
- S.** A Judge that does not pay membership dues for one year, loses their license to judge. The person must re-apply to the Judges Panel and pay application

fee to become eligible to judge.

- T. Any time a judge's license has been suspended, they must re-apply to the Judges Panel for termination of the suspension. The Judges Panel can make the decision to re-instate the judge, and if so, the Judges Panel will also determine the status of this judge.
- U. A judge cannot judge any exhibitor that is a member of their immediate family. Immediate Family = husband, wife, mother, father, son, daughter, siblings, steps, in-laws, grandparents, grandchildren.
- V. All judge(s) must sign their final card.
- W. Judge's discretion if horses are to be worked out after being stripped in State and World Grand Championship classes. Horses will be stripped at Judges discretion if there are 2 or more entries.
- X. For the safety, Judges will split all classes with more than 15 entries.

5. Judges Requirements/Licenses:

A. Qualification of a National Gaited Horse Judge:

1. Must be a member in good standing.
2. Must have owned or ridden racking horses
3. Must follow the rules of all judges.

B. How to receive a Judges License:

1. Completely fill out application and pay application fee.
2. Once applicant is approved by majority of Judges Panel that applicant will have a Judges rating as follows:

(A) Junior Judge: can judge any Saturday night Show

(AA) Senior Judge: can judge a Saturday night or State Show

(AAA) Senior Judge: can judge a Saturday night, State Show or World Show

After receiving Judges Application, the applicant may be required to appear before the Judges Panel Committee.

C. How a Junior Judge may judge a show:

1. With the approval of the Judges Panel, a Jr Judge may Judge a sanctioned show on their own. At the discretion of the Judges Panel, A Jr Judge may be asked to stand in with a Senior Judge that has previously judged a State Show. Upon completion of the above requirements, it is still up to the Judges Panel as to whether a Senior Judges license will be issued.
2. It is suggested by the Judges Panel that any Jr Judge that has a show they are going to be judging, contact the Judges Panel, and they will either come to the show or send a representative to the show..

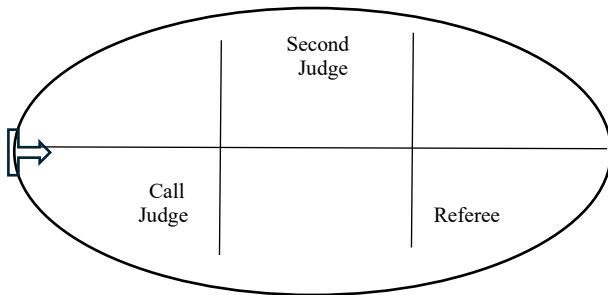
VI. The Three Judge System for National Gaited Horse:

Call Judge	2nd Judge	Referee	Final
1. 196	1. 80	1. 196	1. 196
2. 80	2. 196	2. 76	2. 80
3. 335	3. 50	3. 80	3. 50
4. 50	4. 335	4. 42	4. 335
5. 76	5. 42	5. 50	5. 76
		6. 335	
		7. 33	
		8. 52	
		9. 73	

A. Lay them out as pictured above as an example. The first thing to remember is that you always start with the Call Judges card. Then go to the second judge. You only go to the referee to break a tie. The Call judge wants #196 first, the second judge wants #80 first, so go to the referee card. The referee has #196 tied higher than #80, so #196 is First Place. Mark #196 off all cards. Go back to the call Judge he wants #80 tied next. The second judge still wants #80 tied, this time you do not use the referee card. The judges agree #80 is second. Mark off #80 on all cards. The call judge has #335 tied next, but the second judge has tied #50. Go to the referee card. He has #50 tied higher than #335, so #50 is tied 3rd. Go back to call judge. He still wants #335 tied, the second judge also has #335 tied high. Again, you do not need the referee card. The judges agree so, #335 is 4th. Mark off #335 on all cards. Back to the call judge. He wants #76, the second judge wants #42. Go to the referee card, #76 is tied higher than #42, so #76 is tied 5th. Mark #76 off on all cards. The referee must tie all horses in the class and is only used when the call judge and the second judge do not agree.

Three Panel Judge System:

1. The three judges will draw for the first class for call judge, and referee. After that class, they will rotate from call judge to referee to second judge, and then back to call judge.



1. **First Offense** – Verbal or written warning.
2. **Second Offense** - \$150 Fine plus 1yr probation.
*Probation: Member will be allowed to Show during Probation, but cannot vote, judge, hold, or run for any office while on probation.
3. **Third Offense** - \$250 Fine plus 1yr Suspension
**Suspension: All membership privileges are revoked for 1yr from suspension date. Cannot show, vote, judge, hold or run for any office while on suspension.
4. These penalties will not prevent the Board from exacting other forms of punishment that apply to all members of the Association as set forth in the rule book.

JUDGES PANEL COMMITTEE (JPC)

1. The JPC shall be responsible for enforcing rules concerning judges, that visual observation by the JPC is grounds to bring a judge before the panel without a protest being filed by an exhibitor.
2. The JPC will review judge's cards from the shows. Judge's who's health, past performances, shall be brought to the JPC for a review.
3. Upon receipt of a "protest", it shall be Screened by the Judges Panel to make sure it is in order and legal. If the complaint is found to be legitimate, then both the person filing the complaint and the defendant shall be contacted to appear before the Panel. If the defendant fails to appear, it will be taken as an admission of guilt. Members remain in good standing until found guilty.
4. Judges Panel members must know how to mouth a horse.
5. When Judges Panel looks at a horses' mouth to verify its age, must do so individually, write down their opinion, sign it, hand it to the Panel's secretary without conversing.
6. The Judges Panel will police all classes and take action on any horse that the Panel feels is out of its' class. All decisions are at the discretion of the Panel until or unless a formal protest is filed with the Panel or Board. The protest must be at least 5 days old and not later than 15 days from the event and submitted to the Panel. A fee of \$100.00 is to accompany the protest. All protests will be screened for order and merit.
7. Judges Panel shall manage all protests and complaints concerning judges, horses, exhibitors and the ringmasters only, with all other protests and complaints forwarded to the Board for handling. If for any reason a plaintiff or a defendant feels the Panel has erred, either party may appeal to the Board. In the event the Board lacks a two-thirds majority vote on an appeal, either party may request a hearing from the membership. However, a simple majority is all that is necessary for a decision. A two-thirds majority or better decision is not subject to appeal.