

## **REINING MICHIGAN INCORPORATED - Adopted November 16, 2013**

These rules and regulations are set by the Officers and Board of Directors of Reining Michigan, Incorporated (RMI).

**Section 1: Membership Fees** - Upon purchase of Reining Michigan, Inc, membership, member agrees to abide by the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Association. Annual individual membership \$25  
Individual lifetime membership \$200

### **Section 2: Disciplinary Procedure**

Any member or non-member may be disciplined or suspended from the Association and may be denied all privileges of the Association by the Officers and Board of Directors, whenever it shall have been established by satisfactory evidence in a hearing conducted by the Officers and the Board of Directors that such a member or non-member has knowingly and willfully violated any Bylaws or Rules of the Association. Anyone who becomes a member of the Association or becomes involved in a contractual agreement with the Association accepts to be bound by all the Bylaws and 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 in compliance with the Bylaws and Rules.

Causes for disciplinary action shall include taking legal action against the club without sound merit and any unsportsmanlike conduct. Unsportsmanlike conduct shall be defined as any action of disrespect, negligence, misrepresentation, false statement, deceit or fraud directed towards judges, show management, show representative, show steward, show secretary, MRHA board of directors, members or other exhibitors. Sound merit will be determined by the recommendation of the club's legal counsel.

A. Whenever anyone shall be accused of any violations, he/she shall be given not less than thirty (30) days written notice of a time and place for hearing such accusation by the Officers, Board of Directors, or by an appropriate committee, at such time and place he/she will have the opportunity, in person or by counsel to be

heard and to present evidence in his/her behalf, and to hear and refute evidence offered against him/her. If disciplinary action is determined to be necessary, membership suspension or permanent revocation are possible.

B. Any other disciplinary procedures regarding Show Conduct, abuse to horse, judge, show management, or contestants, etc, refer to the NRHA Handbook or your NRHA Show Representative.

C. The decision and action of the Board of Directors shall be final and binding on all parties. Any members or non-member may be suspended and/or denied privileges of the Association, by the approved show official or official thereof, or may be denied

privileges of the Association by the Treasurer of the Association for the failure to pay when due any obligation owed to the Association or for giving a worthless check for entry fees, stall fees, office charges, premiums or any other fees, charges connected with the exhibition of reining horses, provided, however, that fifteen (15) days before action by the Treasurer, written notice of the account due and the intention to suspend or withhold privileges of the Association shall be delivered to such members or non-member. Any suspension and denial of privileges under this section shall terminate upon full payment of the obligation due the Association.

Every notice required by these rules and regulations may be served by delivery of a copy of the notice to the person to be served, or his/her attorney, either in person or by mail, postage prepaid, to his/her last known address as it appears on the Association's records and upon mailing such notice, shall be deemed received by such person when it is deposited in the United States mail.

D. There is a \$35 charge for all returned checks. Furthermore, any unpaid bills by a member or non-member (entry fees, stall fees, shavings fees, advertising fees, sponsor commitment fees, etc) past ninety (90) days may be subject to disciplinary procedures.

E. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, members or non-members may be required to pay show expenses including entry fees, stall fees, shavings fees, advertising fees, sponsor commitment fees, etc. in guaranteed form of payment. The Treasurer will notify the show secretary of those individuals needing to pay in this manner.

### **Section 3: Conduct and Protests**

Any complaint or protest must be in writing and filed with the Secretary at the Reining Michigan, Inc, office. Upon receipt, all complaints or protests will be referred to the Reining Michigan, Inc, Officers and Board of Directors for investigation and recommendation. If, in the Officers and Board of Director's judgment, it is not sufficiently serious to warrant a full hearing, thereon, they will report the same with a recommendation for appropriate action. Any complaint or protest must be accompanied by a cashier's check, certified check, money order, or cash in the amount of \$100 and must be in writing and filed with Reining Michigan, Inc, within ten (10) days of the incident. If the protest is disallowed, the protest fee will not be refunded. If the protest is allowed, the protest fee will be refunded.

Furthermore, the person filing the protest will be liable for the cost of such protest and all damages which may result there from, if the protest is not sustained. In the event the Officers

and Board of Directors do not uphold the complaint, the complainer will be responsible for any cost incurred.

**Section 4** - All meetings of the Officers and Board of Directors will be conducted under Roberts Rules of Order.

### **Section 5 - Green Reiner / Green Horse**

Purpose: To enable non-professional riders with little or no experience to compete at an entry-level class and to experience the fun, excitement, and camaraderie of reining competition. Also, to allow some older reining horses to be able to come back and compete in a class where the rider has the option of showing with two hands. MRHA Green Reiner 1 and MRHA Green Reiner 2 will follow NRHA Green Reiner 1 and NRHA Green Reiner 2 rules respectively.

**Green Reiner I** - This is an entry-level class for non-professional riders who have earned less than \$200 lifetime NRHA/MRHA earnings or 75 youth points or less than 200 Green points lifetime in NRHA/MRHA competition. If a Green Reiner I is eligible for this class at the beginning of a show season, they remain eligible for the entire season. A rider in Green Reiner I may use one or two hands at any time during the pattern. Green Reiner I class will run NRHA approved patterns. Simple lead changes are allowed but will follow the NRHA rules for simple lead changes.

Rider does not need to own the horse. Rider must be a current MRHA/Reining Michigan, Inc, member to show. Year-End Awards will be issued based on points accumulated at the end of the current year. Points will be tabulated using the NRHA point system with 0 scores not placing.

**Green Reiner II** - This is the class to which Green Reiner I riders will graduate if and when they are no longer eligible for the Green Reiner I class. This class is for nonprofessional riders who have not won \$350 lifetime NRHA/MRHA earnings or less than 175 youth points or less than 350 Green Reiner points in NRHA/MRHA competition. If a Green Reiner II is eligible for this class at the beginning of a show season, they stay eligible for the entire season. A rider in Green Reiner II may use one or two hands at any time during the pattern. Green Reiner II class will run NRHA approved patterns. Simple lead changes are allowed but will follow the NRHA rules for simple lead changes.

Rider does not need to own the horse. Rider must be a current MRHA/Reining Michigan, Inc, member to show. Year-End Awards will be issued based on points accumulated at the end of the current year. Points will be tabulated using the NRHA point system with 0 scores not placing.

**Green Horse-** This class is open to any horse who has not won more than \$200 in NRHA/MRHA competition. If a Green Horse is eligible for this class at the beginning of a show season, they stay eligible for the entire season. Green Horse will run concurrently with Green Reiner II. A rider in Green Horse may use one or two hands at any time during the pattern. Green Horse will run NRHA approved patterns. Simple lead changes are allowed but will follow the NRHA rules for simple lead changes. Rider does not need to own the horse. No membership is required to show. No year-end awards will be given out.

## **Section 6 - Michigan Affiliate Circuit Year-end Awards**

Reining Michigan, Inc, may present awards to Michigan Affiliate Circuit Champions and Circuit Reserve Champions in NRHA affiliate classes as per NRHA rules. These awards will be presented at the annual Reining Michigan, Inc, Awards Banquet that follows the Reining Michigan, Inc, show season.

Owner and rider must be a member in good standing with Reining Michigan, Inc,/NRHA at the time of competition for points to count toward Michigan Affiliate Circuit year end awards.

Points are to accumulate on a one-horse, one-rider format.

Points will be awarded on the number of horses actually competing in the class; i.e., if fifteen (15) horses compete in a class, 1st place will be awarded 15 points, 2nd place - 14 points, etc. Points will be calculated on horses actually competing, excluding the horses entered by scratched. Zeros and no scores will not be awarded points. Reining Michigan, Inc, will post on the Reining Michigan, Inc, website a link to the NRHA Affiliate Circuit standing.

## **Section 7 - Year-end awards**

Any classes offered at more than 50% of the Reining Michigan, Inc, approved shows may receive year-end awards. Classes offered at or less than 50% of Reining Michigan, Inc, approved shows may be given year-end awards at the discretion of the awards committee and approval of Officers and Board of Directors. Any NRHA class offered at every show on every slate will be given a year-end awards with the exception of NRHA Green Reiner 1 and NRHA Green Reiner 2. MRHA Green Reiner 1 and MRHA Green Reiner 2 will receive year end awards in place of NRHA Green Reiner 1 and NRHA Green Reiner 2.

All owners and riders must be current members of Reining Michigan, Inc, to qualify for year-end awards by the end of the Slide-In MRHA show in June. With the exception of Green Reiner classes where only riders need to be members. Year-end monies/points begin to accumulate once membership fee is paid.

Year-end awards are based on monies earned on the horse in the open division. Year-end awards are based on monies earned on the horse and rider combination in the non-pro divisions.

Year-end awards are based on points earned on the horse/rider combination in Youth, MRHA Green Reiner I, MRHA Green Reiner 2, and AQHA Ranch Riding Open, Amateur, and Youth classes.

All calculations published for year-end awards and affiliate circuit year-end awards are unofficial until December 1 of the current year at which time they shall be deemed official.

### **Section 8 - Amendments or additions to Rules and Regulations**

These rules and regulations of the Reining Michigan, Inc, are voted on and ratified by the Officers and Board of Directors and need not be presented to the General Membership for approval.

Any changes to these rules and regulations must be proposed to the Officers and Board of Directors of the Reining Michigan, Inc, on or before the final meeting of the current year. They will then be discussed by the Officers and Board of Directions. The final revisions will be discussed at the following meeting, voted on, and ratified. Any revised rules will be supplied to the General Membership through Reining Michigan, Inc, avenues such as personal mailings, and website information.

These rules will be reviewed by the Board of Directors annually.

Any and all interpretation decision to these Bylaw, Rules, and Regulations shall be the responsibility of the Officers and Board of Directors as to the meaning and/or purpose of said rule or Bylaw in question.

Revised 02/12/2023