

## **PENALTIES AND SUSPENSION**

The A.G.M.A. shall have final jurisdiction in all matters pertaining to restrictions levied for any violations of the Rules, or any prejudicial act, and may order suspensions and penalties including, but not limited to the following:

### **GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR PENALTIES**

- A. Any person found guilty of a violation of the A.G.M.A. Rules may be subject to suspension for any period from showing or having others show, exhibit or train for them. Suspension shall be assessed to the trainer, owner, and exhibitor.
- B. A suspended person is forbidden for the time specified in the sentence to hold or exercise office in the A.G.M.A. or any Affiliated Show, and may be excluded from all show grounds during Affiliated Shows and from participating in any A.G.M.A. activity including voting and attending the annual meeting.
- C. Any person suspended by the USDA is automatically suspended by the A.G.M.A. for the period of the USDA suspension. The A.G.M.A. may levy any other such penalty against the person as deemed appropriate.
- D. Any volunteer or any employed person who assist, rides, exhibits, or grooms for the benefit, credit, reputation, or satisfaction of the person disciplined may be suspended for any period.
- E. Any elected officer or Board of Director while serving a suspension issued by the A.G.M.A. is also suspended from his/her duties as an officer or director for the same period of time.
- F. Any member who violates the above rules, shall be suspended for the remainder of that member's natural life from membership in A.G.M.A. and for a like period be prohibited from participating in any A.G.M.A. show, meeting, function, or any other activity.
- G. Any non-member violating in this provision shall be prohibited for the remainder of their natural life from the membership in A.G.M.A. or participating in any show, meeting, function, or any other activity.

### **PENALTIES RESULTING IN IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATIONS AND/OR RETURN OF PREMIUMS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:**

- A. Misrepresentations of a mule's identity, name, age, eligibility for the class, registered or recorded name, registration number, owner of record, and other information on any entry blank, or substitution in the show ring of an entry other than the one named for the class in question which shall result in the Exhibitor's forfeiture of any ribbon, trophy, cash prize and other award won by such misrepresented or substituted animal, and shall render the Exhibitor liable for further penalty.
- B. Voluntarily removing a mule from the ring without the permission of a Judge. The Exhibitor and all animals under his/her care and training may be disqualified from all future classes at that show by the Show Committee and caused to forfeit all prizes and entry fees for the entire show.

### **GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR SUSPENSIONS**

- A. Any person who desires their suspension to commence before the twenty (20) day period allowed for requesting a Board of Directors and Grievance Committee Hearing shall file a written statement with the Board of Directors and the Grievance Committee stating that he/she is guilty as charged and requesting the suspension begin immediately. In this event, the applicable suspension days will begin running on the post-marked date of the letter to A.G.M.A.
- B. Any person who desires his/her suspension to commence immediately may sign the back of his/her D.Q.P. ticket. This is an admission of guilt.

#### ADDITIONAL PENALTIES, WHICH MAY BE LEVIED

Any person found guilty of a violation of the A.G.M.A. Rules may be subject to the following:

- A. Expulsion: Expulsion from all Affiliated Shows, sales or exhibitions, expulsions from registering or transferring mules.
- B. Forfeiture: Forfeiture of awards, trophies, ribbons, and prize money won in connection with the offense committed.
- C. Fine: Fine of not less than \$25 or more than \$5,000.
- D. Probation: Probation for any period of time up to one (1) year from the date of decision or, if suspension is levied, from the date the suspension is terminated. Probation shall be a time during which the conduct of the person is scrutinized carefully by the A.G.M.A. and should violation be filed against said person he/she is automatically suspended from all rights and privileges until the Hearing of the Board of Directors and the Grievance Committee.

#### RESTRICTIONS, NOTIFICATION, RECIPROCITY

- A. Suspension must be taken during the A.G.M.A. show season.
- B. A person suspended by USDA cannot present a mule for inspection or warm the mule up on the show grounds.
- C. The A.G.M.A. office staff shall notify the sponsoring organization of every Affiliated Show of person on suspension. The A.G.M.A. may report disciplinary action taken to another equine association/breed registry if in their opinion some course is advisable for the protection of mutual interest.

#### RECORD AND PUBLICATION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND HEARING COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Actions taken by the Board of Directors and with regard to administrative and operational matters shall be recorded in the minutes of the A.G.M.A. This action shall be OPERATIONAL ACTION.