

EAST COAST REINERS ASSOCIATION

RULES AND BY LAWS

MISSION

The East Coast Reiners Association is an affiliate of the National Reining Horse Association. The East Coast Reiners Association (E.C.R.A.) objectives are to promote the reining horse and to encourage the showing of reining horses on Long Island, and the surrounding areas.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The East Coast Reiners Association will be run by a Board of Directors consisting of at least 5 members. The Board of Directors shall have general charge of the affairs, finances and property of the organization.

The Board of Directors shall be empowered to fill vacancies occurring in said board. Any vacancy occurring in the board, may be filled by the affirmative vote of the majority of the remaining Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings at such time and place they shall determine.

MEMBERSHIP

An individual of good character and reputation interested in reining horses may become a member of the East Coast Reiners Association.

Members shall be admitted and retained in accordance with the rules and regulations of the N.R.H.A.

Each member shall pay annual membership dues, said dues are due and payable at the commencement of each fiscal year. The fiscal year shall be January 1st through December 31st of each year.

MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

An annual meeting of the association shall be held at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. Notice will be given to each member prior to the meeting.

Special or General meetings of the members may be called by the Board of Directors at a time and place designated by the board.

Notice will be given on our website (www.ecraonline.com) or through special mailings to each member. At any meeting held in accordance with the foregoing provisions as to notice, the members attending such meetings shall constitute a quorum.

The ECRA website (www.ecraonline.com) will be the official site for ECRA information and news and will be updated only through the ECRA President's and Vice Presidents joint approval to the Web Site Operator.

COMPLAINTS OR PROTESTS

Any complaint or protest must be in writing and filed with the E.C.R.A President within 10 days of incident or cause. The fee for such protest or complaint will be \$100, payable to ECRA at the time of the written complaint or protest. All protest fees are non-refundable in every instance of protest regardless of outcome.

Upon receipt, all complaints or protests will be referred to the Board of Directors for investigation and recommendation.

Upon complete investigation, The Board of Directors will notify the complainant in writing, whether said protest is allowed or disallowed.

Anyone who becomes a member of the Association accepts to be bound by all the rules of the association and renounces to any recourse which he/she may have against the association so long as the latter acts in good faith and in compliance with the rules of the Association.

SHOWS

All of the East Coast Reiners Association shows will be governed by the National Reining Horse Association Rules and By Laws.

In order to show at an E.C.R.A show, the person must be a member of the N.R.H.A, with the exception of the Green Reiner "A", Green Reiner and the Futures Class.

All of the above classes must have proper western attire as stated in the NRHA rulebook. In accordance with New York State law, an approved safety helmet is required for anyone under the age of 14.

E.C.R.A. YEAR END AWARDS

The Owner and Rider must be current E.C.R.A members in good standing for the money or points earned to count towards E.C.R.A Year End Awards.

The earnings are not counted retroactive, only from the day of membership to the end of the point year and all eligibility requirements for the Year End Awards are met.

In the case of dual or joint ownership, both owners must be members if either owner intends to compete in E.C.R.A shows, and money earned or points counted.

A Year End Award list will be kept for each of the classes offered at E.C.R.A shows. The point year begins with the first show of the season, and ends with the last show of the season.

Points will be awarded on a one horse-one rider combination in the following classes: Green Reiner "A" Division, Green Reiner Division, Rookie, Youth classes, Limited Non Pro, Non Pro, Intermediate Non-Pro, Novice Horse Non Pro and Ladies/Gentlemen.

Points or money and year end award will be awarded to the owner of the horse in the following classes: Open and Novice Horse Open.

In order to be eligible for E.C.R.A Year End Awards, you must have shown in at least 2 of the 3 affiliate shows offered by ECRA or in the event that there are less or more than the 3 affiliate shows you must show in at least 50% of the ECRA shows that year.

REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION

The Board of Directors shall be empowered to remove or suspend by the majority of vote of the Board of Directors any board member from his/her office or member deemed to be a hindrance to the best interest of E.C.R.A.

DISSOLUTION

In the event that the ECRA financially cannot move forward with the expenses of running horse shows and dissolves the affiliate, the balance in the operating account after any outstanding liabilities and debts are paid would be donated. The Board of Directors will entertain the balance of money to be donated to another NRHA Affiliate, the NRHA or to the Reining Horse Sport Foundation in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma either in the full amount or split any remaining funds between the above options.

Last revision/update 12/06