

# PROFESSIONAL RACKING HORSE TRAINERS ASSOCIATION

## PENALTY MATRIX

### VIOLATIONS AND SUSPENSIONS

#### A. AFFECTED INDIVIDUALS/BARNS/STABLE AND/OR ALL PRHTA LICENSED TRAINERS ASSOCIATED WITH THAT BARN/STABLE( "Facility")

The provisions of any Suspension(s) under this Penalty Matrix shall apply to the entire facility and all PRHTA licensed trainers associated with that facility.

#### B. VIOLATIONS

A violation under this Penalty matrix only includes a Unilateral and/or Bilateral sensitivity violation committed at any USDA certified Horse Industry Organization ("HIO") affiliated/sanctioned event by any licensed trainer(s) associated with the Facility. This includes any HIO affiliated/sanctioned show, sale, exhibition or auction.

1. **Unilateral Violation.** All HIOs inspection procedure for a horse that are the same for the inspection of a horse that identifies and determines a bilateral sensitivity as described in the USDA Regulations and the HIOs Rulebook (if available) except the determination is limited to one foot only.
2. **Bilateral Violation.** A determination in the HIO inspection procedure that identifies and determines a bilateral sensitivity as described in the USDA Regulations and the HIOs Rulebook (if available) that presents a consistent reproducible (non-random) response to pain from any flexion or palpation in both front limbs.

#### C. EFFECT OF VIOLATION

All violations of this PRHTA Penalty Matrix will be reported to ALL HIOs for compliance with the PRHTA suspension. To the extent that a Trainer presents or exhibits at an HIO that does not comply with this Penalty Matrix, the Facility will be suspended for an additional period of time (2 weeks if the original suspension was for the 8th or 9th violation, and 30 days if the original suspension was for violation #10 or more).

## **D. GENERAL - NOTIFICATION AND RESULTS OF SUSPENSION**

1. The PRHTA will notify the Facility and the Head PRHTA licensed Trainer at the Facility within 10 days of the violation(s) that initiate any suspension, by return receipt mail when any suspension will begin and end. The Facility and/or PRHTA Head Trainer may waive the 10 day notice period and start the suspension immediately. The Facility or PRHTA Head Trainer must notify the PRHTA of such waiver and provide a signed waiver to the PRHTA (the waiver forms may be obtained from the PRHTA at PRHTA1@gmail.com)
2. A person suspended as a result of a violation may only be a spectator at horse shows, exhibitions, sales or auctions. Persons who are on suspension shall not (1) enter a horse for the purposes of showing, exhibiting or selling at auction (For purposes of this paragraph "Enter a horse" shall mean to perform any of the activities that are required to be completed before a horse can actually be shown or exhibited.) (2) show or exhibit a horse at a horse show, public auction, or exhibition such as a college football game or parade; (3) judge a horse show; (4) enter the show ring during the course of a horse show; (5) enter the inspection area or warm-up area where previously inspected horses are allowed to await ring or sale entry, during the course of a horse show or sale; (6) coach by any manner of communication, any trainer, owner, or exhibitor anytime during the show or exhibit; (7) transport horses to shows, exhibitions or public auctions; (8) prepare a horse on the sale, show, auction or exhibition grounds; (9) serve as a horse show official.

## **E. SUSPENSION**

Suspensions will begin with the first HIO affiliated/sanctioned event and will end with the last HIO affiliated/sanctioned event and any suspension term not completed by the end of the last HIO event must be implemented or continued beginning with the first HIO affiliated/sanctioned event of the following year.

## **F. APPEALS**

**All APPEALS** will be handled by PRHTA Board of Directors

## **G. PENALTY MATRIX**

The penalties below apply only to Unilateral and Bilateral violations (as cumulatively found for a Facility) and will apply to the entire Facility including all facility licensed PRHTA trainers.

Violations #1 through #7 - **NO SHOW - RETURN TO TRAILER**

Violation #8 through #9 - 2 week suspension

Violation #10 and more - 30 days for #10 and for **EACH VIOLATION** thereafter

Multiple violations must be served **CONSECUTIVELY NOT CONCURRENT** and during the show season

Subject to Section E above, all PRHTA violations and suspension(s) will be removed at the end of the calendar year presuming the suspensions have been served by all licensed Trainers at the Facility.

Any licensed Trainer at a Facility who does not comply with this Penalty Matrix will be suspended for additional periods at the PRHTA determination by majority vote of the PRHTA Board of Directors.

**The PRHTA has the right to modify, change or suspended this Penalty Matrix program at any time it deems appropriate.**