

Dear members of ETI Corral 118:

I would like to speak out on behalf of our Horse Show Committee to explain changes to our circuit. First, here is how the newly added AQHA Introductory Shows will impact our SVAC and ETI High Point shows. In order to be accepted as an open show where exhibitors can earn points towards qualifying for the AQHA World show, we have to offer separate AQHA approved classes where only those members will compete against each other. In other words, unless you're an AQHA exhibitor, you will not be eligible for the AQHA classes. It is unlikely they will enter our regular premium classes so you won't necessarily be competing with them. (However, there are Corral 118 members who are already AQHA members and you've probably competed with them in past shows.) There are 5-6 classes each for the AQHA "age breaks" so it's doubtful they will enter all those classes plus our regular classes. But, if they wish to enter our classes, they will pay separate entry fees to do so. They will have to join ETI Corral 118 to qualify for year-end awards. There are also separate AQHA "day end" award categories. We will only have 3 AQHA Introductory shows-April, May and June. For those shows, we must select judges from the AQHA Judges' List. April and June are high point shows so the AQHA judge will have to be carded with ETI as well. This means more new judges added to that list.

We're adding the AQHA Introductory Shows because the costs of running our shows has continued to increase and we don't want to nickel and dime our exhibitors by charging higher entry fees. The AQHA circuit will bring more revenue for our club so we can keep offering great shows and fabulous year-end awards. And if we get new members, that will be great too.

Second, I want to talk about complaints we've received about the class list, judges, and trail set-up fees. **Please contact me first to voice your concerns before they become complaints. You can contact me by phone [805-522-3346] or E-mail [horseladyusa1@yahoo.com].** Our 2012 premium reflects changes because some classes took up time but didn't result in year-end awards. We're sorry if we had to drop your favorite class; but this gives you a chance to try a new one. We've been asked to add more halter classes but they take a long time and for the money we make, they don't pay for themselves. Our English exhibitors suffer because it pushes their classes' start time to later. The classes we've dropped have been because of consistent lack of participation, like reining.

As for judges, we MUST select a judge from the ETI Judges' List for high point shows. Scheduling judges is very hard because of the demand for judges during show season. It's a juggling act making sure the same high point judge isn't used consecutive to other corrals' shows. Some listed judges have disappointed our exhibitors and office crew. Please let us know immediately why you don't feel the judge was appropriate so we can decide whether to hire that judge again.

Third, the trail set up fee is only paid by people going into trail classes. The fee allows the rider to "practice" one course before they ride it for points. Please remember our office workers are very careful but it is your responsibility to question a fee if you think it should not have been applied to you.

Fourth, the charges for scratching a class. The breed shows do not refund your entry fees unless you have a vet note. But we refund half the entry fee and don't require a vet note. Exhibitors have said, "the judge isn't using my horse" so they scratch their classes. We've had

exhibitors yell at us to add them to a class as they are entering the arena or scratch one second before that class starts. We have to scramble fast to get the add/scratch to the gatekeeper, judge, and announcer. This is not fair to anyone and adds delays to the show.

Super Horse will be offered to "amateurs" only. Our trainers have been the ones to promote and support Super Horse so we felt it only fair everyone had a chance of winning this prestigious year-end award. After much discussion, Super Horse will be open to amateurs only and will go to the SVAC exhibitor who has the most qualifying points at the end of the year.

Finally, Corral 118 offers premium "A Circuit" quality horse shows at open breed prices. We give amazing first place prizes, day end championship awards and of course, our spectacular year-end awards. I've been in this business for over 40 years and can say we give the most back to our exhibitors than the "A Circuit" shows and give the same level of professionalism. Most "breed" shows only give ribbons and points but with Corral 118, you have the chance to also win great awards and prizes. We work with our exhibitors, trying to accommodate everyone's requests. We ask that in return you understand why changes are made and how hard we work to make this so much fun for EVERYONE.

See you all at the February 19th Year-End Awards banquet.

Terry Simon
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