

LANARK COUNTY WESTERN HORSE CLUB (LCWHC) BY-LAWS (2010)

LCWHC will follow the rules in the current AQHA official handbook unless otherwise stated below. The following by-laws have been put down to:

- a. Highlight the general rules of the club and shows, and
- b. Meet the needs of specific classes that are unique to our club.

The judge has the final say on matters in the ring. The current Executive and Directors are responsible for enforcing these rules and by-laws should the need arise and will act as advisors to the judge. They will have final authority on all matters, not within the ring. Questions on any matter relating to the LCWHC or the AQHA should be addressed to them.

GENERAL RULES

1. **INSURANCE:** Proof of liability insurance of a minimum \$1,000,000 **MUST** accompany all membership applications before any entries can be made. An entrant **WILL NOT** be allowed to participate if adequate proof of insurance cannot be shown.
2. Membership (family, individual, day) is required for all entrants. Seasonal memberships for the current show season are to be paid in the current year.
3. Entries are to be paid in full on the day of the show. Entry fees will be determined by vote of the general membership at the beginning of each season. Entries can be made up to the commencement of the class.
4. An administration fee will be charged for entries that are received by the show secretary on either the day of the show or if received less than 7 days prior to the show.
5. Each horse or pony will require a separate entry form and number (if applicable). Each combination of rider and animal will require a separate entry form and number (if applicable). Failure to do so will result in disqualification. Entrant must wear their appropriate numbers or be disqualified, unless class warrants otherwise.
6. Each horse or pony can be entered into a maximum of 15 classes per show.
7. Equipment/ground managers to have responsibility for club equipment during and between shows.
8. Ribbons will be awarded to 5th place; no ribbons will be given in payback classes. Payback will be awarded to 5th place.
9. Classes will be arranged into the following divisions unless otherwise stated on the entry sheet:

- a. PEEWEE - 8 years and under as of January 1 of current year.
 - b. JUNIOR - 13 years and under as of January 1 of current year.
 - c. YOUTH - 14 to 18 years as of January 1 of current year.
 - d. SENIOR - 19 years and over as of January 1 of current year.
 - e. OPEN – All ages.
10. Peewee, Junior, and Youth exhibitors may move up to a higher division with written consent of their parent or guardian. They must continue to show in the elevated division for the remainder of the season.
 11. Helmets will be permitted for any rider, they are only **REQUIRED** by riders 18 and under. If a parent/guardian desires that the rider not wear a helmet, they must indicate this on the original membership form and initial their intent.
 12. There will be **NO REFUNDS** on entry fees after entry sheets are handed in. Class entries will be permitted to be changed to another class, same exhibitor, provided the class has not commenced.
 13. Classes will begin promptly as called unless the ring steward is notified of a tack change.
 14. All exhibitors will accept the judge's decision as final.
 15. Unsportsmanlike conduct of any form will **NOT** be tolerated, whether it is in the ring or on the grounds. The Executive and Directors have the authority to suspend any member from club activities (without a refund) for inappropriate behaviour.
 16. Cruelty or abuse of horse, pony, or human by any person attending a LCWHC show is strictly forbidden. The Executive and Directors have the authority to dismiss anyone from the grounds for such inappropriate behaviour.
 17. Dogs are welcome at club shows, but must be leashed or suitably restrained.
 18. Any exhibitor suspected of impairment due to drugs or alcohol by the Directors or Executive will be excused from the show ring and will be barred from participating in any classes for the remainder of the day. They will also be barred from participating in any other club functions until reinstated by the Executive and Directors.
 19. It is the tradition of the show ring that an exhibitor and mount be suitably presented.
 - a. Proper attire for the rider based on the class being ridden.
 - b. A healthy horse or pony.

- c. Appropriate tack, equipment, and accessories are to be clean, well fitting and in good repair.
20. The Executive and Directors may bar any entrant from the show ring if not suitably turned out. Decision to be made based on AQHA description of suitable attire and appointments.
21. POINTS will be awarded as follows:

1st - 5 points 2nd - 4 points 3rd - 3 points 4th - 2 points 5th - 1 point

Exhibitors must show in a minimum of 3 shows, with entry in the same class at least 3 times (with the same mount) to qualify for year end points.
22. The LCWHC encourages all participants to work towards the AQHA Standard but in regards to AQHA rule #44, section H, any horse CAN be ridden 2 handed in the show ring with a snaffle bit or bosal. The exhibitor must understand that they will be judged accordingly, but will not be disqualified from a class for this style. This does not apply to gaming classes.
23. In Performance, Jog-Reining, and Reining classes only: any curb bit must be used single-handed.
24. In the Trail class, the exhibitor will only get three chances to maneuver the obstacle. Failure to move on to the next obstacle after three attempts will result in disqualification from the class.
25. Members must be 18 as of January 1st of current membership year to vote on club business.

Discipline Specific Rules

JOG-REINING

1. A snaffle bit may be used two-handed or single handed. If using a curb bit, rider must only use one hand on reins.
2. There is no cross entry for RIDER/HORSE combinations between jog-reining and reining classes on day of show. If exhibitor chooses to move up from jog-reining to reining through the show season, they may not drop back to jog-reining. Exhibitors who start the year in reining may not drop back to jog-reining.
3. The Jog-Reining pattern will be posted at the first event. It will be used for the entire season.

4. A horse may not be used in both jog-reining and reining on the same day. An exhibitor may enter both jog-reining and reining on the same day, with different mounts.
5. Competitors are not required to move up to reining from jog-reining after winning high point in a season.

REINING

1. Patterns will have flying lead changes. Exhibitors can perform simple lead changes, but will be judged accordingly.
2. The Reining pattern will be the judge's choice. It will be posted the day of each show.

GAMES

1. NO GATE STARTS!
2. No hitting in front of the cinch/saddle. No excessive spurring, quirting, or hitting permitted.
3. Off course runs will result in NO TIME.
4. Any rider who dismounts or falls off during a run will receive NO TIME.
5. Each knocked over barrel or pole will result in a 5 second penalty added to the final time of run.
6. In the Flag class, the exhibitor will only get 3 chances to pick up the flag. After the third refusal, they may either complete the run for a NO TIME or exit the ring directly.
7. If a competitor's hat HITS THE GROUND over the timer line, there will be a 5 second penalty added on the final run time.
8. Horses not under control (example: repeated rearing, rider's inability to mount quickly) will be disqualified from competition. These animals pose a safety concern and this will not be tolerated.
9. Keyhole: The horse must pass straight down and completely through the middle of all 4 barrels, turn and pass back through on the same path to receive a time.
10. Flag: May run course straight down or cross course. A knock down of the flag barrel upon pick up of the flag will result in an automatic NO TIME.

11. Relay: Must run around the outside of all 4 barrels. The passing of the baton is to be done between the top two barrels of the course. Course can be run in either direction. Both riders must travel in the same direction.
12. Riders are asked to exit the ring at a WALK and may stay mounted.
13. Rider's hat **MUST BE ON THEIR HEAD** as they **CROSS THE START LINE**.
14. Please be courteous. **NO GATE CROWDING**. Riders need to stay back from the gate until it is their turn.
15. The PeeWee Barrel class, PeeWee Keyhole class, and PeeWee Dash class are for riders who are 8 years old and under (as of January 1 of the current year). Such riders entered into the PeeWee classes are not permitted to enter into the corresponding Junior classes.