

THE AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION'S NEW RULES

The Executive Committee met on April 12-15 in Amarillo, Texas to review recommendations made to them by committees. The 2 most controversial recommendations were present in the Stud Book and Registration committee regarding “the white rule” and HYPP horses.

From the AQHA website: “The first concerned rule 227(c), commonly known as “the white rule.” That rule limited the amount of white that a horse could have and still be eligible for registration. During the convention, AQHA’s Stud Book and Registration Committee voted to delete that restriction.”

Previous rules did not allow horses with white markings above the elbow and gaskin to the area forward of the poll and throatlatch. Now, horses that show these characteristics and are parentage verified Quarter Horses can be registered in AQHA. However, the committee states that:

“Breeders should be aware that the American Quarter Horse while long recognized identified and promoted as a solid-colored horse, can and does occasionally produce offspring with overo paint characteristics. Such markings are uncharacteristic of the breed and are considered to be undesirable traits” as to be revised in rule 205.

Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis (HYPP) is a heritable genetic muscle disease found in the Impressive line of Quarter Horses that leads to uncontrolled muscle twitching, weakness, and in severe cases, collapse and death.

From the AQHA website:

“The other topic dealt with Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis (HYPP). The committee recommended that foals of 2007 and later tracing to the stallion IMPRESSIVE be parentage verified and, in addition, tested for HYPP subject to the guidelines in rule 205 (c) (1). Any foals of 2007 and later testing homozygous positive for HYPP (h/h) will not be eligible for registration with AQHA.”

As the rules stand previously, all AQHA registered horses that trace back to Impressive are required to be HYPP tested and designated either as an ancestor or “N/N” on all registration information.