



*Rules of*

# *The International Trotting & Pacing Association*

**Published By:**  
**The International Trotting & Pacing Association, Inc**  
**10870 S. 600 E. ~ North Manchester, IN 46962**  
**Phone: 574•551•4049**

*Revised: 2022*

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# Rules of The International Trotting and Pacing Association, Inc.

## **Chapter I: Mandate and Authority**

### **Section 1 - Mandate and Authority**

These Rules Have Been duly enacted and are hereby declared to be the rules of the International Trotting and Pacing Association, Inc. The rules shall apply to and govern the conduct of racing and related matters by officials, owners, drivers, and Member Tracks of the Association.

In the remainder of this document the International Trotting and Pacing Association, Inc. may be referred to as the ITPA or the Association. The rules of the ITPA may be referred to as “The Rules”.

### **Section 2 - Governance, Conflicts, and Amendments**

#### **Rule 1 - Races Governed by The Rules**

All published conditions, programs and entry blanks of Member Tracks shall state that races shall be conducted under and governed by the rules of the ITPA.

#### **Rule 2 - Display of Affiliation with Association**

Wherever races are conducted, the track shall advertise or in some other approved manner, display or make known its membership in the ITPA.

#### **Rule 3 - Conflicts with The Rules**

In the event there is a conflict between the rules and the conditions written by any Member Track the rules shall govern.

#### **Rule 4 - Situations Not Covered**

Any situation not covered by the Rules shall be referred to the executive committee according to the bylaws of the Association. No rule changes or changes in the bylaws may occur between ITPA board meetings. (Rev1994)

#### **Rule 5 - Publications of Amendments**

A set of all amendments, new rules and rescinded rules passed after the issuance of this edition and after each subsequent edition of the rules shall be sent by mail to each ITPA director and track official automatically, with appropriate fee to be paid by each. Any member in good standing will be sent a set on request and payment of the appropriate fee.

#### **Rule 6 - Rules for the Winter Season**

Rule changes made at the fall ITPA Board Meeting will be effective immediately and applied to the winter season of racing in Florida. (Rev 2011)

#### **Rule 7 - Rule Changes Reconsidered**

All rule changes will take effect immediately and may be reconsidered after one year, by the board of directors. (Rev. 2011)

# Chapter II - Admission and Operation of Member Tracks

## Section 1 - Admission and Operation of Member Tracks

### **Rule 1 - Admission of Additional Tracks**

The admission of an additional member track requires the approval of and licensing by the ITPA. A committee of no fewer than 2 persons who are voting members of ITPA appointed by the executive committee shall inspect the track desiring membership. They shall make a report to the executive committee. The executive committee shall decide whether the track meets the standards for safety and distance.

### **Rule 2 - Standards for Additional Tracks Judged for Safety and Distance**

The standards for safety and distance are:

#### **A. A Track Shall Be Judged for Safety:**

1. Surface level and free from stones, holes, allowing unencumbered movement of horses and sulkies
2. Width Sufficient to allow safe passages
3. Turns must follow a true circular line and must not be sharp or narrow

#### **B. A Track Shall Be Judged by Distance:**

1. USTA approved tracks can be licensed ITPA, if the executive committee is informed by the USTA that the track is adequately marked to ensure that the horses go the full half mile and that the track has been surveyed with the markers in place.
2. All other tracks shall be measured by a committee or a qualified survey provided with the distance recorded. The track shall be measured for actual footage 2 feet out from the hub rail or from a line drawn between the ends of a non-continuous hub rail (only in the turns). Tracks measuring from ¼ mile thru 1 mile are eligible to be licensed by ITPA. The start and finish line shall be set to ensure that horses' race ½ mile.

### **Rule 3 - Hub Rails**

A continuous hub rail is not required and ITPA clubs are strongly urged to remove it and replace it with permanent pliable markers (pylons). Hub rail or preferably pliable markers are required in the turns to ensure that horse's race the full ½ mile distance. All tracks marking the inside of their track with pliable markers (pylons) cannot install any which are greater than 18" in height. (Rev. 2014)

### **Rule 4 - Redesigned Tracks**

All tracks originally approved by the ITPA and later redesigned must be reassessed for safety and distance in accordance with rule 2 of this section.

### **Rule 5 - Provisional Licensing**

A member track may be issued a provisional license while under construction for protection of the location.

## **Section 2 - Operation of Member Tracks**

### **Rule 1 - Distribution of Purses**

All races conducted by member tracks shall be bona fide contests, with the winner receiving the largest share of the purse and the balance made according to the order of finish. No horse shall receive winnings greater than those of a horse that finished ahead of it. Except in the case of a setback in a race in accordance with Chapter IV, Section 4, Rule 8 and Chapter VII Section 5 Rule 3.

### **Rule 2 - Exhibition Races**

Exhibition races are permitted if prior approval is obtained by the area director. A Trottingbred horse with ITPA eligibility is permitted to race or perform in such a manner as to be strictly an exhibition and for the sole purpose of promoting Trottingbred racing. Exhibition races may pay purse money, no time is to be recorded on the eligibility, and no time will be allowed for a record. The performers may accept expense money, provided the same amount is paid to each performer, or in the case of mileage expense money, such funds are paid on the same pro-ratio basis to each participant. (Rev. 2019)

### **Rule 3 - Defaults and Deductions from Purses**

Any member track that defaults in the payment of a premium that has been raced for shall stand suspended, together with its officers. No deduction voluntary or involuntary may be made from any purse or stake other than for payments to be made to the owners, nominators, or breeders of money winning horses and organization or promotion expenses stipulated for stakes and futurities.

### **Rule 4 - Minimum Purses**

When any member track advertises a minimum purse and conducts any race for less than the minimum the member track shall be fined the difference between the advertised minimum and the lesser purse for which the race was conducted. The proceeds of the fine may be distributed among the money winning horses in proportion to their respective winnings.

### **Rule 5 - Interference with ITPA Officials**

Although member tracks have the responsibility for general supervision of their meets, interference with the proper performance of duties of any ITPA official is prohibited.

### **Rule 6 - Required Local Membership**

Member tracks may require ITPA owners and drivers to become members of the local track or club before being permitted to race on the track operated by the member track.

## Chapter III - Registry

**Notice: All Pedigrees and race records are the sole property of the ITPA**

### **Section 1 - Horses**

#### **Rule 1 - Ownership Requirement**

Only horses owned by voting members of ITPA may be admitted to the registry. In cases of joint ownership all owners are required to sign all required documents necessary unless documentation, signed by all owners, designating one owner as official representative, is on file in the ITPA office stating otherwise. (Rev 1997)

#### **Rule 2 - Qualification for Registry**

Horses may be registered Trottingbred with any of these qualifications:

1. Registered Standardbred stallions or mares
  2. Trottingbred at birth
  3. By registration of offspring.
- A. Any registered Standardbred stallion or mare may be registered as Trottingbred for breeding purposes only, at a \$100.00 fee. Such horses are referred to as Standardbred Trottingbred horses and are assigned registration numbers that begin with the letter's "SP". The original or photo static copy of the Standardbred registration issued by the USTA, Columbus Ohio and must accompany the application for registration as a Standardbred-Trottingbred. No "Non-Standardbred" will be allowed to be registered with the ITPA. (Rev 2022)
- B. There are 3 types of horses that may be registered Trottingbred at birth:
1. The progeny of a registered Trottingbred stallion and a Trottingbred mare including registered standardbred stallions and mares that were registered as Trottingbred for racing and breeding purposes under previous rules.
  2. The progeny of a registered Standardbred-Trottingbred stallion and a registered Trottingbred mare.
  3. The progeny of a registered Trottingbred stallion and a standardbred-Trottingbred mare.
- C. Omitted (Rev. 2005)

#### **Rule 3 - Breeding for Registration Purposes**

The owner/breeder of a horse for the purpose of registration is the owner/lease of the dam at the time of breeding. In cases of joint ownership all owners are required to sign all documentation, unless a form signed by all owners is on file in the ITPA office stating otherwise. When held under lease, or bred in partnership, only such lease or partnership filed at the ITPA office will be recognized for such purpose. (Rev. 1997)

#### **Rule 4 - Naming Horses**

The rules for naming horses have 9 parts:

1. Names requested for registration shall be limited to 20 letters and 3 words (Rev 2012)
2. Horses may not be registered under the name of a horse previously registered.
3. Names of outstanding horses may not be used again, nor may they be used as a prefix or suffix, unless the name is part of the name of the sire or dam. A prefix or suffix such as Jr. Etc. is not allowed.
4. Use of a farm name in registration of horses is reserved for the farm that has registered that name.
5. Names of living persons shall not be used unless written permission is filed with the appl. for registration.
6. No horse shall be registered with spelling or pronunciation similar to those names already in use.
7. Names of famous or notorious persons, trade names, or names claimed for advertising purposes, (except names or parts of a name of a registered breeding farm) shall not be used unless written permission to use the name is filed with the application for registration. (Rev 1999)

8. The ITPA reserves the right to refuse any name indicating a family or strain that may be misleading to the origin or relationship of a horse.
9. Horses may be named by December 31<sup>st</sup> of their foaling yr. without penalty to be eligible to the ITPA stakes if all other conditions are met.

#### **Rule 5 - Duplicate Registration Certificate**

A duplicate Registration Certificate shall be issued upon receipt of a satisfactory written statement from the owner stating why the duplicate is needed and with payment of the appropriate fees.

#### **Rule 6 - Name Change**

The name of a horse that has never raced, sired, or born a foal, may be changed for a fee if there is no stable name involved or if written permission is given by the breeder when a stable name is involved. If no permission is given by the breeder when a stable name is involved the fee is higher.

#### **Rule 7 - Responsibility for Transfer Fee**

The new owner of a transferred horse is responsible for paying the transfer fee.

#### **Rule 7a – Transfer of Ownership**

When selling a horse that is registered under joint-ownership, all owners listed on the registration papers are required to sign a transfer report before any horse will be transferred to the new owner in the ITPA Office. If registered under a stable name, all members associated with the stable must sign the transfer report. (Rev 2011)

#### **Rule 8 – Omitting Transfers (Rev 1997)**

Any person who is involved knowingly in skipping or omitting transfers in the chain of ownership of any horse shall be subject to penalties.

#### **Rule 9 - False Information**

The president or area board of review may summon persons who have executed applications for registration or transfer that have become subject to question, as well as other persons who may have knowledge thereof. Failure of persons to respond may result in a fine, suspension, or expulsion. If a study shows an application for registration or transfer contains false or misleading information, the person responsible may be fined, suspended or expelled, and may be barred from further registration or transfer of horses in the ITPA. The decision of the president or area board of review, as the case may be, shall be reduced in writing and shall be final unless the person(s) aggrieved shall, within 10 days, appeal in writing to the executive committee as provided in the by-laws.

#### **Rule 10 - Incorrect Markings**

Any person filing an Application for registration with incorrect markings may be fined for each such incorrect application.

#### **Rule 11 - Suspension of Incorrect Registration**

If, upon any proceeding under Chapter 3 Section 1 Rule 9, it is determined that any outstanding registration is incorrect, the president shall order immediate cancellation of the registration. The horse is suspended from all use and activity and its new owner shall be notified to that effect.

#### **Rule 12 - Failure to Submit Information**

Failure by a member to submit requested information relative to the breeding and/or transfer of a horse within ITPA may subject member to suspension.

#### **Rule 13 – Transfer of Unregistered Foals**

There shall be no transfer fees for unregistered foals. (Rev. 2011)



## **Section 2 - Breeding**

### **Rule 1 - Mating Certificate**

A mating certificate must be attached to the registration application before a certification of registration will be issued for any foal. Mating certificates shall be signed by the owner(s), or lessee of the stallion. If the horse is under lease, a form must be filed with ITPA signed by the owner(s) of the stallion stating to whom and for what period of time the horse is under lease. In addition to this lessee must submit written responsibility for the accuracy of mating certificates, during the time covered by the lease to the ITPA office. (Rev 2008)

### **Rule 2 - Artificial Insemination**

Artificial Insemination is permitted with Vet certification where stallion is quartered. Foals conceived by semen transported of the stallion's premises must be blood typed, as well as the sire and dam to prove parentage, at the owner's expense. (Rev 1992)

### **Rule 3 - Stallion Records**

Stallion owners shall keep a stallion record showing the name, sire and dam, color, markings, owner and breeding dates of all mares bred. A record also must be kept on the color, sex and foaling dates of any foals born on the stallion owners' premises. The records must be available for inspection by officers or authorized representatives of ITPA and shall be kept for at least 10 yrs. or filed with the ITPA office. The ITPA office will not except any late stallion records older than 5 years past the breeding date. (Rev 2022)

### **Rule 4 - List of Names of Mares Bred**

All persons standing a stallion at either public or private service shall file with ITPA a list of all mares bred to each Stallion, with dates of service. The list with mating certificates attached must be filed by December 31st of each breeding year and is mandatory for Stallions registered in any state for a sire's stake. Failure to comply with this provision will subject the owner(s) / lessee of the stallion to a fine of a \$100 - \$500 late fee if not received by the date specified above. (Rev. 2022)

### **Rule 5 – Unexpected Foals**

An unexpected foal can be registered with the ITPA Office at normal registration prices with official DNA Test Results showing proof of Sire and Dam. All DNA Testing will be at the expense of the owner. Unexpected foals will not be eligible for ITPA Stakes. (Rev. 2011)

**Notice:** In cases of joint ownership all owners must sign all required documents, unless document signed by all Owners is on file at ITPA stating otherwise. (Rev 2008)

## **Section 3 - Stable Names**

### **Rule 1 - Stable Names May Be Registered**

Upon approval and payment of the appropriate fee, stable names may be registered with the ITPA.

### **Rule 2 - Stable Names in a Horses' Name**

Stable or farm names that are registered with ITPA may not be used as any part of another owner's horse's name without the consent of the member who has registered that name.

### **Rule 3 - Common Names**

Common names such as good, country, lady, etc., will not be allowed as part of stable registrations. Only proper names such as Grady's Greengables Masons, Jandi, AandZ etc. will be accepted.

# Chapter IV Eligibility Certificate and Time Records

## **Section 1- Eligibility Certificates**

### **Rule 1 – Eligibility Certificate Requirement**

No horse shall race on a member track without an eligibility certificate issued by ITPA. Member tracks are responsible for enforcing this and will be fined for allowing a horse to race without an eligibility. The member track will have 15 days from the date of the fine to pay. If the fine is not paid by that time, racing at the track is suspended until fine is paid.

### **Rule 2 - Application for Eligibility**

An application for eligibility must state the name of the owner, the owner's address, color, sex, age, gait, sire and dam of the horse. The application for an eligibility must be submitted to the ITPA office 10 business days before the horse may measure for racing.

### **Rule 3 - Qualification for Issuance of an Eligibility**

Any horse that is 2 yrs. old (officially January 1<sup>st</sup>. - of the 2-year-old year) or older may be issued an eligibility certificate upon application there are additional qualifications given in rules 3A thru 8 in Chapter IV.

- A. No eligibility certificate shall be issued to a full Standardbred beginning with the 1986 racing season.

### **Rule 4 - Unknown Sires and Dams**

No Eligibility certificate shall be issued to any previously unregistered horse with an unknown sire or dam.

### **Rule 5 - Two-Year-Old Registration Requirement**

All 2 yr. old must be registered Trottingbred to secure an eligibility certificate.

### **Rule 5a - Two-Year-Old's Racing the Midwest Season**

For Two Year Old's Racing the Midwest Season an Eligibility certificate will not be issued until a horse becomes a 2-yr-old between January 1<sup>st</sup> -September 1<sup>st</sup> of the horses 2-year-old year. (Rev. 2022)

### **Rule 6 - Two Year Old's Racing the Winter Season**

An Eligibility certificate will not be issued until a horse becomes a 2-yr-old except yearlings that will race the winter season May be issued an eligibility but cannot race until Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> or after. (Rev 1990)

### **Rule 6a – Automatic Setback for Racing the Winter Season**

- A. Any incoming Trottingbred horses with a classifying time established outside of Sunshine Raceway in Florida shall be allowed a setback of one (1) timebar (a 1 second allotment up to, but not exceeding five (5) seconds).
- B. This setback only encompasses racing at Sunshine Raceway for the winter season. All horses returning to race during the summer season will return to its original classifying time unless the time was bettered during the winter season, then the horse would carry its new classifying time.
- C. This automatic setback will not affect horses which currently have classifying times established at Sunshine Raceway and/or who do not travel to other tracks to race.
- D. The Eligibility Certificate will be marked "1 timebar setback **Sunshine Raceway Only** as per rule Ch IV-Sec 1-6a" (Rev. 2011)

### **Rule 7 - Ownership Requirement**

An eligibility certificate (white for trotters, colored for pacers) shall be issued only for horses owned or trained by voting members in good standing of ITPA. When requesting an eligibility certificate, the owner will be listed as the current owner/trainer unless otherwise instructed. (Rev. 2011)

### **Rule 8 - Horse under Penalty**

An eligibility certificate shall not be issued for a horse under penalty.

### **Rule 9 - Registration Requirement for Eligible Horses**

Any horse that is eligible to register under any of the qualifications given in Rule 2, Chapter III must be registered before it can be issued an eligibility certificate. The only exception is that geldings that have raced prior to 1982 with times of 1:30 and slower will be excluded from the registration requirement.

### **Rule 10 - Posting Times on Eligibilities**

Times should be posted on eligibilities only in the column for the size track raced on with the other columns left blank.

### **Rule 11 - Classifying Times to Start the Season**

Eligibilities issued for a new year will list the fastest and second fastest times that a horse earned for each size track for a given yr. Normally, this would be the previous yr. or the last yr. raced; however, if these times are slower than those earned in some prior yr. and no setback has been granted, the prior years' time will be shown. Individual track differentials must be added or subtracted by race secretaries to determine the horses second fastest time and this shall be used to place the horse in the correct time bar with the exception being published conditions stating that the fastest time used at individual tracks, or a horse that starts the new year racing under a setback newly granted or carried over. (Rev 1997)

### **Rule 12 - Declaring a Horse without an Eligibility**

There shall be a fine assessed to the owner, if a horse is declared to race without an eligibility certificate for the current year at the proper gait. The member track shall refuse to accept any declaration without the appropriate eligibility. Telephone declarations may be accepted without penalty, but the eligibility certificate must be presented when the horse arrives at the track and before it races. The race secretary shall check each certificate and certify to the judges the eligibility of all horses to race.

### **Rule 13 - Age for the Winter Season**

The age of any horse that receives an eligibility for racing the winter season shall be the horses age as of the following January 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Rule 14 - Falsifying Age**

Any member falsifying the age of a horse on an eligibility shall be suspended from ITPA for life.

### **Rule 15 - Racing without Posting the Time to Eligibility**

There may be a fine or suspension of ITPA drivers, owners, and horses who are involved in a contest with 2 or more horses on any size track when the time of the event is not posted to the eligibility. The fine is at the discretion of the area director. This rule does not apply to approved exhibition races (Chapter II Section 2, Rule 2)

### **Rule 16 - Qualify or Time Trial without an Eligibility**

A horse may race in a qualifying race or time trial without an eligibility certificate but is not considered officially measured and may not race in a classified race until the owner secures an eligibility from the ITPA office.

### **Rule 17 - Eligibilities for Double Gaited Horses**

If a horse changes gait during the year the owner must purchase a new eligibility for the new gait and the horse must qualify and establish a class time for the new gait. The horse may have 2 eligibilities, 1 for each gait, but under no circumstance may a horse race on both gaits on the same day. In the event the horse races in the original gait, the original classification time must be used.

### **Rule 18 - Temporary Eligibility Certificate**

A person who does not have a membership or does not have an eligibility certificate may be issued a temporary eligibility from the race secretary, but the temporary papers are only good for 6 days. Temporary certificates cost an additional \$35.00 the first time the horse is raced. The fees for membership and eligibility must be paid to the race secretary the first time the horse is raced. The race secretary will forward the fees to the ITPA office. (Rev 2009)

### **Rule 19 - Who May View Eligibility Certificate**

As a participant you can ask to have the eligibility of another applicant checked, but only the race secretary or presiding judge is allowed to view other eligibilities. (Rev 1996)

## **Section 2 - Classifying Time**

### **Rule 1 - Racing in the Correct Time Bar**

All horses shall start the season with an official classifying time deduced by using the times recorded on the current eligibility with the size of the track taken into consideration (Chapter IV, Section 2, rule 4 and 9). Under no circumstance may any horse race in a class slower than the time used to start the season unless a setback has been granted (Chapter IV, Section 3) or unless racing under the point system. It is the owner's responsibility to verify that the horse races in the correct class. (Rev 2009)

### **Rule 2 - Classify by Second Fastest Time**

1. All horses racing on ITPA licensed tracks shall be classified by the second fastest lifetime earned (as defined by Chapter IV, Section 1, Rule 11), and shall continue to race on that time until 2 times faster than the present classifying time are earned. If an identical time is earned that is equal to the fastest lifetime earned, that will be the horses fastest lifetime earned and second fastest time. (Rev 2012)
2. Five second rule – Chapter IV, Section 2 Rule 4.
3. Setback is granted - Chapter IV, Section 3 Rule 2.
4. Point system is used - Chapter IV, Section 6 Rule 2.

### **Rule 3 - Differentials Used for Classifying Only**

The second differentials are used for classification purposes only actual race times will be used for records.

### **Rule 4 - Five Second Rule**

Any time a horse earns a time that is 5 seconds faster or more than its current classified time bar, be it bar racing or stake racing, it shall immediately be reclassified. If the fastest time is 5 seconds or more faster, than the time bar that you are classified in, then you must use your fastest time for classification purposes, be it bar racing or stakes racing. It shall be clearly marked on the horse's eligibility that the new classifying is a result of the 5 second rule. Reclassification due to the 5 second rule does not carry over to the next year. All horses are classified on the second fastest time to start the new season. (Rev. 2008)

### **Rule 5 - Times on Nonmember Tracks**

Times on non-member tracks will be used in advancing horses to faster classes. Such times shall not be constituted or be recognized as record times. Finishes showing a horse out of the money on nonmember tracks may not be used to change a horse's classification. All eligibilities used on nonmember tracks must be submitted along with ITPA eligibility to determine classification. If prior owner does not provide papers the ITPA office will attempt to get the information from the nonmember tracks. (Rev. 1997)

### **Rule 6 - Time Differentials for Track Sizes**

Member tracks must set their own differentials between ¼ mile, 5/16, 1/2 mile, and tracks larger than a ½ mile for racing purposes. Every track must state in the general condition sheet the number of seconds allowed between the different sized tracks. The differentials may not be changed during the race season. Under no circumstances may a horse race in a class slower than its second fastest earned or computed time except in races conditioned with the point system in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 6. It is the owner's responsibility to verify that the horse races in the correct class.

### **Rule 7 - Racing Year for Classifying Purposes**

For classifying purpose, the racing year is from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Class times earned during the winter season carry over to the summer season. (Rev. 2013)

### **Rule 8 - Deleted**

### **Rule 9 - Classification Changes**

Classification changes shall be made for the second day and additional days of a 2 (or more) day race meet. Times earned on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of a race weekend shall be used to reclassify horses that will race on the second day of that

weekend, for example. Except when racing in the Midwest and Bermuda, there, the horse will be reclassified the next week that it races. (Rev. 2009)

### **Rule 10 - Racing in a Faster Time Class**

A horse may move up to race in 1 or more classes faster than its official classifying times at the discretion of the track officials. But no horse may race in more than 1 classified race or more than 1 division of a classified race in 1 day, at the same meet. A classified race is any race that a horse is classified by time. (Rev. 2004)

## **Section 3 - Classification Setbacks**

### **Rule 1 - Definition of Classification Setback**

A classification setback is an adjustment of the classifying time to a slower time. A setback is given in terms of a number of seconds which may range from 1 second to a maximum of 5 seconds, but not more than 1-time bar slower. There are 2 situations under which a setback may be granted: (Rev. 1992)

1. When a horse has not raced for one or more years
2. During the year when there is good reason why a horse should be set back

### **Rule 2 - Request for Setback**

The owner of a horse may apply to the area director for a setback by submitting a copy of the horse's current eligibility along with a hand-written request for the setback. Directors can give setbacks only to horses in his/her area. The director will contact 1 of the 2 board appointed representatives (east or west), a study of the horse's racing results will be made, and a decision reached as to how many seconds (if any) the horse will be setback. If the director and the division representative disagree about whether or not the horse will be setback, the other division representative will be contacted to break the tie so a decision can be made one way or the other. Any approved setback will be posted in the magazine with the reason why the setback was granted and from whom. The owner will be notified of the decision by the area director or the ITPA office. The president selects the west and east representatives at the annual meeting. (Rev 2009)

### **Rule 3 - Horses Laid off for a Year**

A horse that has not raced for 1 or more years is not automatically granted a setback. A setback from 1 to 5 seconds slower than the class in which the horse was eligible to race under at the close of the last season raced may be granted with the recommendation of the area director and 1 of the two appointed representatives (west or east). (Rev. 1995)

### **Rule 4 - Reclassification after a Layoff Setback**

When a horse is given a setback because it did not race the previous year or years, the horse has 2 chances to beat the setback time before being moved up to the faster classifying time.

### **Rule 5 - Reclassification after Requested Setback**

When a horse is given a setback at the request of the owner at the beginning of the winter or summer season for a reason other than it did not race the previous year or years, the setback time may be beaten only once before the horse is moved up to the faster time.

### **Rule 6 - Next Year after Setback**

If a horse is racing on a setback and does not beat the setback time according to rules 4 or 5, the same setback time is carried over to the next year. A Horse who is racing on a carried over setback have 2 chances to beat the time before being reclassified to the faster class.

### **Rule 7 - Only One Setback Allowed at a Time**

No matter which situation led to the setback, only 1 setback is allowed at a time unless:

1. The horse beats the setback time once or twice according to rules 4 and 5 canceling the setback
2. An additional setback is approved by the executive committee.

### **Rule 8 - Rejection of Classification Setbacks**

Any ITPA club has the right to include in their racing conditions the rejection of classification setbacks of horses, especially before a race meet with big purses, but also at any time.

## **Rule 9 – Point System Effects on Setbacks**

Any horse racing on a setback at a track where point systems are calculated, the application of points overrides the setback. (Added 2012)

## **Section 4 – Timing**

### **Rule 1 - Three Timers Required**

In every race or performance against time, the times of each heat shall be accurately taken and recorded in minutes, seconds, and fifths of seconds (0:00.0). Each track has the option of using three separate timers with separate stopwatches or using one timer and one Digital Stopwatch with split time function. When the decisions have been made about each heat the timers shall be publicly announced. (Rev. 2013)

### **Rule 2 - First Three Horses to be Timed**

The three leading horses shall be timed, and their times only shall be announced. No horse shall obtain a classifying time by reason of disqualification of another horse. (Rev. 1990)

### **Rule 3 - Errors in Recording Times**

In any case of error in the record, announcement or publication of the time made by a horse, the time so questioned shall not be changed to favor the horse owner except upon the sworn statement of the judges and timer who officiated in the race and then only by order of the area board of review.

### **Rule 4 - Dead Heats**

In the case of a dead heat, the time shall constitute a record for each horse equally.

### **Rule 5 - Method of Timing**

The time shall be taken from the instant the nose of the first horse crosses the starting line until the first, second, and third horses have reached the finish line.

### **Rule 6 - Timing with a Digital Watch**

The procedure for adding 1/5 of a second, up to a full second, to the horse's time when a digital watch is used the 1/100 time is:

0-19	0 fifths	60-79	3/5 (3 fifths of a second)
20-39	1/5 (1 fifth of a second)	80-99	4/5 (4 fifths of a second)
40-59	2/5 (2 fifths of a second)	100	1 (one) full second

Electronic timers may be used, and times will be accepted as accurate. (Rev. 2002)

### **Rule 7 -Fraudulent Timing**

Any person who is guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation of time or the alteration of a recorded time in any race or performance against time shall be suspended or expelled and the time shall not be counted as a record.

### **Rule 8 - Definition of a Setback in a Race**

A setback in a race results when the judge or starter places a horse in a position lower than the position in which the horse crossed the finish line. The setback would be imposed as a result of an infraction of a racing rule.

### **Rule 9 - Timing and Setbacks in a Race**

Whenever a horse is setback from the position held when crossing the finish line to any other position for any reason, the time is lost. The horses that are moved up in position because of a setback carry their times with them, provided they earned a time.

# Chapter V: Measuring

## **Section 1 - Measuring for Racing**

### **Rule 1 - Measurement Requirement**

Each horse must be measured for racing at an ITPA licensed track before its first race of a season except horses that have been exempted from measurement according to rule 20, Section 1, Chapter V. All horses except exempted horses must be measured for racing during the season to be raced. For purposes of measurement, the summer racing season is from April 16 through October 31<sup>st</sup>; the winter racing season is from January 1<sup>st</sup> through April 15. (Rev 2009-2013)

A horse racing both seasons must measure twice, once in each season, excluding exempt horses and horses which were 3 years old or older during the previous summer season (4 years or older as of January 1st) and eligibility showing proof of measurement and racing during the previous summer season. (Rev 2013)

### **Rule 2 – Identification of Horse to be Measured**

All owners are required to carry with them to the measuring block the eligibility certificate or the temporary certificate issued by the race secretary, of the horse being measured. Owners may also be required to present the registration certificate of the horse if racing conditions state that request. (Rev. 2004)

### **Rule 3 -Measurement Committee**

Each area director will nominate 5 active members of the ITPA from either inside or outside their area to serve on the measuring committee, with the area director serving as chair. The names of the committee members must be submitted 3 months before the start of the season (January for summer season; August for winter season) to the ITPA executive Committee for approval. The executive committee may disapprove and delete any or all nominees and appoint replacements. (Rev 1991)

**Midwestern Area Measuring Committee** - Each year the ITPA Board of Directors will elect 2 directors to be the Measuring Chairman for that year for the Midwestern Area. Those Measuring Chairman will appoint 8 members to serve on the measuring committee. Both Measuring Chairman **MUST** be present at all measuring events, if one is not available, they must appoint another ITPA Director to replace them. The names of the committee members must be submitted 3 months before the start of the season (January for summer season; August for winter season) to the ITPA executive Committee for approval. The executive committee may disapprove and delete any or all nominees and appoint replacements. (Added 2012)

### **Rule 4 - Number and Composition of Measuring Committee**

There may be more than 5 names but not fewer. The measuring committee may or may not include the starting and/or the pressing judge.

### **Rule 5 - Required to be Present**

Once the season begins and measuring takes place, at least 3 members of the measuring committee must be present at all times, one of whom is always the area director. If the area director cannot be present, someone else must be appointed by the director to serve as and the ITPA office must be notified of the name of the replacement and the date and location where the replacement will serve prior to measuring (Rev.2007)

### **Rule 6 - All Present Must Sign**

All members of the measuring committee present on any particular day to measure horses at a track must legibly sign the measuring sheets. A new official measuring sheet must be used each day. The area director will be subject to a fine for each time the measuring sheets are not properly signed, and measurements for that day will not be legal. (Rev. 2007)

### **Rule 7 - Disqualified from Measuring**

Any individuals having a personal or financial interest in a horse shall be disqualified from measuring said horse or any horse that would race in direct competition with said horse. At least 3 other members of the measuring committee must measure that horse. (Rev. 1993)

### **Rule 8 - Measuring Device**

The measuring device used at all tracks is the light measuring device. Every track must have a light measuring device available on every race day, excluding fair races. (Rev 2103) There is a fine to any member track not having a measuring device available. A positive switch device, adopted on Jan. 25 1991, must be installed on or before July 1<sup>st</sup> 1991. The positive switch devices are available from the ITPA office. The solder must be replaced with one #8 flathead brass screw and one #8 roundhead brass screw at all tracks where measuring devices are used before measuring takes place in the summer season of 1994. (Rev. 1993)

### **Rule 9 - New Construction and Use of Device**

The light measuring device must be constructed, set up, and used in conjunction with a measuring box. Detailed Plans for the construction of the light measuring device and the measuring box are available on request from the ITPA office.

The measuring device must be placed on a concrete slab 4 feet wide and 8½ feet long. No official measuring may be done on any other type surface. At fairgrounds the measuring committee is allowed to choose a suitable piece of concrete that must be at least large enough to accommodate the size of the measuring box. In this situation, however, no protests of measuring conditions will be allowed if the concrete selected doesn't conform exactly to the size called for above.

An ITPA track is required to attest, when applying for the track license, that proper measuring devices and a concrete slab on which to measure are available. A fine will be imposed on any track or club sponsoring a race where the required devices and slab are not available. (Rev. 1993)

**Existing Slab Construction:** The measuring box shall be moved forward on an even height and the heel bar shall be positioned at the rear of the slab. The center of the upright bar of the light measuring device is to be positioned 5" behind the toe bar. All ITPA member clubs are required to have rigid poles cut from copper or thin wall conduit to the exact length of the various height categories, i.e. 50 1/2" - 51" - 51 1/2" these pipes would be used to set up the measuring device as follows: (Rev. 2008)

- A. When the pipe of the desired height is placed under the center of the measuring device and vertically to the concrete at a point where the arm of the measuring device is perpendicular to the measuring box and centered between the side rails of the box, the light must come "On". (Rev.1993)
- B. When the pipe is in the position described in (a), if a nickel (5 cent piece is placed between the pipe and the measuring device arm, the light must go "Off". (Rev. 1992)

### **Rule 10 - Position of the Horse (See figure 1)**

**Step 1-** The horse will be led to the back of the box and stopped. The measuring judge will then instruct the owner/ handler as to which shoe(s) will be inspected. (Rev. 1991)

**Step 2 -** The horse will then be led into the box. Blindfolds, bridles, blankets or full head and face hoods that affect the horses' vision must be removed before measurement time begins. Earplugs or ear hoods not affecting the horses' vision may be left in place. The owner/or handler will position the hooves in any order chosen. The horse has use of the full space inside the box. (Rev. 2011)

**Step 3 -** The front hooves must be placed up against the toe bar. The rear hooves must be placed inside the side and back bars and the rear heels may not be positioned beyond the inside of the back bar. All 4 hooves must be inside the measuring box and the front two hooves must be touching the toe bar. No part of the



horses' anatomy can extend beyond the plane of the back of the heel bar and the horse must stand in the block in a normal manner consistent with the way other horses stood in the judgment of the measuring committee. (Rev. 2019)

**Step 4** - The horses head may, or may not, be lowered into but not out of the four vertical planes of the feed box which may or may not contain feed. The handler shall hold but, may not apply force to the lead shank. (Rev. 2001)

A. Lead shank chain cannot be used as a lip cord/lip chain over gums. Lead shank may be allowed over nose, under chin or through the mouth. (Rev. 1998)

**Step 5** - Once the horse is set, the handler will indicate he would like the measuring bar placed on the horses' withers at its highest point. Once the bar is placed, no one may touch the top of the horse. The handler will refrain from touching the bar and at no time should anyone other than the measuring judge position or reposition the bar. If the light goes on solid or flickers on, the horse is considered measured "In". (Rev. 1992)

**Step 6** - Handler or owner may not distract the horse in such a way that the horse moves or dips suddenly. This shall include stomping of feet, clapping your hands, or intentionally making any noise or movement to startle the horse. (Rev. 2001)

**Step 7** - The measuring committee, if asked, is allowed to help position the horse. (Rev. 2001)

### **Rule 11 - Time Limit in Measuring Box**

Once the horse is in a standing position and has all 4 feet inside the confines of the box, it is allowed a maximum of 5 minutes to calm itself. Once the arm is lowered onto the withers, a maximum of 5 minutes is allowed with the arm in place. The timer will indicate to the handler when the 5-minute settling time has started and stopped and also the start and stop of the 5-minute measuring period. The horse may not leave the measuring block during the allotted 10 minutes with accident or injury being the only exception. If the horse jumps out from the box during either of the 5-minute periods the time clock continues to run unless the light measuring device is disturbed at which time the clock should be stopped while the light measuring device is reset and restarted after the arm is in place. If the horse jumps from the box it should be repositioned in the same sequence as in rule 11 above. (Rev. 1993)

Added Sept.99

### TROTTEINGBRED LIGHT MEASURING DEVICE

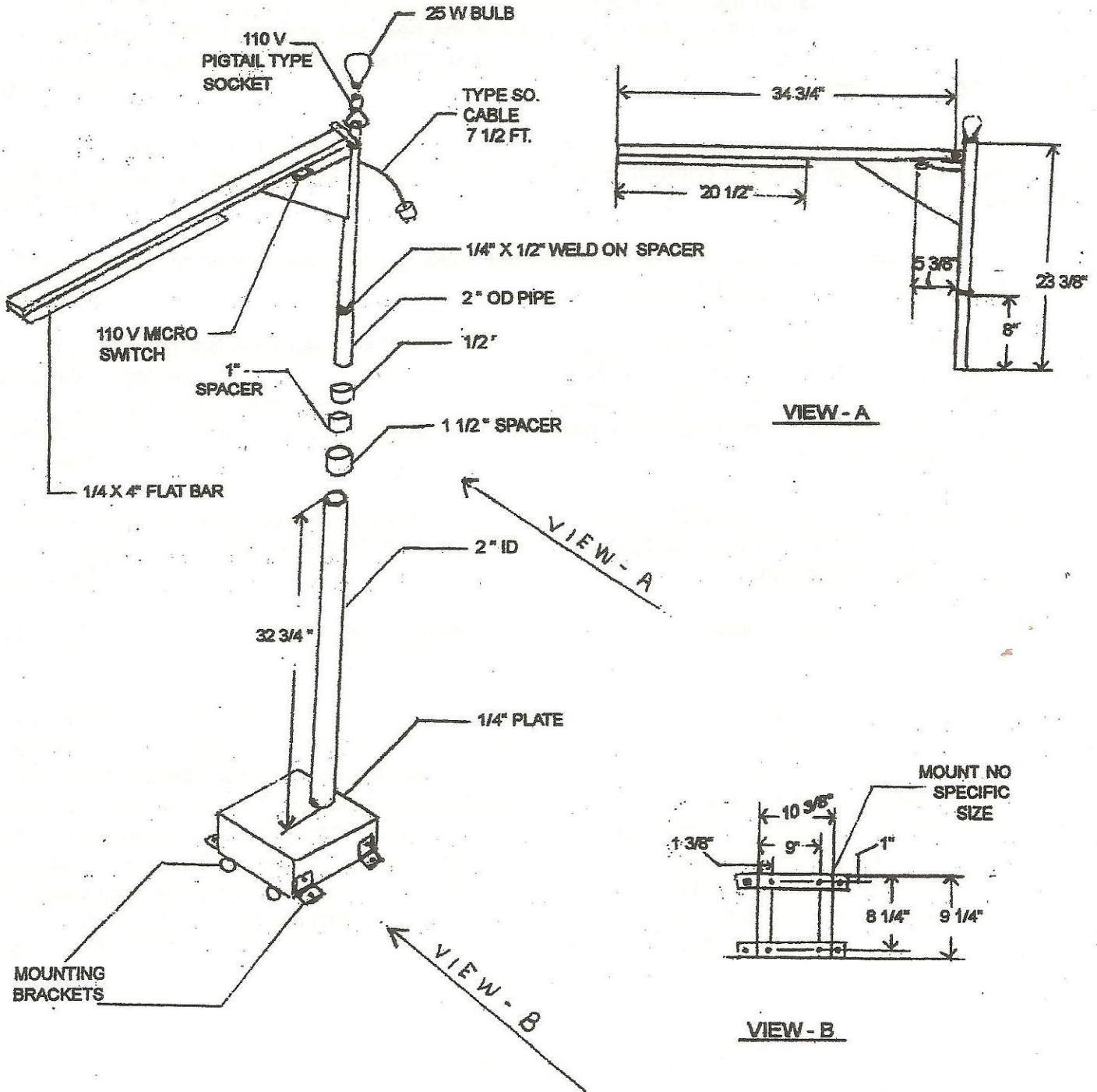
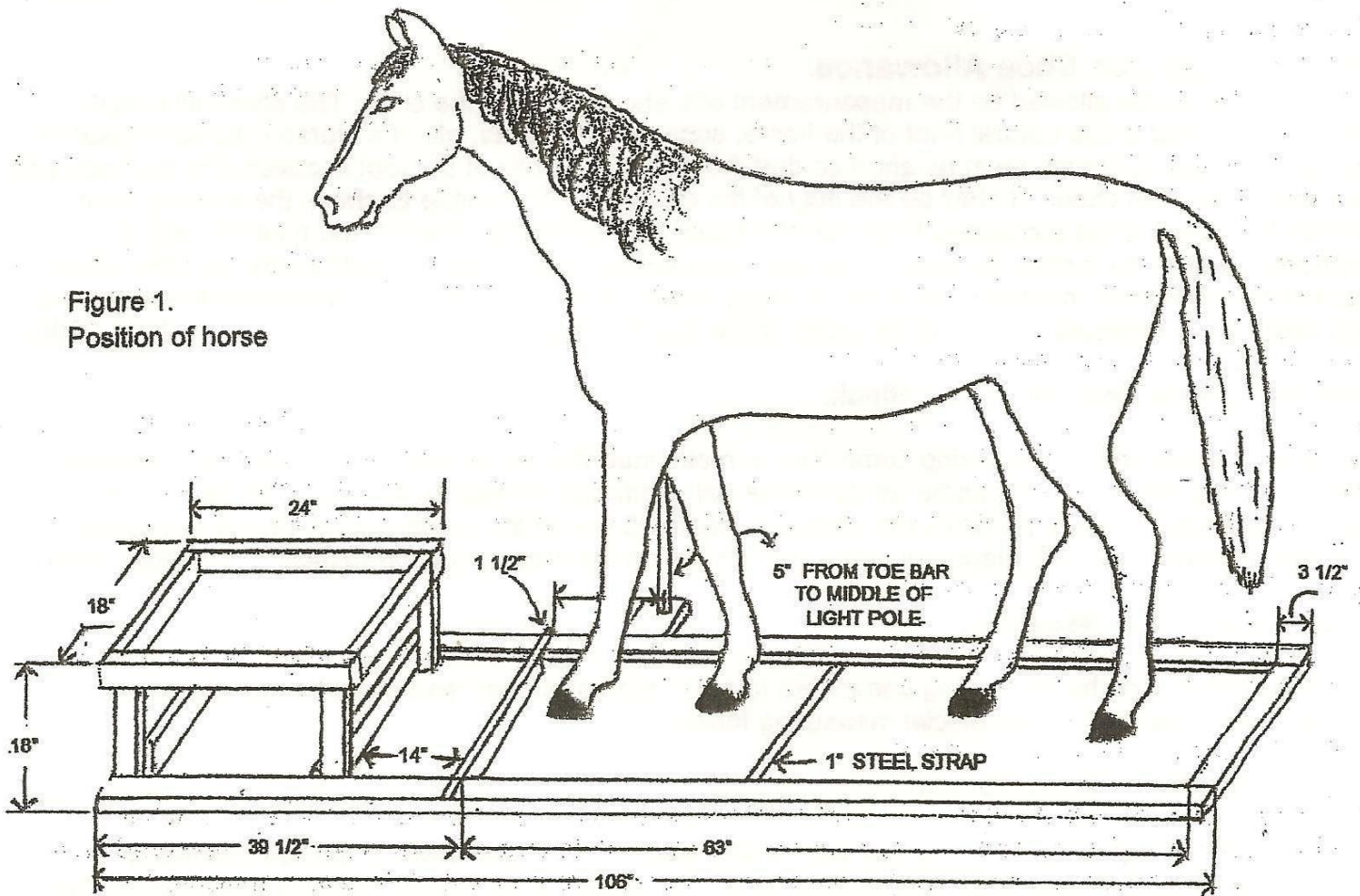


Figure 1.  
Position of horse



Handlers MAY pet the horse to calm it.

Handlers MAY NOT tug or push or manipulate the horse in any way.

Horses WILL NOT be allowed to have blankets, bridles, or blindfolds on during measurement period.

Lead shank chain cannot be used as a lip cord/ lip chain over gums. Leads shank may be allowed over nose, under chin or through mouth.

Side and back bars to be wood 2" X4" and place on 4" side.

Height limits firm until 2013. 63" length firm until 2013

Figure 2. Height limits Horse's Age	Winter Season		Summer Season	
	Unshod	Shod	Unshod	Shod
Two Year Old	50 1/2"	51	50 1/2"	51
	(may not measure or race until after Jan. 1 of 2 Year old year)			
Three Year old	51"	51 1/2"	51"	51 1/2"
Four Year old	51"	51 1/2"	51"	51 1/2"
Five Year old	51"	51 1/2"	51"	51 1/2"
Six Year old	51"	51 1/2"	51"	51 1/2"

\*(May be eligible for exemption from measurement if all conditions of CHAPTER V, RULE 20 are met) (Rev 2011)

### **Rule 13 - Half Inch Shoe Allowance**

One half-inch will be allowed on the measurement of a shod horse for the shoe. The shoe will include anything attached to the natural hoof of the horse, such as nails, pads, etc. If a Horse is to be measured as a shod horse, the horse must be shod so that the wall or the shell of the foot is covered to the back and all 4 feet must have shoes. It shall be the duty of the measuring committee to check the shoeing of all horses measured. If the committee feels that the horse is not wearing shoes of the type that would ordinarily be worn for racing, the committee shall not measure the horse and shall notify the ITPA office that the horse was not measured because of illegal shoes. (Rev. 2008)

### **Rule 14 - Persons near Measuring Block**

It shall be the duty of the measuring committee to make sure that no persons other than the measuring committee, the owner and/or handler of the horse being officially measured are within 25 feet of the measuring block. This rule prohibits the presence within 25 feet of the measuring device of individuals recording the results of the measurements who are not on the measuring committee. (Rev. 1991)

### **Rule 15 - Recording Measurements**

It shall be the duty of the measuring committee to make sure all measurements are recorded on the eligibility Certificate and on the official measuring forms.

### **Rule 16 - Duration of Measurement**

The measurement shall stand for the duration of the season unless protested or unless conditions published at least 15 days prior to any specific race meet state that all horses shall be measured on the grounds prior to that particular meet. In that case, all horses will be treated alike and measured in accordance with ITPA rules. This includes all horses exempted from measurement by the ITPA office.

### **Rule 17 - Measuring Out**

Any horse measures over the height limit once during the year must be measured back IN before it is allowed to race again. Any horse that measures over the height limit on 2 separate occasions during the year shall be ruled out for the balance of the year. The 2 measurements could be on the same day or on separate days. If a horse 3 years old or older measures out for the year in 2 different years (not necessarily consecutive), the horse is considered out for life.

### **Rule 18 - Appeals**

No appeals will be allowed or accepted on the result of any measurement, except that owners may protest on the grounds that the proper measuring devices and slab were not available and were improperly adjusted or used.

### **Rule 19 - Protests on Height**

**REMOVED 2020**

**Rule 19a - Protest on Height Not Allowed – Removed 2020**

### **Rule 20 – Exemption from Measurement**

Horses that have raced on an ITPA track as a 2-year-old and 3-year-old and did not measure out for the year in any of those years, may be excused from measurement in the future. If the horse did not measure and race until their 4-year-old year or older, they are only required to measure once and may be excused from measurement in the future. **(Rev. 2019)**

- A. (Removed 2012)
- B. This exemption is not automatic; the owner must request the exemption when applying for their current eligibility.
- C. Measurements of a horse at non ITPA tracks will not count when applying for exemption form measuring
- D. (Removed 2019)

### **Rule 21 - Surgical Alteration**

Any individual found guilty of altering a horse's height by surgical means shall be expelled from the ITPA for life.

## **Rule 22 - Drugs**

Any person or persons who administer or influence or induce or conspire with any other persons to administer to any horse any drug, stimulant, depressant, narcotic, with the intent of affecting the measurement of that horse shall be subject to penalties.

## **Rule 23 - Interference with Measurement**

Under no circumstance shall the track management at the track where the measurement has been set up interfere with or overrule the authority of the ITPA measuring committee. A fine will be assessed to the member track or track officials responsible for interference.

## **Section 2 - Measuring for Records**

### **Rule 1 - Records That Require Measurement**

All measurements for records on any size track will be done at the start of each race season when a horse measures to race for said season. If a horse measures in, he/she is considered in for all records he/she may set that year, but all horses (exempt horses do not need to be measured) must be measured by an official measuring committee that has been approved by the ITPA Executive Committee to qualify. (Rev. 2009)

### **Rules 2-11 Removed 2008**

### **Rule 12 - Videotaping Required for World/All Time Top Ten Record**

An official video camera must be placed at the start – finish line in a fixed position at all tracks where a World/All Time Top Ten\*\* record is set, or any movement within, in order that the tape can be reviewed to verify the time as a World/All Time Top Ten\*\* record. The tape will be the responsibility of the area director of the track who will send it to the executive committee to retain and be available at the annual meeting. If there is no official video tape in use when a World/All Time Top Ten\*\* record is set, the time of the record will not be official or recognized. Tapes of races should be kept 48 hours which is the deadline for filing any appeals and then may be taped over if no World/All Time Top Ten\*\* record times are recorded on them. (Rev. 2000)

- A. If the tape is no good and cannot be played back to retime, an asterisk will be added to the time to signify that the race was not officially timed. (Rev. 2009)

# Chapter VI - Classification Systems and Conditioned Races

## **Section 1 - General Rules**

### **Rule 1 - Opportunity to Race**

A fair and reasonable racing opportunity shall be afforded all horses by providing classified races or conditioned races.

### **Rule 2 - Conditions according to the Rules**

All conditions affecting the eligibility of horses must be in accordance to the rules of ITPA and must be clearly stated on the entry form, on the general condition sheet, or in the condition book.

## **Section 2 - General Race Conditions**

### **Rule 1- Submission of Condition Sheet**

Each member track is required to submit a copy of the general condition sheet by March 1<sup>st</sup> for ITPA Board Approval in their spring meeting. (Rev. 2019)

### **Rule 2 - Indicate Departures from Standard Procedures**

The general condition sheet must indicate for classified races any departure from the standard procedures for classified races. Each member track must list on its condition sheet the time bar system that it will use. In addition, deadlines for entries, time differentials between 1/4 mile, 5/16, 1/2 mile, and larger than 1/2 mile, and measurement requirements. (Rev. 1997)

### **Rule3. Measurement May be a Condition**

Removed 2013

## **Section 3 - Qualifying**

### **Rule 1 - Definition of a Qualifying Race**

Qualifying races are for green horses and horses not previously qualified at the qualifying time of the track or faster. Qualifying races do not offer purse money. Any races, regardless of the time class, that offer purses cannot be considered qualifying races and eligibilities are required for horses racing in such races.

### **Rule 2 - Heats of a Qualifying Race**

Horses qualifying in the first heat of a two-heat qualifying race are not eligible for the second heat. They may be assigned their proper class and may race in the class for that day's events.

### **Rule 3 - False Qualifying Time**

If in the opinion of the presiding judge a horse entered in a qualifying race or a time trial to qualify is being driven in such a manner as to constitute a false qualifying time, slower than that which the horse is capable of competing, it shall be the duty of the presiding judge to suspend the driver for a period of not less than 15 days or to fine the driver.

### **Rule 4 - Qualifying Horse Must Perform Well**

A horse must race the full half mile on gait, relatively flat and perform well to qualify.

## **Section 4 - Classified Races**

### **Rule 1 - Definition of a Classified Race**

Classified races are races in which horses with similar classifying times are grouped together. Classified races may be conditioned for trotters only, pacers only, or mixed.

## **Rule 2 - Time Classes**

Unless specified otherwise in the general conditions sheet, the classes are:

### **5/16 Mile Track**

#### **Pace Timebars**

Qualifying = 1:21.1 - Slower

Freshman = 1:16.1 - 1:21.0

Sophomore = 1:12.1 - 1:16.0

Junior = 1:10.1 - 1:12.0

Senior = 1:08.1 - 1:10.0

JR FFA = 1:06.1 - 1:08.0

SR FFA = 1:04.1 - 1:06.0

FFA = 1:04.0 - Faster

#### **Trot Timebars**

Qualifying = 1:38.1 - Slower

Freshman = 1:32.1 - 1:38.0

Sophomore = 1:26.1 - 1:32.0

Junior = 1:20.1 - 1:26.0

Senior = 1:16.1 - 1:20.0

JR FFA = 1:12.1 - 1:16.0

SR FFA = 1:08.1 - 1:12.0

FFA = 1:08 - Faster

Time classes may be changed slightly after the general condition sheet is published provided it is stated in the condition sheet that such changes might occur. Condition sheets must be approved by the ITPA. The ITPA governs and manages all timebars and they cannot be changed by the Clubs. (Rev. 2015) (Times Revised 2020)

## **Rule 3 - Use of Different Time Classes**

Member tracks may use different classes and different intervals within classes, but the classes must be published in the general conditions sheet.

## **Rule 4 - Grouping into Time Bars Done by Race Secretary**

The horses are grouped according to their classifying times by the race secretary or race committee.

## **Section 5 - Conditioned Races**

### **Rule 1 - Definition of Conditioned Races**

In conditioned races the horses are grouped by certain conditions published by the race secretary. These conditions must include gait (trot or pace) and may include age, sex, time, or number of races won. The condition of time and number of races won may apply to the meeting in progress, the current season, a previous season, or lifetime of the horse. For example, a condition might read "for 3-year-old fillies slower than 1:10 last year and non-winners of 2 races this year". This condition specifies gait (trot) age (3-year old), sex (fillies), time made in previous year (slower than 1:10) and number of races won (fewer than 2).

### **Rule 2 – Conditions Written by Race Secretary**

Conditions are written by the race secretary or the racing committee to provide regular racing opportunities for the horses competing at the track. The race secretary and/or committee surveys the horses available, writes the conditions to fit the horses and brings together fields of equal ability, and then offers the conditions to the owners and drivers in the form of a condition book that is issued at least 1 week before the entries are taken or offers the program of conditions at the time the entries are set out. The owners and drivers select the conditioned race or races best suited to their horse and enter 2 or 3 days prior to race day, depending on the rules at the track.

### **Rule 3 - Substitute Races**

A substitute race may be provided for each day's program and shall be so designated. The substitute race shall be used only if regularly scheduled races fail to fill and if a regularly scheduled race is not divided. Such substitute races may be used as part of the next program. Entries in races not filling shall be posted and announced.

### **Rule 4 - Conditions May Not Affect Outcome**

Under no circumstance may a member track condition races so as to affect the outcome of the races or the distribution of the purses.

## **Section 6 - Point System Racing Conditions**

### **Rule 1 - Points Assigned**

Each horse has a point total based on points assigned for the 5 most recent races during the current racing season. The horse races as if it had 13 – 17 points if it has not raced 5 heats. The points assigned are:

- First -1 point
- Second – 2 points
- Third 3 points
- Fourth 4 – points
- Fifth or worse - 5 points

### **Rule 2 - Use of the Fastest Time**

The point totals are used to condition horses into races based on the fastest time for the current year (the qualifying time is used at the beginning of the season until it is succeeded one time). The following apply only to a single race meeting.

- One to seventeen points – no change
- Eighteen to twenty-one points – add one second to fastest time
- Twenty-one to twenty-five points – move to the next slower class in an assigned rear position

Each meeting a new point total is calculated, and the horse is conditioned into a race according to the new point total using the current fastest time (these conditions do not alter in any way the official classifying time of the horse).

Any horse racing on a point's setback must race from the last available back row position and cannot be moved to the front row on first race meet (series of race dates) of setback. Each additional consecutive setback the horse will be in the draw and can race from any start position. (Rev 2016)

### **Rule 3 - Time Classes May Be Changed Up to One Second**

The Time Categories of an advertised race may be changed up to one second (either faster or slower) to include lone horses. The added horses take a starting position like any other horse being set forward or backward. (Rev. 1997)

### **Rule 4 - Races with Fewer Than Four Horses**

Any race having fewer than 4 horses, shall at the club's option be moved with 12 points or less to the next faster class, or with 13 points or more to the next slower class, again observing rules of movement of a horse to a faster or slower race. An FFA horse may be moved to the next slower class, regardless of points, again observing the rules of movement to a slower race. (Rev. 2002)

### **Rule 5 - Post Entries**

Post entries start in the first available rear position.

### **Rule 6 - Move Only One Class**

In the event both points and time indicate a horse is to be moved up a class, a horse is advanced only one class at a time.

### **Rule 7 - Canadian Point System**

The Canadian point system may be used by ITPA clubs provided the first 3 horses are timed.

## **Section 7 -Para-Mutual Races**

### **Rule 1 - Para-Mutual Racing**

Para-Mutual Racing is legal in Vermont. Any Para-Mutual races must be run under USTA rules in effect on the date of the races.

### **Rule 2 - Registry Requirement**

Trottingbred horses racing in Para-Mutual races must be registered Trottingbred, legally measured in for the current season, have an ITPA driver, and owner who is a member of ITPA in good standing, and have a current ITPA Eligibility certificate.

### **Rule 3 - No Protest of Height**

There may be no protest of height of a Trottingbred horse on the day of the Para-mutual race or a standardbred invitational or promotional race or during a fair race.



## Chapter VII: Racing Rules

### Rule 1 - Appointment of Judges

In every race or performance against time over a member track, the member track's officials shall appoint or authorize the appointment of one to three individuals familiar with the rules to act as judge. One of whom shall be licensed as presiding judge. All judges and associate judges must be members of the ITPA in good standing. The presiding judge shall be in charge of the stand. (Rev. 2008)

### Rule 2 - Persons Allowed in Judges Stand

No one but the judges, race secretary starter, timers, official announcer and directors of the ITPA, and the State Racing Commission having jurisdiction shall be allowed in the stand.

### Rule 3 - Presiding Judge

All persons desiring to serve as presiding judge during a given year must make application to the ITPA office and must have the director's signature on the form that is supplied by the ITPA office. The applicant must reside in the same area as the director signing the application. No person shall act as presiding judge unless the person is a member and holds a license for the current year from the ITPA or has been approved by the ITPA. A presiding judge's license shall be issued by the ITPA upon payment of the proper fee which includes an active membership when the applicant has established satisfactory character, reputation, knowledge of the rules, harness horse experience, temperament and qualifications to perform the duties required. All applicants are required to take the judges examination and to answer questions correctly with no more than 2 wrong answers before a license is issued.

If more than 2 answers are incorrect, the examination will be sent back to the applicant with the wrong answers marked and the applicant given a chance to answer them correctly. Once that is done, the application will be sent to the area director for his approval. If approved, the license will be issued. (Rev. 1999)

The presiding judge shall examine the official track license issued by ITPA and if the license is produced, shall make public announcement that the meeting shall not proceed. The presiding judge shall notify the owners and drivers of penalties imposed and shall report in writing to the ITPA office violations of rules by a member track, its officers or race officials giving detailed information and make sure other reports required by the ITPA are filed. The presiding judge shall sign each sheet of the judge's book verifying the correctness of the record. The services of the presiding judge may be paid for by the member track. When a starting car is used, a presiding judge may not act as a starter. When no starting car is used, a presiding judge may score the horses and act as both presiding judge and starter at the same meet. (Rev. 2007)

### Rule 4 - The Authority of the Presiding Judge

The judge shall have the authority to:

- A. Inflict fines and penalties, as prescribed by the rules only
- B. Determine all questions of fact relating to the race
- C. Decide any differences between parties to the race, or any contingent matter which shall arise that is otherwise provided for in the rules (See Chapter 1, Section 2, Rule 4)
- D. Control the horses, drivers, and assistants from the time the horses, drivers, owners, and assistants enter the grounds where a meet is being held and retain that control until the horses, drivers, owners, and assistants leave the grounds, and punish by fine, suspension, or expulsion any such person who fails to obey the rules. In no case shall there be any compromise or change on the part of the judge or member track of punishment prescribed in the rules, but the same shall be strictly enforced (Rev 2013)
- E. Examine under oath all parties connected with a race as to any wrong or complaint. Any person required to appear before the judges for a hearing or examination who shall fail to appear after due notice in writing shall be penalized as provided under (D) above.

### Rule 5 - Judges Duties

It shall be the duty of the judges to:

- A. Exclude from the race any horse that in their opinion is improperly equipped, dangerous, or unfit to race, which shall include sick, weak, and very lame horses.

- B. Investigate any apparent or possible interference or other violation of Chapter VII Section 5 Rule 1, when a complaint has been made by the driver or not.
- C. Investigate any act of cruelty seen by them or reported to them by any member toward a race horse during a meeting at which they officiate. If the judges find that such an act has been committed, they shall suspend the member 15 days or impose a fine.
- D. Immediately thereafter or on the day of the race, conduct an investigation of any accidents to determine to determine the cause thereof, and the judge shall make all accidents a matter of record in the judge's book and aid in filling out any accident reports.
- E. Observe closely the performance of the drivers and the horses to ascertain if there are any violations of Chapter VII, Section 5, particularly interference, helping, or inconsistent racing, and exhaust all possible means to safeguard the contestants and the public.
- F. The presiding judge should be present at all hearings. A penalty is imposed from the time it is entered in the judge's book and the same is signed by the judges. The judges may inflict penalties as prescribed by the rules. (Rev. 2009)

### **Rule 6 - Judges Procedures**

It shall be **Strongly Recommended** procedure of the judge to:

- A. Be in the stand 1 hour prior to the race starts and remain in the stand ½ hour after the last race and at all times when the horses are on the track. (Rev. 2004)

**Note:** All presiding judges and starting judges are encouraged to attend the rules committee portion of the ITPA's annual board of directors meeting. (Sept.1999)

- B. Observe the preliminary warming up of horses and scoring, noting the behavior of horses, lameness, equipment, conduct of the drivers, and any unusual incidents pertaining to horses or drivers participating in races.
- C. Give notice at least 5 minutes before each race or heat. Any driver failing to obey this summons may be punished by a fine and/or the horse may be ruled out by the judges and considered drawn.
- D. The presiding judge shall designate the post time for each race and the horses will be called at such times as to preclude excessive delay after the completion of 2 scores.
- E. Be in contact with the other judges from the time the starter [picks up the horses until the completion of the race. Any violation or near violation of the rules shall be reported by the judge witnessing the incident and a written record made of the same. At least 1 judge shall observe the drivers throughout the stretch, specifically noting changing course, interference, improper use of the whips, breaks, and failure to contest the race to the finish.
- F. Sign the judge's book after each race, verifying the correctness of the record by the race secretary.
- G. Notify owners and/or drivers of penalties assessed prior to the race being declared official. (Rev. 2003)

### **Rule 7 - Patrols**

At the discretion of the judges, patrols may be appointed by the member track, but such patrols shall be members in good standing of the ITPA and approved by the presiding judges. The patrols shall report all fouls and improper conduct. The results of a heat or dash shall not be announced until sufficient time has elapsed to receive reports of patrols.

### **Rule 8 - Starter's Qualifications**

All persons desiring to serve as a starting judge during any given year must make application to the ITPA office and must have the director's signature on the form that is supplied by the ITPA office. The applicant must live in the same area as the director that signed the application. No person shall be permitted to start horses on a member track without a starter's license for the current year. Upon sufficient information as to good character, knowledge of the rules and ability to do the work, a license to start horses may be issued by the ITPA. All applicants are required to take the judge's examination as in rule 3 of this section. (Rev. 1999)

### **Rule 9 - Duties of the Starter**

The starter shall be at the starting gate 15 minutes before the first race and shall have control over the horses and the authority to assess fines and/or suspend drivers for any violation of the rules from the formation of the parade

until the word “go” is given. The starter may assist in placing horses when requested by the judge to do so and shall report violations of the rules by a member track or its officers, giving detailed information. An assistant starter may be employed when a member track deems it necessary. The starter is in complete charge of the horses from the time the announcer calls them to parade until the word “go” is given. At that time the presiding judge takes over.

### **Rule 10 - Race Secretary**

The person acting as race secretary must be a member of ITPA and can pay a reduced fee for the membership by applying for membership as race secretary. The reduced fee for the membership as race secretary entitles that person to all the privileges of this association except that person may not be the owner of a horse with a current eligibility.

If the race secretary owns a horse with an eligibility certificate, the full membership fee is required. The area director’s signature is required on the application for the race secretary’s license. All new applicants are required to take a written examination before the license will be issued.

### **Rule 11 - Duties of the Race Secretary**

It shall be the duty of the race secretary of the member track to see that all results are properly recorded, and accurate copies sent (within 5 days) to the Office Manager of ITPA. Records shall include complete race results, records set, officials for the day, and prize money paid. Records of the horses are to include race classifications, position at the finish., time, prize money won, owner and driver. All records are to be up-to-date at all times.

### **Rule 12 - Procedures for the Race Secretary**

The race secretary shall:

- A. Have charge of the declaration box
- B. At the request of the judges, assist in drawing positions
- C. Keep the judge’s book and record therein:
  1. All horses entered, and their eligibility numbers entered
  2. Names of owners and drivers and pertinent information
  3. A record of each heat, giving the position of horses at the finish
  4. Note drawn or ruled out horses
  5. Record time in minutes, seconds, and fifths of seconds
  6. Check eligibility certificates and driver’s licenses before the race and after the race enter all information provided for thereon, including the horses position in the race if it were charted
  7. Record all protests, fines, penalties and appeals in the judges’ book and see that the book is properly signed.
  8. Forward copies of race sheets to the office manager of the ITPA within 5 days. There will be a fine for failure to forward the judges sheets to the ITPA office within 5 days of the completion of any race meet. The race secretary shall stand suspended until the fine is paid.
  9. Deleted from this section moved to judge’s procedures, Rule 6, G. (Rev. 1996)
- D. Upon request may assist judges in placing horses.
- E. After the race, return eligibility certificates to the owner of the horse or the owner’s representative when requested.

Failure to comply with any part of this rule and failure to make the above listed entries legible, clear, and accurate may subject the race secretary or the member track or both to a fine for each violation.

### **Rule 13 - Timers**

In every race or performance against time, the times of each heat shall be accurately taken and recorded in minutes, seconds, and fifths of seconds (0:00.0). Each track has the option of using three separate timers with separate stopwatches or using one timer and one Digital Stopwatch with split time function. All timers shall sign the judge’s sheets for each race verifying the correctness of the record. (Rev. 2013)

### **Rule 14 - Insulting Language from Judges or Officials**

If any person acting as judge or as an official shall be guilty of using insulting language from the stand to an owner, driver, or any other person, or be guilty of other improper conduct that person shall be relieved of all authority as an

official at the end of that days racing by the race or track manager and a formal protest shall be filed by the complainant with the area board of review.

### **Rule 15 - Substitutes for Judges**

If any licensed official is absent or incapacitated the member track officials or area director(s) may appoint a substitute at such meeting or until another licensed official can be procured. The appointee must be a member of ITPA. **This power may only be used in case of unavoidable emergencies.** Any director of ITPA, in an emergency may exercise any or all of the functions of any official or licensee.

### **Rule 15a – Appointment of Substitute Judges**

If rule 15 above is not followed, the track at which the incident occurred is subject to paying up to a \$1,000 fine, after being reviewed by the ITPA Board or Directors. (Rev. 2014)

## **Section 2 - Entries**

### **Rule 1 - Information on Entries**

All entries must:

- A. Be made by the owner or authorized representative of the owner. Entries signed by a representative of a member track for another person are void.
- B. Give name and address of both the bona-fide owner and agent or registered stable name or leasee.
- C. Give name, color, sex, sire and dam of horse when known.
- D. Name the event or events in which the horse is to be entered.

### **Rule 2 - Entry Fees**

The entrance fee shall be fixed by the member track and published in the conditions sheet and any person failing to pay entrance fees or in stake races the declaration, forfeit, or entrance, may be suspended together with the horses until the payments are made in full.

### **Rule 3 - Falsification of Entry**

If the facts are falsely stated for the purposes of deception, the guilty party shall be fined and/or suspended or expelled.

### **Rule 4 - Ineligible Horses**

A horse entered in a class in which it is ineligible may be transferred to any race at the same gait in which the horse is eligible. (Rev. 2007)

### **Rule 5 - Withholding Premiums**

Member tracks shall be warranted in withholding the premium of any horse, without a formal protest, if they receive information in their judgment tending to establish that the entry or declaration was fraudulent or ineligible. Premiums withheld under this rule shall be forthwith sent to the ITPA office to await results of an investigation by members of the area board of review, and if the eligibility of the horse is not established within 30 days, that horse shall be barred from winning.

### **Rule 6 - Authority of ITPA**

Every entry shall constitute an agreement that the person who makes it, (the owner, leasee, manager, agent, nominator, driver, or other person having control of the horse), and the horse, shall be subject to the rules and will submit all disputes and questions arising out of such entry to the authority of ITPA whose decision shall be final. In the event a member goes outside the membership and initiates a legal suit against the organization, membership will be automatically suspended. (Rev. 1996)

## **Section 3 - Declaration to Start and Drawing Horses**

### **Rule 1- Horses Entered**

All horses on the grounds and entered on the program or judge's sheets are under the jurisdiction of the presiding judge. (Rev 2013) Such entries are open to protest on height whether they race or not.

## **Rule 2 – Stewards List**

A horse that is unfit to race because the horse is dangerous, unmanageable, unable to show performance to qualify for races at the meeting or otherwise unfit to race at the meeting may be placed on the stewards list by the presiding judge and declaration on the horse shall be refused. The owner or trainer shall be notified in writing of such and the reason shall be clearly stated on the notice. When any horse is placed on the stewards list, the race secretary shall make a note on the judges sheet the date the horse was put on the stewards list, the reasons therefore, and the date of removal if the horse has been removed. When the horse is placed on the stewards list, the horse will be automatically positioned in the last starting position in the race. It will remain on the stewards list for at least two starts and until it can perform satisfactorily in the licensed judge's eye at any bona-fide race meet. **(Rev. 2019)**

## **Rule 3 - Driver**

Declarations to start shall state who will drive the horse and give the driver's colors. No driver may be changed except by permission of the judges.

## **Rule 4 - Track Conditions**

In case of questionable track conditions due to weather, the presiding judge shall call a meeting consisting of an agent of the member track, a representative of the owners and drivers, and the judge. Upon unanimous decision by this committee of 3 that the track conditions are safe for racing, no un-permitted withdrawals may be made.

## **Section 4 - Starting**

### **Rule 1 - Starting without a Starting Gate**

When horses are started without a starting gate the starter shall have control of the horses from the formation of the parade until the word "Go" is given. No driver shall cause unnecessary delay after the horses are called. After a maximum of 2 preliminary warming up scores, the starter shall notify the drivers to form a parade. Horses should be lined up by the time they reach the 7/8 pole. The starter shall be located at the wire or other point of the race as nearly as possible to the place where the word "Go" is given.

### **Rule 2 - Recall without a Starting Gate**

If the word "Go" is not given all horses in the race shall immediately turn at the tap of the bell or other signal and jog back to their position for a fresh start.

### **Rule 3 - Starting with a Starting Gate**

The starter shall endeavor to get all horses away in position and on gate. Horses shall be lined up in their positions behind the starting gate by the time the 7/8 pole is reached.

## **Section 4 – Recalls**

When speed has been reached in the course of a start there shall be no decrease in speed except in case of a recall, in which case a light or some signal shall be given, the recall sounded, and the starting gate will proceed out of the path of the horses. A horse delaying the race may be started regardless of his position or gait and there shall be no recall because of a bad actor.

In a full field no horse shall be forced to move from its position. Horse that caused the recall will start in position nine.

The starter may sound a recall only for the following reasons:

- A. There is interference
- B. A horse has broken equipment
- C. A horse falls before the word "Go" (Rev. 2017)

### **Rule 5 - Stopping a Race after the Start**

There shall be no recall after the word "Go" has been given except that a race may be stopped if there is an accident and the presiding judge deems the race is impossible to finish. Any horse, regardless of its position or accident, shall be deemed a starter from the time the horse entered into the starter's control unless dismissed by the starter. (Rev. 2009)

## **Rule 6 - Disqualification**

Any horse guilty of the following may be disqualified, setback, fined, suspended or expelled from starting the heat at the discretion of the judge: (Rev. 1995)

- A. Delaying the start
- B. Failure to obey the starter's instructions
- C. Rushing ahead of the inside or outside wing of the gate
- D. Coming to the starting gate out of position
- E. Changing lanes before the start of race
- F. Interference with another driver before the start
- G. After the Presiding Judge orders "GO", any horse and/or driver(s) causing a race to be stopped for any reason (accident, interference, etc.) shall be disqualified and cannot race the second attempt of the race or the second heat of a two-heat series. Any horse that does not finish can race the second heat as long as they did not cause the accident. (Rev. 2014)

## **Rule 7 - Finishing**

The horses shall be deemed to have started when the word "Go" is given by the starter and all horses must go the course except in case of an accident in which it is the opinion of the judge that it is impossible to go the course. Drivers must be mounted at the finish of the race or the horse must be placed as not finishing.

## **Rule 8 - Refusal to Follow Instructions of the Starter**

Any driver refusing or failure to follow the starter's instructions may be fined or set down for the heat in which the offense occurs or for such other period as the starter shall determine.

## **Rule 9 - Overhead barriers or Counting Starts**

A member track may use an overhead barrier or counting start in starting races and any driver who fails to obey orders of the starter or assistant starter operating same may be fined or ruled out of the race.

## **Rule 10 - Ejection of a Horse**

If in the opinion of the judges or starter, a horse is unmanageable or liable to cause to cause an accident or injury to any other horse or driver, it may be sent to the barn and the entry money and declaration fees on the horse NOT refunded.

## **Rule 11 - Horses Placed on the Outside**

A horse may be placed on the outside or in the back row at the discretion of the starter. When such action is taken, the public must be informed. (Rev. 2009)

## **Rule 12 - Positions for the Second Heat**

The horses winning a heat shall take the pole (or inside position) for the succeeding heat unless otherwise specified in the published conditions. All other horses shall take their positions in the order in which they were placed or finished in the previous heat. When 2 or more horses have finished in a dead heat, their positions shall be settled by lot.

## **Section 5 - Racing and Track Rules**

### **Rule 1 - Behavior of Horses during a Race**

The lead horse is entitled to any part of the track; however, neither the driver of the first horse or any other driver in the race shall do any of the following things: (Rev. 1992)

- A. Change either to the right or left during any part of the race when another horse is so near that in altering position the horse behind is compelled to shorten stride or its driver must pull the horse out of stride.
- B. Jostle, strike, hook wheels, or interfere with another horse or driver.
- C. Cross sharply in front of a horse or cross over in front of a field of horses in a reckless manner, endangering other drivers
- D. Crowd a horse or driver by putting a wheel under the horse.
- E. Take up abruptly in front of other horses so as to cause confusion or interference among the other horses.
- F. Let another horse pass on the inside needlessly, or to do any other act which constitutes what is popularly known as helping.

- G. Commit any act which shall impede the progress of another horse or cause that horse to break.
- H. Swerve in or out or bear in or out in such a manner as to interfere with another horse or cause that horse to change course or take back.
- I. Drive in a careless or reckless manner.

### **Rule 2 - Complaints**

All complaints by drivers of foul driving or other misconduct during the heat must be made at the termination of the heat, unless the driver is prevented from doing so by accident or injury. At the conclusion of each heat or dash, every driver shall return in the sulky to the judge's stand to be dismissed by the judges. Any driver desiring to enter a claim of foul or other complaint of violation of the rules must before dismounting indicate to the judges the desire to enter such claim or complaint and forthwith after dismounting shall proceed to the judge's stand where and when such claim, objection, or complaint shall be immediately entered. The judges shall not cause the official sign to be displayed until such claim, objection or complaint shall have been entered and considered.

### **Rule 3 - Setback in a Race**

In case of interference, collision, or violation of any of the above restrictions, the offending horse may be placed behind all unoffending horses in that heat or dash and in the event such collision or interference prevents any horse from finishing the heat or dash, the offending horse shall be disqualified from receiving any winnings and the driver may be suspended.

### **Rule 4 - Sandbagging**

Every heat in a race must be contested by every horse in the race and every horse must be driven to the finish. If the judges believe that a horse is being driven or has been driven with design to prevent the winning of a heat or dash which the horse was evidently able to win or is being raced in an inconsistent manner or to perpetrate or aid in a fraud, they shall consider it a violation and the driver and anyone in concert with the driver may be suspended. In the event a driver is unsatisfactory due to a lack of effort or carelessness, and the judges believe there is no fraud, gross negligence, or deliberate inconsistent drive, they may propose a penalty or suspension.

### **Rule 5 - Unfit Drivers**

If in the opinion of the judges a driver is for any reason unfit or incompetent to drive or refuses to comply with the directions of the judge or is reckless in conduct and endangers the safety of horses, or other drivers in a race, the driver may be removed, suspended, or expelled.

### **Rule 6 - Failure to Finish**

If for any cause, other than being interfered with, a horse fails to finish after the starting a heat that horse shall be ruled out.

### **Rule 7 - Whips**

The use of any goading device, chain, spur, riding crop, electrical appliance, or mechanical device or appliance, other than an ordinary whip used in harness racing held by the handle, is prohibited. The whip may not exceed 36" in length. Its snapper may not exceed 6" in length for a total of 42" in length. (Rev. 1991)

### **Rule 8 – Whipping**

All whipping must be done within the shafts and must be appropriate. One hand whipping is prohibited. In the discretion of the judges brutal or indiscriminate use of the whip is prohibited and is punishable by fine or suspension. (Rev. 2019)

- a) All drivers must keep a line in each hand beginning when the horse is behind the starting gate and continuing through the finish of the race.
- b) Whipping shall be restricted to elbow and wrist action only the whipping arm shall not be raised above the driver's shoulder height.
- c) Drivers shall not move their whipping arm in an exaggerated manner and the lines shall remain reasonably taut during the race.
- d) Driver shall not use the whip below the level of the shaft, forward of the race bike's wheels.
- e) Drivers shall not place the whip between a horse's legs.

- f) Drivers shall not strike another horse or driver with the whip.
- g) Drivers shall not the handle of the whip on a horse.
- h) Drivers are permitted to use their hand or the whip in a sliding or gliding manner above the level of the shaft.
- i) Drivers shall not use the whip on a tired horse, on a horse that is not visibly responding, or when a horse is not contention in a race.
- j) Drivers shall not use the whip without giving a horse time to respond to a previous application of whip.
- k) No leather or unusual materials may be used. The conventional snapper shall not be knotted, and tape is only permitted on the handle of the whip. All other modifications of the whip are prohibited.
- l) Excessive, indiscriminate, visibly injurious or abusive use of the whip is prohibited.
  - a. Prohibition of Devices Other Than a Whip – The use of any goading device, chain or mechanical devices or appliances other than the ordinary whip or crop upon any horse in any race shall constitute a violation of this rule.
  - b. Brutal, Excessive, Indiscriminate Use of Whip – The brutal use of a whip or crop or excessive on indiscriminate use of the whip or crop shall be considered a violation and shall be punished by a fine and or suspension.

#### Whipping Fine

1. A Written Warning
2. \$100.00 Fine
3. The Driver will be suspended for racing for two race dates. Not to include rain dates.
4. The Driver will be suspended form racing for four race dates. Not to include rain dates.
5. The Driver will be suspended from racing for the remainder of the race season.

#### Rule 9 - Kicking

Kicking shall be defined as a blow or thrust with the foot against any part of the horse's body or to impel by striking with the foot at any time on the racetrack, including before, during or after the race. Removal of a foot from the stirrups or any foot supports in and of itself shall not constitute the offense of kicking. The penalty for kicking shall be considered a violation and shall be punished by a fine and or suspension.

(Rev. 2019)

#### Kicking Fine

1. A Written Warning
2. \$100.00 Fine
3. The Driver will be suspended for racing for two race dates. Not to include rain dates.
4. The Driver will be suspended form racing for four race dates. Not to include rain dates.
5. The Driver will be suspended from racing for the remainder of the race season.

#### Rule 10 - Hopples

No horse shall wear hopples in a race unless the horse starts in hopples in the first heat, and having started, shall continue to wear them to the finish of the meet. Any person found guilty of removing or altering a horse's hopples between heats for the purpose of fraud shall be suspended or expelled. Any horse habitually wearing hopples shall not be allowed to start a race without them, except by permission of the judges. Any horse racing habitually free-legged shall not be permitted to wear hopples in a race without the permission of the judges.

#### Rule 11 - Head Poles and Decorations

No horse shall be permitted to wear a head pole protruding more than 6" beyond its nose. No decorative material is allowed on a horse while it is racing. Only regular harness and equipment is allowed. (Rev. 1991)

#### Rule 12 - Fenders on Sulkies

Fenders on sulkies are not permitted unless they are part of the standard equipment on racing sulkies. Use of USTA or CTA approved fenders are allowed when not part of a sulkies standard equipment if weather and/or weather conditions call for them.



### **Rule 13 - Wheel Discs**

All sulkies must have wheel discs for racing on ITPA tracks. Wheel Discs must extend to within 1” of the outside rim. (Rev. 2014)

### **Rule 14 - Breaking**

When any horse breaks from gait in trotting or pacing, the driver shall at once, where clearance permits, take such horse to the outside and pull it to its gait, while losing ground. (Hiking trotters will be considered on a break when they fail to stay on a diagonal gait) The following shall be considered violations of this rule:

- A. Failure to properly attempt to pull a horse to its gait.
- B. Failure to take to the outside where clearance exists.
- C. Failure to lose ground on a break.

The judges may set any horse back 1 or more places if in their judgment any of the above violations were committed. If there has been no failure on the part of the driver in complying with this rule, the horse shall not be setback unless a contending horse is lapped on the hind quarter of the breaking horse at the finish.

### **Rule 15 - Excessive Breaking**

If in the opinion of the judges, a horse breaks to the extent that it constitutes poor performance, the judge may set that horse back 1 or more places.

### **Rule 16 - Deliberate Breaking**

If in the opinion of the judges, a driver allows a horse to break for the purpose of fraudulently losing a heat, the driver shall be liable to the penalties elsewhere provided for frauds and fouls.

### **Rule 17 - Calling Breaks**

To assist in matters contained in Rules 13, 14, 15, it shall be the duty of 1 of the judges to call out every break made and the race secretary shall at once note the break and the character of it in writing.

### **Rule 18 - Heats Per Horse / Per Day**

No horse may race in more than 2 heats per day unless the additional racing takes place in a third heat of a stake race, a qualifying race, or a children’s race. Three heats are the maximum that any horse may race in any 1 day.

### **Rule 19 - Time Between Heats**

No may race in 2 or more heats with less than 30 minutes between heats.

### **Rule 20 - Horses on the Course**

Horses called for the race shall have the exclusive right of the course and all other horses shall vacate the track at once, unless permitted to remain by the judges.

### **Rule 21 - Going Inside the Marked Course**

If a horse is driven inside the marked course during a race, it is the judge’s decision what the penalty shall be: disqualification, setback, fined, or any combination thereof.

#### **PYLONS:**

- A. The outside (foam) of every pylon at each track shall be a minimum of 16 inches (to 20 inches maximum) tall.
- B. FINES shall be assessed ONLY if a pylon is knocked down, NOT just bumped.
  - 1. The first two pylons downed in a race will be a \$10 fine for each.
  - 2. Three or more in one race will be a \$20 assessment.
- C. Inside 1 or 2 Pylons = Setback behind contending horses.  
Inside 3 or More Pylons = Setback to Last Position  
Brushing or Hitting Pylons = No call  
Inside for Safety Reasons = No call (Rev. 2018)

## **Rule 22 - Inside Passing Lane**

An inside passing lane may be instituted and used as an option by any ITPA track in accordance with USTA recommendations. The lane cannot be used except the last 1/8 of a mile by a horse other than the lead horse. Only 1 horse can be in the inside passing lane at a time. (Rev. 1992)

## **Rule 23 - Jog Bikes**

Jog bikes are acceptable during warm up but should not be used for racing (except at discretion of presiding judge). (Rev. 1996)

## **Rule 24 - Erratic Behavior**

Any horse that does any of the following is automatically disqualified:

- A. Turns around, then turns back and finishes the course.
- B. Goes off the track, then returns to finish the course.
- C. Horse stops, the driver gets off the sulky, returns to the sulky and finishes the course. (Rev. 1999)

## **Rule 25 - Accidents**

In case of accident where the race was stopped, only so much time shall be allowed as the Presiding Judges may deem necessary before restarting the race. Any horse and/or driver(s) causing a race to be stopped for any reason (accident, interference, etc.) shall be disqualified and cannot race the second attempt of the race or the second heat of a two-heat series. Any horse that does not finish can race the second heat as long as they did not cause the accident. (Rev. 2014)

## **Rule 26 - Time Trials**

The horse must start to try to better its own lifetime record at either gait, and a losing performance shall not constitute a new record. In performance against time, if a horse makes a break during a time trial, the horse is disqualified for the trial. Horses shall be limited to 3 trials during any meet. Any faster time earned by the horse during a time trial shall not be recognized for a world record or as a record for a current year champion. (Rev. 1991)

Prompters may be used but must be limited to horses under harness or the starting car. When a starting car is used to start and prompt a horse, it will leave the horse at the starting wire as in all classified races. It will, if being used to prompt the horse, immediately fall into position aside of and back of the horse time trialing. At no time may the front bumper of the car pass the horse's saddle pad. If at any time the prompter passes the saddle pad of the horse time trialing, it shall immediately constitute a no trial and no time shall be recorded for that attempt. No loud noises or shouting by either the persons operating the starting car, or the driver of a horse prompter shall be allowed.

When another horse is used as the prompter for a horse time trialing, it either start aside of the time trialing horse back of the gate or pick the horse up after it leaves the starting wire. At no time may the prompting horse's nose pass the saddle pad of the horse time trialing. To do so will constitute a no trial and no time shall be recorded for that trial. No fewer than 3 timers shall officiate at a time trial and all official watches shall be presented to the presiding and starting judge for their consideration and decision as to the official time of the trial. The official time shall be announced by the presiding judge of the day's meet.

Time trials may be conducted at sanctioned ITPA meets only, when no classified race is available for horse(s) unless track management agrees to and/or announces and advertises the time trial ahead of time. (Rev. 1992)

## **Section 6 - Placing and Money Distribution**

### **Rule 1 - Money Distribution**

Unless otherwise provided in the race conditions, all purses shall be distributed on the dash basis with the money awarded according to a horse's position in each separate dash or heat of the race.

### **Rule 2 - Dashes**

Unless otherwise specified in the conditions, the money distribution in dashes shall be 45% - 25% - 20% - 10%. If there is any premium for which a no horse has maintained a position, it shall be divided the same as ITPA stake races in the event of non-finishers. (Rev. 2002)

### **Rule 3 - Dead Heat**

In the event of a dead heat, the 2 dead heat horses will equally divide the monies for the 2 contested places.

### **Rule 4 - Every Heat a Race**

In meets where every heat is a race, the purse shall be distributed as in dash races with nothing being set aside for the race winner.

## **Section 7 - Decorum and Misconduct**

### **Rule 1 - Improper Language**

No owner, trainer, driver or attendant of a horse or any other person shall use improper language to an official or officer of an association in membership or be guilty of any improper conduct toward such officers or judges or persons or persons serving under their order, such improper language or conduct having reference to the administration of the course, or any race thereon.

### **Rule 2 - Assault and Battery**

No owner, trainer, driver, or attendant of a horse, or any other person at any time or place shall commit an assault, or an assault and battery, upon any driver in who shall drive in a race or shall threaten to do bodily injury to such driver or shall address to such driver language outrageously insulting.

### **Rule 3 - Impeding a Race Meet**

No owner, trainer, driver, or attendant of a horse, or any other person shall threaten to commit or shall impede, embarrass, or prevent the conduct or continuance of a race meet or shall engage in or threaten to engage in any concerted action intended to delay, impede, or prevent the start of any race meet. (Rev. 2002)

### **Rule 4 - Threatening not to Race**

No owner, trainer, or driver of a horse shall threaten to join with others in threatening not to race, or not to declare in because of the entry of a certain horse or horses or a particular stable, thereby compelling or trying to compel The race secretary to reject certain eligible entries, it shall be immediately reported to an official of this organization and the offending parties may be suspended pending a hearing before the area board of review.

### **Rule 5 - Bribes for Starting**

No owner, agent, or driver who has entered a horse shall thereafter demand of the member track a bonus of money or other special award of consideration as a condition for starting a horse.

### **Rule 6 - Other Misconduct**

Any misconduct on the part of a member of this organization fraudulent in its nature or injurious to the character of the turf, although not specified in these rules is forbidden. Any person or persons who individually or in concert with another, shall fraudulently and corruptly, by means, affect the outcome of any race or affect a false registration, or commit any other act injurious to the sport, shall be guilty of a violation.

### **Rule 7 - Conspiracy**

If 2 or more persons shall combine and confederate together, in any manner, regardless of where the said persons may be located for the purpose of violating any of the rules of this organization and shall commit some act in furtherance of the said purpose and plan, it shall constitute a conspiracy and violation.

### **Rule 8 - Penalties**

The offending party or parties may be suspended by 2 or more directors of this organization pending a hearing of the area board of review, and if upon hearing such party or parties shall be found guilty of violating the provisions of this section, they shall be subject to the penalty of suspension or expulsion for a specific amount of time as directed by the area board of review. (Rev. 2002)

## **Section 8 - Drivers**

### **Rule 1 - Conduct**

The following shall constitute and be reason for mandatory fine and/or suspension:

- A. Failure to obey the judge's orders.
- B. Failure to drive when programmed unless excused by judges.
- C. Fighting.
- D. Assaults.
- E. Offensive or profane language.
- F. Disturbing the peace.
- G. Drinking intoxicating beverages.
- H. Smoking while on the track.
- I. Shouting and excessive noise on the track.
- J. Showing contempt towards the judges.
- K. Not keeping both feet in the stirrups from call to post of the race until the finish of the race unless permission is granted by the presiding judge to do otherwise. (Rev. 2003)
- L. Allowing the lines to drag near or on the ground.

### **Rule 2 - Colors**

All drivers must wear silks and the silks must consist of at least 2 colors. All pants must be White with the option of colored stripe(s). No T-Shirts of any color are allowed as part of racing silks. (Rev 2012)

### **Rule 3 - Licenses**

All drivers racing on non-pari-mutuel ITPA licensed tracks must have a current ITPA driver's license.

- A. A complimentary license may be given to a licensed professional Standardbred driver to drive a Trottingbred in a race on a Para-Mutual licensed track. Any time said horse earns is considered official. (Rev. 1997)

### **Rule 4 - Helmets and Eye Protection**

All drivers must wear helmets with chin straps in place and some form of eye protection while on the track during a race meet. Snell approved Helmets are preferred. (Rev. 2019)

### **Rule 5 - Handholds**

All drivers must have and use standard leather or nylon handholds on an ITPA licensed track from the start of the race until the race is finished. Handhold placement is up to the driver's discretion with an understanding that if you cause interference and the judge rules it's because of the drivers' handholds are too far back, the Judge will enforce a severe penalty. (Rev. 2019)

### **Rule 6 - Drivers under the Age of Sixteen**

Children 16 years of age and older are permitted to race in adult classified races. With the permission of the presiding judge, children under 16 years of age are eligible to race adults providing they have demonstrated their ability to control their horses. Any licensed ITPA track that does not wish to have children under 16 years of age racing in classified races with adults must publicize this on their general conditions sheet and their entry blank forms or accept them as qualified drivers. If a child has participated in the adult races, he or she may not drive in the children's races at the same meet.

### **Rule 7 - Administering of Needles to Horses**

Any driver or other persons who shall administer a needle of any kind to any horse in a race meet and is witnessed by any ITPA or race official shall immediately stand suspended for a period of 60 days and be fined \$1,000. In the event an ITPA race official is not present, but the act is witnessed by at least 3 ITPA members who shall give written testimony to the presiding judge. The same penalty as stated shall apply. This rule shall not prejudice other existing rules and penalties. (Rev. 2017)

## **Section 9 - Stimulants and Drugs**

Any ITPA Stakes races being hosted by an ITPA Track will be required to follow the guidelines as documented in the ITPA "Drug Testing Policy".

- A. The ITPA and ONLY the ITPA may perform random drug testing on any horse which races in ITPA hosted races. Said Drug Testing will test for stimulants, depressants, narcotics, or hypnotics by way of blood samples.
- B. At the beginning of each race season, ALL Trainers must register the horses they intend to race with the ITPA before the horses' first race.
  1. A "Trainer" can be the owner, trainer, driver, or lessee of a given horse.
  2. For Drug Testing purposes, the Trainer will be the responsible person for the horses in their care.

If a horse is moved from one trainer to another during the race season, it is the responsibility of the new trainer to inform the Race Office of the transfer. (Rev. 2016)

## **Section 10 – Drug Testing Policy**

The below outlined "Zero Tolerance" Drug Testing has been accepted by the International Trotting and Pacing Association (ITPA) Board of Directors. It will be implemented and strongly enforced by the ITPA.

- 1.) The ITPA reserves the right to perform random drug testing on any horses which race in an ITPA Sponsored Race. Said Drug Testing will test for all drugs, stimulants, depressants, narcotics, or hypnotics by way of blood samples.
- 2.) At the beginning of each race season ALL trainers must register the horses they are training with the Race Office.
  - a. A trainer can be an owner, driver, or lessee of a said horse.
  - b. For drug testing purposes, the trainer will be the responsible person for the horses that are in their care.
  - c. If a horse is moved from one trainer to another during the race season, it is the responsibility of the new trainer to inform the Race Office of the transfer.
    - I. If a horse is tested positive, they must first complete the required suspensions before the transfer can be completed and allowed to return to racing.
- 3.) At the beginning of each race season, all trainers must sign a Drug Testing Policy Waiver with the Race Office before their horse will be allowed to race.
- 4.) A Veterinarian selected by the point person will be provided a current year's race schedule.
  - a. Each year, the veterinarian will be given a spending limit to be used toward drug testing on random race dates and stake races.
  - b. All testing decisions for which races will be random drawn and which horses will be determined by the veterinarian.
  - c. All testing decisions for which races will be random drawn and which horses will be determined by the veterinarian.
    - I. No one from the Club, Drug Committee, Membership, Track Association, etc. will know when drug testing will be performed.
    - II. The veterinarian will arrive at the races and contact the Drug Committee Point Person.
      1. All the slips are to be contained in a bag or bottle which will enable veterinarian to draw unable to see the numbers.
      2. First, they will draw for the races to be tested during the race meet.
      3. Second, they will draw numbers for starting position to identify the horses to be tested.
  - d. There will be no discussion between the Race Official and the Starting Judge over the handheld radios of announcements over the loudspeakers about drug testing.
- 5.) The veterinarian shall take a blood sample from the horse and shall seal the sample in the manner approved and provided by the testing laboratory.
- 6.) The veterinarian shall then take the said sample to a courier service personally and seal the package that will be sent to the testing lab.

a. The lab test follows a set of Laboratory Standard Operating Procedures that were developed internally and are based largely on those prescribed by the USEPA. Strict attention and documentation of sample receipt, analyses, and chain of custody are maintained in the laboratory. Quality control procedures are documented and follow guidelines established during the internal validation process of all analytical methodology.

b. The lab test results shall be returned to the veterinarian who will then forward the results immediately upon receiving them to the Drug Testing Committee's Designated Point Person.

7.) Any horse required to provide blood samples for drug testing will be permitted to race until such time as the results of the test are made known.

8.) If any trainer refuses to allow blood testing on their horse, their refusal will constitute suspension from racing for one year.

9.) If the race meet is a Stakes Race, any Stakes money earned, and awards will be held until the test results are returned.

10.) In the event a positive test result is received: (Rev. 2018)

a. The Drug Testing Committee's Designated Point Person shall immediately inform the President of the ITPA.

b. The Drug Testing Committee shall then provide a formal, notification to the Trainer that a positive test result has been received.

c. The ITPA shall then provide a formal written notice to the Trainer of the details of the positive test results, their penalties and fines.

I. The Trainer will be required to sign the formal written notice and immediately return to the ITPA office.

d. If the race meet is a Stakes Race, Stakes Money, Awards, and Stakes Win Title will be awarded to the second-place overall finisher based upon the Stake Race Conditions.

11.) Any horse that tests positive for any drug, stimulant, depressant, narcotic, or hypnotic, a mandatory sentence will be imposed on the Trainer and ALL horses registered under their care.

a. 1<sup>st</sup> Offense- 6 Race Date Suspension (not including rain dates) & a \$300 fine.

b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense- 12 Race Date Suspension (not including rain dates) & a \$500 fine.

c. 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense- Must be approved to return to racing from the ITPA Board of Directors & a \$1,000 fine.

d. 4<sup>th</sup> Offense – Suspension from racing for LIFE.

12.) The following were adopted for Bute only: (Removed 2018)

### **Non-Midwest ITPA Area Trainers and Horses**

1.) When a Non-Midwest ITPA area Trainer and /or horse compete in an ITPA sponsored race, upon arrival, this Drug Policy and the ITPA Racing Conditions will be given to the Trainer.

2.) Prior to racing, they must sign the Drug Testing Policy Waiver and pay required ITPA membership.

a. If the Trainer refuses to sign the waiver, they will not be allowed to race.

3.) If the race meet is a Stakes Race, any Stakes Money earned, and Awards will be held until the test results are returned.

4.) In the event that a positive test result for any drug, stimulant, depressant, narcotic or hypnotic result is received for an Out of State or Country horse, the following mandatory sentence will be imposed on the Trainer and the horse:

a. The Drug Testing Committee's Designated Point Person shall immediately inform the President of the ITPA.

b. The ITPA shall provide a formal written notice to the Trainer of the details of the positive test results,

their penalties and fines.

I. The Trainer will be required to sign the formal written notice and immediately return to the ITPA office.

c. If the race meet is a Stakes Race, Stakes Money, Awards, and Stakes Win Title will be awarded to the second-place finisher based upon the Stakes Race Conditions.

d. A fine will be imposed on the Trainer for the amount of \$300.

e. Until all fines are paid, the Trainer and their horses will not be allowed to race at an ITPA sponsored race.

## Drug Groups

### 1. Stimulants/Antihistamines

- Amphetamine
- Apomorphine
- Caffeine
- Chlorpheniramine
- Diphenhydramine
- Ephedrine
- Methamphetamine
- Methylphenidate
- Nicotine
- Phentermine
- Phenylpropanolamine

### 2. Non-Steroidal Anti-inflammatory/Analgesics

- Acetaminophen
- Acetylsalicylic Acid
- Antipyrine
- Buprenorphine
- Carprofen
- Butorphanol
- Celecoxib
- Diclofenac
- Diflunisal
- Etodolac
- Ketorolac
- Levorphanol
- Fenopropfen
- Flunixin
- Flufenamic Acid
- Indomethacin
- Ketoprofen
- Meclofenamic Acid
- Mefenamic Acid
- Naproxen
- Nefopam
- Pentazocine
- Phenylbutazone
- Rofecoxib
- Salicylic Acid

(2. continued)

- Sulindac
- Tenoxicam
- Tiaprofenic Acid
- Tolfenamic Acid
- Tramadol
- Vedaprofen
- Zomepirac

### 3. Corticosteroids

- Dexamethasone
- Methylprednisolone
- Prednisolone
- Prednisone
- Triamcinolone

### 4. Diuretics

- Bumetanide
- Furosemide
- Hydrochlorothiazide
- Trichlormethiazide

### 5. Tranquilizers/Sedatives

- Acepromazine
- Amobarbital
- Azaperone
- Chlorpromazine
- Codeine
- Diazepam
- Flurazepam
- Hydromorphone
- Pentobarbital
- Promazine
- Propionyl promazine
- Meperidine
- Methadone
- Methaqualone
- Morphine
- Oxymorphone
- Xylazine

### 6. Anesthetics

- Benzocaine
- Cocaine
- Lidocaine
- Procaine
- Bupivacaine
- Dibucaine
- Mepivacaine
- Tetracaine
- Chloropropane
- Ketamine
- Pylrilamine

### 7. Respiratory Aids

- Atropine
- Bromhexine
- Brompheniramine
- Chlorpheniramine
- Clenbuterol
- Dembrexine
- Dextromethorphan
- Diphenhydramine
- Dyphylline
- Guaifenesin
- Pseudoephedrine

## **Chapter VIII: Fines, Suspensions, and Expulsions**

### **Rule 1 - Suspension until Fine is Paid**

Any person who is fined by a judge must be allowed to appeal the fine under the rules of Chapter IX pp. 36 and 37. The hearing must be held within three race dates of the current season. If the fine or suspension is upheld, then and ONLY then, the fine must be paid or the person is suspended until the payment is made or arrangements are made for it to be paid.

### **Rule 2 - Recording of Fines and Penalties**

All fines and other penalties imposed by the judges or starter on any person or horse on the grounds of a member track, shall be recorded on the judge's sheet, written or printed notice thereof shall be sent to the person penalized, notice posted immediately at the member track office and notice forwarded immediately to the ITPA office by the presiding judge or the race secretary. The ITPA shall transmit notice of suspension to the other member tracks and therefore the offender shall suffer the same penalty and disqualification with every member track. (Rev.2003)

### **Rule 3 – All Fines Due on the Date Collected**

All fines collected shall be reported and paid to the ITPA office on the day collected, ITPA clubs may keep 50% of the fines levied for infractions of the rules at their tracks.

### **Rule 4 - Meaning Of Suspension**

Whenever the penalty of suspension is prescribed in the rules it shall be construed to mean an unconditional exclusion and disqualification of any participation either directly or indirectly in the privileges and uses of the course and grounds of any member track during the progress of a race meeting unless otherwise specifically limited when the suspension is imposed such as suspension from driving only. The suspension becomes affective when notice is given unless otherwise specified.

### **Rule 5 - Horses of Suspended Owner Are Suspended**

No horse shall have the right to race while owned or controlled wholly or in part by a suspended, expelled, disqualified or excluded person. If an entry is made for a suspended horse or a horse owned by a suspended person the entry fee may be retained without giving the horse the right to compete unless the penalty has been removed. A suspended, disqualified or excluded person who drives in a race shall be fined. The owner of a suspended or disqualified horse that races shall be fined.

### **Rule 6 - Fraudulent Transfer**

The fraudulent transfer of a horse by any person under suspension to circumvent the suspension shall constitute a violation and the person shall be fined.

### **Rule 7 - Suspension for a Season**

If no limit is fixed in an order of suspension and none is defined in the rule applicable to the case the penalty shall be considered to be limited to the season in which the order was issued.

### **Rule 8 - Allowing Suspended Person or Horse to Race**

Any member track willfully allowing a suspended disqualified or excluded person to drive in a race or a suspended disqualified horse to start in a race or performance against time after notice from the president shall be together with its officers, subject to a fine, suspension or expulsion.

### **Rule 9 - Allowing Suspended Person or Horse Use of Grounds**

Any member track willfully allowing the use of its track or grounds by an expelled or unconditionally suspended person or horse, after notice from the president, or other authorized person, shall be, together with its officers, subject to a fine, suspension, or expulsion.



**Rule 10 - Suspended Persons as Officers**

Any suspended disqualified or excluded person cannot act as an officer of a member track. Any member track found violating this rule may be fined.

**Rule 11 - Non-Sufficient Funds**

Any person who pays an entry, a fine, or other claim by draft, check or money order which upon presentation is protested, payment refused, or otherwise dishonored, shall be by order of the ITPA, subject to a fine not exceeding the amount of the check, and the winnings of the horse or horses declared illegal and said persons and horses suspended until the dishonored amount and fine are paid and the illegal winnings returned.

**Rule 12 – Removal of Suspension**

Any suspension imposed by judges can be removed or modified by the area board of review.

**Rule 13 - Attempted Bribery**

Any member bribing or attempting to bribe a track official to secure special benefits shall be heard before the area board of review, and if found guilty, shall be suspended with all horses in the persons stable for 1 year.

**Rule 14 - Application for Removal of Expulsion**

An application for removal of expulsion imposed starting a horse out of its class or under change of name, or both, shall not be docketed for a hearing by the area board of review until all unlawful winnings are returned for redistribution and a specified fine paid.

**Rule 15 – Fines Must Not Exceed 20% of the Purse**

Fines levied by the starting or presiding judge during a race may not exceed 20% of the purse offered for the heat or race in which the infraction occurred. This rule pertains only to those infractions that are left to the “judge’s discretion” and not those that are given a specific monetary value in the rules. (Rev. 2018)

# Chapter IX: Inquiries

## **Section 1 - General Procedures**

### **Rule 1 - Who May Inquiry**

Inquires may be made only by an owner, trainer, or driver in good standing with ITPA.

### **Rule 2 - Timing of Inquiry**

Inquiries must be made before the horse leaves the track after the heat is raced.

### **Rule 3 - How to Inquiry**

All Inquiries shall be presented to the Starting Judge by the driver before exiting the track.

### **Rule 3 – Refusal to Accept an Inquiry**

The license of any Starting or Presiding Judge may be revoked for refusal to accept an inquires.

## **Section 2 - Inquiry**

### **Rule 1 – Subject of Inquiry**

All decisions and rulings of the judge of any race may be inquired to the starting judge before exiting the track after the raced heat. The injury may be taken on any question in the conduct of the race, interpretation of the rule, and decision relative to the outcome of a race. It must be based on a specific charge by the judge.

### **Rule 2 – Process of Inquiry**

- A. Inquiry must be given to the Starting Judge after the heat is raced and before exiting the track.
- B. The Starting Judge must radio the Inquiry to the Presiding Judge.
- C. The Presiding Judge must radio the Starting Judge all Setbacks and/or inquiries to the Starting Judge before the Horses exiting the track. (Rev. 2021)
- D. The tape will then review at the earliest Judge's convenience.
- E. The race will be reviewed by three people... Presiding Judge, Starting Judge and an ITPA member that the Presiding Judge appoint at that night.
- F. The Presiding Judge can then Provide explanation of their rule to all persons involved.
- G. After the Presiding Judge review and a decision has been rendered, the heat is official no further actions can be taken.

**(Rev. 2019)**

# Chapter X: ITPA Operations

## Section 1 - ITPA Stakes, Midwestern Classics Stakes and Futurities

### **Rule 1 – Divisions of ITPA Stakes**

There will be 2 divisions of the ITPA Futurity Stakes, one in the east (Pennsylvania and East) and one in the Midwest (Ohio and West). All sustaining fees will follow the horse to the division selected. Beginning with foals of 1989 that will race in the 1991 stakes, owners of nominations must declare in which division they will race by May, when the 3<sup>rd</sup> sustaining fee is due. All foals born before 2011, no change can be made after the May declaration, even if the horse is sold afterwards to someone who might want to change the division. Foals born in 2011 and after, for a \$20.00 penalty up to July 15<sup>th</sup>, the division can be changed from west to east, etc. Nominations may only race in one division and must race on the gait specified with the starting fee. There will be 1 division of the Midwestern Classic Stakes. Foals properly nominated (\$12.00 fee) no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year applicable.

- A. Bids from clubs that wish to sponsor or host a division of the ITPA stakes must be received by the date of the fall ITPA board of directors meeting, in the morning, bidding will be run like an auction with any eligible club being able to bid, the board will reserve the right to award the stakes to the most qualified club (and may be personally delivered by directors). Bids must include projected costs for stalls, camper hook-ups and entry fee. (Rev. 2009)

### **Proposed dates for the ITPA and/or Midwestern Classic stakes must fall between August 1<sup>st</sup> and September 15<sup>th</sup>. (Rev. 2011)**

- B. The host clubs must mail their bid money to the ITPA office no later than January 1<sup>st</sup>, after the board meeting or the bid(s) will be forfeited. The second highest bidder for the division(s) will be awarded the Stakes and that club will have 30 days (February 1st) to send their bid money to the ITPA office.
- C. In the event no bids are received for the stake races, or a division thereof, the ITPA executive committee is empowered to contact all the clubs in the particular area or areas to solicit bids of at least \$100.00. The bids must be received in the ITPA Office by April 1<sup>st</sup> after the board meeting. (Rev. 2015)

### **If for any reason the host club backs out of its obligation to hold a division of the ITPA and/or Midwestern Classic stakes, the host club forfeits the money it bid. (Rev. 1994)**

- D. If races cannot be held because of weather conditions on the first day, a second or third consecutive day must be scheduled as rain dates and must be previously advertised in the conditions. No postponement of the stakes to another weekend can be set without unanimous vote in agreement of all prospective race participants on the grounds on the original date. (Rev. 1998)
- E. (Removed 2013)
- F. All eligible horses must be measured by the approved ITPA committee April 16<sup>th</sup> or after to be eligible to receive any purse money. Measurements IN or OUT are official and must be marked on the eligibilities. Sponsors may elect to hold 2-Year-Old Division 1 day and 3-Year-Old Division the second day. Also 2 measuring lights may be set up to facilitate measurements, as long as an approved committee is used for both of the measuring lights. (Rev. 2009)
- G. Host track must provide two corner judges to oversee stake races. (Rev. 2016)
- H. Host track also has the right to determine start time for special races such as stakes, fairs, and any other specially held race. (Rev. 2016)
- I. In the event of a site/date change host club must contact ITPA executive committee for approval. (Rev. 1996)
- J. If after May 15<sup>th</sup> site/date change occurs, owners of entries for this division only have the option to change area designation. R.S.V.P. 10 days after official notification. Notice can be faxed to Canadian entries. (Rev. 1996)
- K. Beginning with bids from host clubs for the 1993 ITPA stakes, ITPA and Classic Stakes will no longer be responsible for paying for trophies or coolers for the stake winners. This will be the host club's responsibility and whether or not a trophy or cooler is given is entirely voluntary on the part of the host. (Rev. 2016)
- L. The host director of the ITPA stake races should have a back up light. (Rev. 2001)

## **Rule 2 – Penalty for Missed Payments**

Any sustaining fees that have been missed for a 2 and 3 year old can be made up by the 4yr old and Aged sustaining fee due date of July 15<sup>th</sup>, by adding a \$150.00 penalty for the missed payment(s) if you miss a payment the penalty must be paid before you are eligible for the following sustaining fee, up to the May 15<sup>th</sup> payment, of either or both years in order to keep the horse eligible to start. If you miss the July 15<sup>th</sup> payment it constitutes an automatic withdrawal from the event. Payments must be postmarked by July 15<sup>th</sup> to keep your horse eligible. (Rev. 2018)

## **Rule 3 - Late Nominations**

Late nominations to the ITPA and Midwestern Classic stakes will be allowed up to the Nov. sustaining fee date of the yearling year with a \$100.00 penalty.

- A. A mating certificate must accompany the application for registration in order for a foal to be eligible to the ITPA stakes beginning with foals born in 1994. (Rev. 1993)

## **Rule 4 - Previous Starts**

A horse declared to start in the ITPA futurity & Midwestern Classic Stakes must have at least 4 heats of racing on ITPA tracks marked on its eligibility before being allowed to start in the stakes. Eligibility must state times (if any) and positions finished for all starts. A DNF counts as a heat a disqualification does not. "Special" races (example ¾ mile or any race over/under the half mile distance) do not count as starts fir the ITPA futurity & Midwestern Classic Stakes. (Rev. 2022)

## **Rule 5 - Presentation of Registration Certificate**

Presentation of registration certificates is not automatically required when checking in horses with the race secretary unless previously advertised in the conditions.

## **Rule 6 - Distribution of Purse in Case of Accident**

In case of an accident, purse money that would have gone to non-finishing places will be divided among the finishers according to the ITPA stake percentages, as stated in Section 1B of the stakes payoffs. Non-finishers do not receive purse money. (Rev. 2003)

## **Rule 7 - Fees for 2-Year-Old Non-Starters**

Strike Rule (Rev. 2015)

## **Rule 8 - Two-Year-Old Pace East Division ITPA Stakes**

Strike Rule (Rev. 2015)

## **Rule 9 - Post Positions for Eligible Starters**

Post positions can be drawn one (1) week prior to scheduled race date, drawn by designated individuals selected by owners and overseen by host track officials. (Rev. 2011) Positions back of the gate for the second heat will be determined by the official finish of the first heat with the winner getting the rail etc.

Three elimination heats 1/4, 1/3, and 5/16-mile tracks: The top 2 finishers from each elimination and the 2 fastest third place winners will return for the final heat. Half mile tracks: The top three finishers from each heat and the fastest fourth place finisher will return for the final heat. (Rev. 2015)

The owners or representatives of the horses that finished first in the elimination heats will draw for the first 2 or 3 positions. This will be repeated with the horses finishing second, third etc. The time of the drawing will be announced by the track management so that the owners and/or representatives can draw, but if no representative is present at the time, the position will be drawn by track management. (Rev. 2005)

## **Rule 10 – Paid Stakes Checks**

The recipient of any monies won by horses in ITPA or Midwestern Classic Stakes will be paid to the person who paid the starting fee, unless there is a writing instruction to the ITPA Office. (Rev. 2009)

## **Rule 11 - Quarantine or State Health Hazard**

(Removed 2009)

**Rule 12 - Video Camera Required**

A video camera must be placed on a tripod at or stand at the star- finish wire in a fixed position to record the finish of an ITPA stake race. The review of an official video camera tape is allowed to change the order of finish of a race, not just at the ITPA stakes but at any track where an official camera is used during regular racing. The tape must be played back to determine the order of finish of a close race, and when an appeal is filed concerning the order of finish, this tape can be used to change the order of finish in the appeal process. (Rev. 1999)

**Section 1A - Schedule of Fees and Dates**

For foals born in 1990 and thereafter the Foal Registration and nomination fees are: (Rev. 1997)

By Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup> (year foaled)	0-12 months	\$30.00
	over 12 months	\$60.00

	<b><u>ITPA 2 - 3 YO stakes sustaining fees</u></b>	<b><u>MW Classic 2-3 YO stakes sustaining fees</u></b>
1 <sup>st</sup> - sustaining fee:	\$50.00 November 15 <sup>th</sup>	\$50.00 January 15 <sup>th</sup>
2 <sup>nd</sup> - sustaining fee:	\$50.00 February 15 <sup>th</sup>	\$50.00 March 15 <sup>th</sup>
3 <sup>rd</sup> - sustaining fee:	\$50.00 May 15 <sup>th</sup>	\$50.00 May 15 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Or - sustaining fee:</i>	<i>\$150.00 May 15<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>\$150.00 May 15<sup>th</sup></i>
4 <sup>th</sup> - starting fee:	\$50.00 15 days prior	\$50.00 15 days prior

(Rev. 2018)

- A. Starting in 2010, there will be a 4-Year-Old Stakes for trotters and pacers with a \$200.00 nomination & starting fee, due July 15<sup>th</sup>. Fillies and Colts will race together. (Rev. 2009)
- B. Starting in 2010, there will be an aged stakes for both trotters and pacers with a \$200.00 nomination & starting fee, due on July 15<sup>th</sup>. (Rev, 2009)
- C. Starting with foals of 2011, an owner may change divisions from west to east or east to west for a \$20.00 penalty that must be paid with the starting fee. (Added 2009)

**No refund of sustaining or starting fees for any reason**

**Section 1B - Stakes Purse Payout Percentages**

In the event elimination heats must be held, 40% of the purse will be paid to the eliminations and any uncontested position will go into the final dash with 60% paid to the final dash. If trophies are awarded, the trophy will go to winner of the final dash. (Rev. 2008)

Position	5 or more	4	3	2	1(walkover 1 heat only)
1	50%	50%	50%	65%	100%
2	25%	25%	30%	35%	
3	12%	15%	20%		
4	8%	10%			
5	5%				

To begin with foals of 1999.

If no eliminations are held, if trophies are awarded trophy winners will be determined by the winner of the final heats. If finishes dead heat, then if trophies are awarded duplicate trophies will be awarded and pertinent purse money will be divided equally. (I.E. combination of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place payoff will be shared equally. (Rev. 2021)

- A. Purse money will be made by the host club for the ITPA stakes. (Rev. 2007)
- B. All Stakes purse money earned will be held until drug testing results have been returned. If a positive test result is returned, all stakes money, awards and stakes win title will be awarded to the second-place overall finisher. (Rev. 2018)

**Section 1C - List of Eligible Starters in the Stakes**

A list of eligible starters for the ITPA stakes along with purse money amounts per race will be sent to all area directors by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Section 1D - Separate Colts and Fillies Races**

Beginning with foals of 1994 to race as 2-year-olds in 1996, the west division ITPA stakes will have separate races for colts and fillies in the trot and pace. (Rev. 1994)

Beginning with foals of 2003 to race as 2-year-olds in 2005, the east division ITPA stakes will not split the trot or pace, by fillies and colts. (Rev. 2003)

### **Section 2 - ITPA Sale**

#### **Rule 1 - Registration Required**

All horses consigned to the ITPA sale must be registered Trottingbred except yearlings and weanlings.

#### **Rule 2 - Last Bid**

Sale conditions shall include the fact that the owner has the right to reserve the last bid or no sale the horse. (Rev. 2009)

#### **Rule 3 - Failure to Present Horse for Sale**

Any consignor who has a horse catalogued for the sale who does not present the horse for sale shall be fined unless a veterinarian's certificate is presented stating that the horse is too ill or injured and cannot be sold in the ring.

#### **Rule 4 - Declaration of the Size of Track**

Owners consigning a horse to the sale that has raced must indicate the size of the track for the fastest time and classifying time on the consignment form.

#### **Rule 5 - Measuring a Sale Horse**

Horses consigned to the ITPA sale shall not be measured by a special committee before the sale and no heights shall be posted at the auctioneer's stand during the sale.

#### **Rule 6 - Minimum Commission**

The minimum commission ITPA will receive on each horse consigned will be \$15.00 or 10% of the last bid + \$25.00, whichever is highest beginning in 1998. If a consignor or a consignor's helper announces in the ring as a horse is selling that a certain price is wanted for said horse, the 10% commission will be applied to that price beginning with the 1994 sale. (Rev. 1993)

#### **Rule 7 - Mares in Foal**

Veterinarian certification for mares that consigners claim is in foal is not required, however, the auctioneer will announce whether or not a Veterinary Certificate has been provided with the sale papers for mares consigners say are in foal as each sells through the ring. A mating certificate is required on all mares claimed to be in foal. Seller will not receive money from sale until mating certificate is provided. (Rev. 1997)

#### **Rule 8 - Sale Catalogue Arrangement**

Beginning in 1991 the sale catalogue will be arranged in alphabetical order of the dam of the cosigned horse, beginning with the letter "A". Five letters will be skipped each succeeding year to determine the letter to begin with each year. (Rev.1990)

#### **Rule 9 - Late Sale Consignments**

Beginning with the 1995 sale, late consignments will be accepted to be sold in a supplemental sale which will be take place immediately after the sale of regular catalogued horses, the deadline to consign to the supplement sale is 10 days before the sale date and the fee is \$\$30.00 per horse. The late consignments will not be included in the catalogue mailed to members but will be listed on separate sheets on a first-received, first-listed basis that will be made available at the sale site. Horses will sell as listed with all other sale conditions applicable. (Rev. 1994)

**Rule10 - Consigned Horses with World Records**

Any horse cosigned to the ITPA sale that earned a time eligible for a world record requiring the horse to be measured, said horse must be measured before being sold in the ring. (Rev. 1994)

**Rule 11 - Total Number of Horses to Be Sold**

Total number of horses to be sold will be determined by the number of horse stalls available at the sale site. (Rev. 1994)

**Rule 12 - Vendor Fee and Selling Tack Illegally**

Any and all vendors (those selling for personal profit) will be charged a \$50.00 vendor fee. Anyone caught selling tack illegally on the grounds ahead of the tack sale will be fined \$50.00. (Rev. 1993)

# Bylaws of The International Trotting and Pacing Association, INC.

Revised 2017

## Article 1- Name

The name of this organization shall be the International Trotting and Pacing Association Inc. In the remainder of the Bylaws of The International Trotting and Pacing Association, this organization may be referred to as “The Association” or “ITPA”. In the remainder of this document, the Bylaws of The International Trotting and Pacing Association may be referred to as the “Bylaws”

## Article 2 - Purpose

This shall be a not-for-profit organization whose objectives shall be:

- A. To promote the development of organized Trottingbred racing.
- B. To promote the development, breeding, improvement and racing of the Trottingbred harness horse.
- C. To unite in one organization persons who are engaged in or interested in any phase of organized Trottingbred racing.
- D. To formulate standards and principals for organized Trottingbred races.

## Article 3 - Membership

### Section A - Categories of Membership

1. **Full Member/Second Member (same household)** – Trottingbred owner/lessee which includes those who are engaged in racing and breeding the Trottingbred horse. They shall have the right to vote and hold office when otherwise qualified. With any new membership we will include a letter of welcome and a rule book. (Rev. 2001)
2. **Associate Member** – includes those persons who do not own a Trottingbred that is racing. They shall not have right to hold office.
3. **Driver** – includes persons who are interested only in the capacity of driving. This category shall not include an owner of a Trottingbred horse that is racing. These persons shall not have the right to vote or hold office. (Rev. 1992)
4. **Limited Non-Voting Associate** –(Removed 2009)

### Section B - Termination of Membership

Membership may be terminated by resignation or expulsion for cause, with the concurrence of two-thirds of the voting directors present at any business meeting, or by death. In any case of expulsion, no action shall be taken until after the member has been notified in writing of the charges preferred and has been given ample opportunity to present a defense.

### Section C - Rejection of Application for or Revocation of Membership

The executive committee of the Association may reject the application of any applicant who fails to comply with the requirements for membership herein specified, or whose experience, character, or general fitness are such that the participation of such person in Trottingbred racing will not be consistent with the best interest of the sport or whose membership would be detrimental to or reflect adversely or unfavorably on the Association. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the executive committee may reject an application for membership or suspend a membership if it finds that the application, if an individual, or if a corporation, any officer, manager, or executive employee thereof:

- A. Has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude.
- B. Makes or has made false or misleading statements in or in connection with any application for membership or any other proceedings before any board, committee, or official of the Association or fails to properly furnish information requested to supplement such application.
- C. Any member who shall accumulate unpaid obligations or otherwise display financial irresponsibility reflecting on the sport.



- D. Any person who shall alone or in concert in any way promote or help to promote any other organization that is financially or otherwise not in the best interest of this Association.

The executive committee's rejection, revocation, or suspension of an applicant for membership shall be in writing and mailed by certified mail to the applicant at the applicant's address within 30 days of receipt of said application, together with any supporting information which may be required. Any applicant may appeal such a decision made by the executive committee to the board of Directors of the Association within 30 days from the time such decision is so mailed. The appeal would be heard at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors.

### **Section D - Definition Member in Good Standing**

A member in good standing is someone who abides by all ITPA Rules, has all outstanding debts paid, and is not under suspension from the ITPA, any club that is governed under the rules & regulations of the ITPA, or any other harness racing association. (Rev. 2011)

## **Article IV - Officers**

### **Section A - Officers**

The president of the Association will select from the area representatives not already on the Board officers for racing rules. These officers shall serve as long as they are approved by the president, who shall have the power to replace them or in case of resignation or death approve a new member as the occasion arises.

If the president of the Association is absent or becomes incapacitated, the vice-president shall take on the duties of the president of the Association until such time as a new President can be elected. (Rev. 1991)

### **Section B - Duties of the Officers**

The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

1. The president shall call special meetings of the Association upon proper petition of the members and at such time as, in the President's judgment, the interests of the Association requires.
2. The chairman of the rules committee will be elected from and by the committee members present at the annual and will serve for 1 year or until the time of the next meeting. The Chair shall have the responsibility of maintaining the handbook of racing rules through making revisions, presenting same to the President, who shall in turn present them to the board for approval. The chair of the rules committee shall also serve on the executive committee during the year and shall have one vote on the Executive Committee. (Rev1998)
3. The secretary/treasurer will be responsible to serve as a backup to the Office Manager, preparing agenda items for Board of Director's meetings, recording meeting minutes and distributing a copy to area directs, prepare and presenting financial statements. (Rev 2013)
4. Removed 2013
5. The executive committee shall be comprised of five (5) voting members. The voting members are: President, Chairman of the Board, Vice-President, Vice-Chairman, and Chairman of the Rules Committee. The outgoing President shall serve on the Executive Committee during the first year of retirement in a consulting, non-voting position. (Rev. 2007)
6. The President, Chair of the Board, and Rules Committee Chair shall be known and serve as the Office committee of the ITPA. (Rev. 2007)
7. Lifetime Director at large and/or honorary member (s) appointed to the Executive Committee are consultant, Non-voting positions. (Rev. 1998)

## **Article V - Board of Directors**

### **Section A - Election of Officers**

1. The powers, property and affairs of the Association shall be exercised, conducted and controlled by the Board of Directors.

Elected Board members shall be elected as follows:

- A. The names of the areas that would need to conduct an election during the year for office of Director will be published in the March/April issue of the Trottingbred magazine. (Rev. 2008)
  - B. Ballots will be counted by representatives agreeable to both parties and notified prior to the fall Board of Directors meeting. (Rev. 2001)
  - C. Any member in good standing of ITPA would be eligible for a Directorship provided that the member has been in good standing for the past 3 consecutive years and is a legal resident of the area the member wishes to represent. Proof of residency consists of where they are registered to vote and where they pay income tax. Members can only vote in their area. (Rev. 2001) In the event of vacancy in the elected membership of the board, the remaining Directors of the Executive Committee shall appoint a member in good standing from the area to serve for the remainder of the fiscal year (until the Annual Board Meeting), then an election must be held. (Rev. 2009)
  - D. In order for a member's name to appear on the ballot as a qualified candidate, the member must have a petition form, secured from the ITPA office, signed by 10 members in good standing in the area that the member is seeking to represent. If there are forty (40) or fewer members in the area, then a petition from that area would only require having Five (5) signatures. No member is allowed to sign more than one petition in any election year. Petitions must be filed by voting directors who are running for re-election to office. A definite date for filing such petitions will be publicized in the Trottingbred magazine. If no petition is received from an area by the deadline stated, the ITPA board shall appoint someone from that area to fill the position for one year. One year later an election will be held in that area and a person will be elected to the office for the remaining two-year term.
  - E. After securing the necessary signatures, the candidate will send back to the ITPA office by no later than July 15<sup>th</sup> (Rev. 2009)
  - F. Ballots will be mailed with two return envelopes enclosed – one plain small one that the voter puts the ballot in with no return address. That envelope will be put into another one that the ITPA Office has placed the voter's name and return address which is mailed to ITPA with BALLOT marked on it. Unopened, all ballots are sent to the respective counting chairman, agreed to by both parties, with a list of eligible voters in the areas to be checked. Afterward the outer envelope is destroyed leaving the inside envelope to open with the ballot to be counted. (Rev. 2001)
  - G. The member securing the most votes in any given area will then be notified by the ITPA office and be invited to attend the board meeting that is held in September in the official capacity as a board member. If there is a tie in the vote, the choice of which candidate becomes director will be decided in the area by procedures voted on within the area.
  - H. If only one petition is filed with the ITPA office from any given area in which an election is to be held, the person that filed the petition becomes the director and no ballots will be sent to the members of that area.
2. The board of directors shall be a revolving board with each member of the board serving a term of 3 years. Each year the President shall review the Areas and Directors whose terms of office have expired and shall present them to the Board for approval. The United States will be divided into geographical areas.
  3.
    - A. In the event an elected Director cannot attend an official meeting called by the ITPA, the Director may select an alternate to serve in his or her place. This can be done by presenting to the Chair the reason that the Board Member could not attend, and the name of the alternate appointed to attend with full voting powers.
    - B. Proxy votes designated by an absent Director to another Director will not be accepted unless they pertain to items predetermined by printed/pre-advertised issues on the agenda. (Rev. 1997)
    - C. No one director or his alternate may hold more than one proxy vote. (Rev. 1998)
  4. Removed 2011

In areas with more than 1 director, term ends should rotate. (Rev. 1998)

5. The board of directors shall have the power to increase the number of elected board members in accordance with the growth and expansion of the Association so as to best serve the needs and interests of the Association and its members.

6. The board of directors will once every three years elect a President of the association from their group. Board members must be seated on the board for one year before they are eligible to hold the office of President. Nominations of candidates will be received from the floor and voted on by secret ballot. The candidate receiving the most votes is the winner. (Rev. 2017)

The board shall then elect for three-year terms the following officers:

- Vice-President
- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer

These officers are eligible for re-election as often as the board desires. (Rev. 2017)

6. All newly elected directors must be approved by the existing board before being seated as a voting director.

7. Rules Committee - The Rules Committee is formed by each ITPA Board of Directors selecting an ITPA Member to represent them. The committee will elect a Chairman of the Rules Committee and a Vice Chairman at the beginning of their annual meeting. (Rev 2013)

- The Rules Committee is responsible for reviewing the rule book and proposed rule revisions and determine how best to revise, remove, or add rules.
- The Chairman of the Rules Committee and Vice Chairman shall attend board meetings, prepared to discuss all actions that have been taken and proposals in changes to the Bylaws or Racing Rules. No changes will be made without approval from the Board of Directors.

8. The Chair of the board shall preside at all board meetings. In case of absence or incapacitation of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman of the board will assume duties of the office of the Chairman until such time as a new chairman can be elected by the Board members. (Rev. 2007)

9. The board of directors, by a two-thirds vote of the director's present at any meeting of the board, may declare vacant the office of a Director, if the Director is declared of unsound mind by any order of the court or convicted of a felony or for any other proper cause, or if, within 60 days after the notice of election, the member does not accept the office either in writing or by attending a meeting of the board. In any case, no vacancy of the office of a Director may be declared until after such Director has been notified in writing of the charges preferred and has been given ample opportunity to present a defense.

A. **Removal of a director by area members** - Members of an area may petition the ITPA Executive Committee to have their Director removed from office before his/her term is finished. The petition must contain signatures of at least two-thirds of the members in good standing with the Association in the area. Within (60) days of receipt of the petition, an election will be held in the area and the same procedure will be followed as stated in the ITPA By-laws, Article V Section A, F through I. (Rev. 1994)

10. Any action taken by the Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting as it pertains to rule changes or changes in the By-laws must be reconsidered after one year. No rule changes may occur during the year between Board meetings. (Rev. 1994)

11. The function of the board will be two-fold:

- A. To approve changes in the By-laws, changes in the racing rules or financial commitments in excess of one-quarter of the cash position of the Association. All of the above must be approved before being acted on.
- B. To evaluate the action of the President on the administrative phase of (A) above or in regard to all other actions of the President to evaluate both the determinative and administrative phase.

13. A Director may hold two seats at the discretion of the Board of Directors. (Rev. 2015)

### **Section B - Records of Proceedings**

The board shall keep a record of their proceedings and make a report to the Association in the following issue of the Trottingbred Magazine.

### **Section C - Vacancy**

In the event of vacancy in the elected membership of the Board, the remaining Directors of the Executive Committee shall appoint a member in good standing from the area to serve for the remainder of the fiscal year (until the Annual Board meeting). (Rev. 2007)

### **Section D - Absence or Incapacitation of the Chair**

In case of absence or incapacitation of the Chair of the Board, the Vice-Chair of the Board will act as Chair until such time as a new Chair can be elected.

## **Article VI - Meetings**

### **Section A - Regular Meetings**

Each year the President's geographical areas as outlined in Article V, Section A, will be presented to the board for approval.

1. The member track presidents must hold meetings prior to the Annual Fall Board meeting for the election or appointment of two representatives so that the names of these elected or appointed representatives can be in the ITPA office three (3) weeks prior to the Fall Board Meeting.
2. The Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the President in the fall of the year. The time and place of such meeting shall be determined by the Association President.
3. In the fall, the annual meeting of the outgoing Board and the meeting of the incoming Board will occur. All newly elected Board members will be asked to attend the meeting of the outgoing Board in an ex-officio capacity. Immediately after the meeting of the outgoing Board, the incoming Board of Directors with its newly elected members will meet to elect from their group the President of the Association and/or such other officers as are needed.

### **Section B - Special Meetings**

Special meetings may be called at any time by the President or by a Majority of the Board of Directors or shall be called by petition of one-half of the voting membership. Special meetings may act on such business only as was indicated in the notice of the meeting.

### **Section C - Notice of Meeting**

The notice of any meeting, regular or special, shall be sent out not less than 10 days and not more than 15 days prior to such meeting directed to each member. (Rev. 2008)

### **Section D – Establishing Race Schedules**

1. Races scheduled or special races of sister tracks of ITPA should be considered if dates are known at the time that races are scheduled.
2. When establishing ITPA races the following order of scheduling will be followed:
  1. All state and/or county fairs.
  2. All stake races, series races, and rain-out dates.
  3. All remaining dates will be divided as evenly as possible among the participating tracks.
3. ITPA races may not be held at more than one track per calendar day.

4. A meeting to establish the schedule should be held, with the president/representative, race secretary, track reps, and a member of the board in attendance.
5. The race scheduling meeting will be held annually on Fall Banquet day, two hours prior to the Fall Banquet.

## **Article VII - Amendments**

Amendments to the Bylaws may be presented in writing by any member. They shall be sent to the President of the Association or the Chair of the Board who shall in turn circulate in writing such recommendations to the entire Board of Directors at least 30 days before such recommendations shall be considered or action taken.

1. Amendments to the Bylaws may be made by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board of Directors
2. Changes in the Association's charter can be subject to review upon vote of two-thirds of the eligible membership. If a poll of the voting membership overrules the Directors by a two-thirds vote, the membership vote would be the deciding factor.

## **Article VIII - Quorum**

Two-thirds of the Membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors: a majority of any committees shall constitute a quorum of such committees.

## **Article IX - Directors and Representatives**

### **Section A - Directors**

A Director from each area shall be elected by the membership from among themselves to serve a term of three years in accordance with Article V, Section A.

1. The director elected by the membership to the board shall act as the President of the area board of review. The area board shall be composed of all the tracks representatives from the area or other area Directors in attendance from the areas represented. Area Directors that sit on the area board of review cannot vote on an appeal to the ITPA Board. (Rev. 1999)
2. An area Director shall serve as President of the area board of review in accordance with Article X.
3. It shall be the duty of each Director to attend all Board meetings and to present the views and suggestions of the Area to the Board for their consideration.
4. The Director shall vote on all matters pertaining to the Association, its Rules or its By-laws.
5. It shall be the duty of each Director to enforce without exception, all rules of this organization at all ITPA licensed tracks in the area, and to carry out the directions of its Board and/or the Area Board of Review.
6. It shall be the duty of the Director to inspect tracks, check track licenses, report incidents, etc. Each Director shall function as an intermediary representing both the area and the ITPA.
7. In the event that an area grows in membership until it is entitled to two or more directors, the director that has served on the Board the longest period of time will be known as the senior director and will act as the President Director from the area.

### **Section B - Track Representatives**

Two representatives shall be elected or appointed from each licensed track in accordance with Article VI, Section A-1, for a term of one year.

1. It shall be the duty of the representatives to act as a direct liaison between their club or track member and the elected Director in the area.
2. They shall observe all activities in their local organization and ascertain that all rules are being enforced at the track.
3. It shall be the duty of the representatives to note any and all suggestions that the members may make and present to the area Director for consideration by the Board of Directors.
4. It shall be the duty of the Representatives to attend all meetings of Representatives in the area as called by the Area Director or by the Executive Committee or President of this Association

5. It shall be the duty of the representatives to sit in the Area Board of Review and render decisions as outlined in Article X, of these By-Laws.
6. It shall be the duty of the representatives to report any and all irregularities and rule infractions to the area Director who shall in turn determine the seriousness of the infraction and act accordingly.
7. No representative shall condone, excuse, or make exception for any of the rules of this Association for any reason whatsoever.

## **Article X - Area Board of Review**

### **Section A – Composition and Meetings**

1. The Director elected by the membership to the board shall act as the President of the Area Board of Review. The Area Board shall be composed of all the tracks representatives from the area or other area Directors in attendance from the areas represented. Area Directors that sit on the Area Board of Review cannot vote on an appeal to the ITPA Board. (Rev. 1999)
2. The President of the Area Board shall call meetings of the Board to be held annually, prior to the fall meeting of the Board of Directors.
3. All meetings shall be held in the Area upon at least five days notice to each representative.
4. A track representative can also serve as the elected Director from any given area.

### **Section B - Powers**

The Area Board of Review shall have the jurisdiction for the enforcement of the rules of the Association. They shall have the power to suspend or expel members or officials, and to revoke sanctions and licenses, and to impose any other penalty or punishment provided by the rules of this Association. At any hearing of the board of Review, its investigation and examination may be fully extended to determine if there has been any violation of the rules of the Association and the Board may proceed as a fact-finding body.

### **Section C - Quorum**

In the case of all hearings of violations of the rules of the Association, at least 3 members of the Area Board of review must be present. A decision may be rendered by the three members of the Board. (Rev. 2005)

### **Section D - Vacancies**

In the event any member of the Area Board of Review is not able to attend a hearing upon a violation of the rules of The Association, is interested in the case financially or otherwise, or is a driver who is participating or has participated during the current year at the race meeting from which the appeal arose, the President may appoint a member of the Association from the same area to serve upon the hearing instead.

### **Section E – President - Omitted (Rev. 2005)**

### **Section F - Complaints**

All complaints and violations of the rules of this Association shall be made to the President of the board of Review for the Area where the alleged violation occurred. The complaint shall be made in duplicate and shall state in simple, plain language:

- A. The full name of the person making the complaint.
- B. The name of the respondent.
- C. The article or section of the rules alleged to have been violated.
- D. The time and place of the alleged violation.
- E. A clear, brief statement of the facts constituting the alleged violation.
- F. A list of the names of the known witnesses relied upon to support the allegations of the complaint. (Rev. 2005)

### **Section G - Witness Subpoenas**

The Area Board of Review shall have the power to subpoena witnesses and request their attendance to hearings. A subpoena served personally or by mail at least 5 days prior to the date set for the hearing shall constitute proper and sufficient notice to compel attendance of the witness served. (Rev. 2000)

### **Section H - Failure of a Witness to Appear**

Any witness who, served with a subpoena, fails to attend the hearing may be immediately suspended from the Association for such period of time as may seem just and reasonable to the Area Board of Review before whom the witness was subpoenaed to appear.

- A. Any witness being an employee, agent, officer, or partner of a member of the Association who, being served with a subpoena, fails to attend said hearing, shall justify the immediate suspension and revocation of all privileges of the member of whom said witness is employed or of whom said witness is agent, officer, or partner and the Area Board of Review may suspend and revoke all privileges for such period of time as may seem just and reasonable.
- B. The inability of a witness to appear at a hearing for which that witness was subpoenaed must be upon good and sufficient cause and must be immediately addressed in writing to the President of the Area Board of Review before which the witness was subpoenaed to appear.

### **Section I - Place of Meeting**

- A. So far as possible the Area Boards of Review shall hold all hearings at the places most convenient to all parties and witnesses concerned.
- B. Hearing to be held within 30 days or ITPA office to be notified with reason as to why not and proposed schedule of when meeting will be held. (Rev. 1998)

### **Section J** Omitted (Rev. 2005)

### **Section K** Omitted (Rev. 2005)

### **Section L - Appeals to Area Board of Review from Findings of Judges**

- A. As hereinafter provided by the rules of this Association, the judges of any race are authorized and empowered to make decisions and rulings with respect to the enforcement of the rules of the Association. In such cases decisions and rulings may be appealed to the Area Board of Review within which such race was held by notice of appeal in writing, filed in the Association within 48 hours after notice of such decision or ruling. (Rev. 2005)
- B. The Area Board of may consider and decide all the facts, decisions, and interpretations of the rules in question, and for that purpose may conduct a hearing under the provisions given above.
- C. Upon any appeal to an Area Board of Review from a finding by the judges, as herein provided, the area board of review shall have the power to vacate, modify, or increase, in accordance with its discretion, penalties imposed by said judges.
- D. The Area Board of Review may make its decision on the appeal by mail, telegram or telephone. All parties must be notified of the decision within 10 days. (Rev. 2005)

### **Section M - Investigations by Area Board of Review**

It shall be the duty of Area Boards of Review to investigate all fraudulent practices, irregularities, or other acts of misconduct harmful to the sport of Trottingbred racing which shall come to their notice. They shall have the power to summon and compile testimony of witnesses and to conduct such investigations in a summary or ex parte manner, including the power to summon and compel testimony for any reason whatsoever.

## **Article XI - Appeals from Area Board of Review**

### **Section A - Appeal to Board of Directors**

Any decision or determination of an Area Board of Review may be appealed as a matter of right to the entire Board of Directors of the Association sitting as a Board of Appeals by filing with the ITPA office a written notice of such appeal within 30 days after the decision of determination of the Area Board of Review shall have been made.

1. No Director shall sit as a member of the Board of Appeals upon which that Director rendered a decision as a member of the Area Board of Review in the first instance.
2. The Board of Appeals shall render its decision upon the record on appeal, consisting of the transcript of the testimony; depositions or affidavits; and any exhibits offered upon the hearing before the Area Board of Review.
3. Any party involved in the case may appear in person or be represented by counsel on the appeal and may be heard in argument upon the record of appeal. The failure of any party to be represented by counsel shall not be held against that party.

### **Section B - Time for Hearing Appeal**

The Board of Directors shall hear all appeals from the Area Board of Review at the first meeting of the Board after an appeal is filed, unless a continuance is requested by the appellant.

### **Section C - Decisions on Appeal**

All decisions on appeal by the Board of Directors shall be filed with the record on appeal in the main office of the Association. Notice of the decision may be given to the parties to the appeal in any manner agreed on.

### **Section D - Hearings Subsequent to Appeal**

After the Board of Directors has made a final determination of an appeal, a further hearing of the Board of Directors shall not be had until two full years have elapsed from the date of such final determination, and then only upon the recommendation of the Area Board of Review. Further hearings by the Board of Directors shall not be granted until the expiration of two years from the previous hearing.

## **Article XII - Rules of Order**

The rules of Parliamentary procedure as laid down in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings of the Board of Directors and Area Board of Review.

## **Article XIII - Dissolution**

If for any reason the International Trotting and Pacing Association Inc., were to be dissolved, any remaining assets accrued are to be donated to the Morris Animal Foundation for use in horse research.



## Schedule of Penalties

### Chapter II / Section 2 - Operation of Member Tracks

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Infraction</u>	<u>Penalty</u>	<u>Payer</u>
3	Default in payment of premium	Suspension	Track
4	Failure to award advertised minimum purse	Difference between advertised minimum and the lesser purse	Track

### Chapter III / Section 1 - Register

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Infraction</u>	<u>Penalty</u>	<u>Payer</u>
8	Omitting transfers	Penalties	Buyer/Seller
9	Failure to respond to a summons	Fine, suspension, or expulsion	Owner/Lessee/Official
9	Giving false information on application for registration or transfer	Fine, suspension, or expulsion	Owner/Officer
10	Incorrect markings on application for registration	Not to exceed \$10	Buyer / Seller
11	Incorrect registration	Suspension	Horse
12	Failure to submit requested information	Suspension	Owner/Track/Driver

### Chapter III / Section - Breeding

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Infraction</u>	<u>Penalty</u>	<u>Payer</u>
4	Failure to submit list of mares bred by stallion owner/lessee	\$100-\$500 Fine or refusal to register foal	Owner/ Lessee

### Chapter IV / Section 1 - Eligibility Certificate

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Infraction</u>	<u>Penalty</u>	<u>Payer</u>
1	Allowing a horse to race without an eligibility	\$50 each horse, suspension if not paid in 15 days	Track
12	Declaring a horse in without an eligibility certificate	\$10	Owner
14	Falsifying a horse's age	Suspension for life	Owner
15	Racing without posting time to eligibility	Fine or 30-day suspension	Track

### Chapter IV / Section 4 - Timing

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Infraction</u>	<u>Penalty</u>	<u>Payer</u>
7	Fraudulent timing	Suspension or expulsion	All

**Chapter V / Section 2 – Measuring for Records**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
6	Interference with measurement for World Record	\$100	Track or Official
7	Failure to present horse for measurement	Loss of record	Horse
9	Measured out 2 times before World Record Measurement	Loss of record	Horse

**Chapter VI / Section 3 – Qualifying**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
3	False qualifying time	Fine and not less than 15-day suspension	Driver

**Chapter VII / Section 1 – General Rules**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
4D	Failure to obey the Judge's Orders	Up to \$50 and suspension or expulsion	Owner/Driver/Assistant
4C	Failure to appear before the Judge for hearing or examination	Up to \$50 and suspension or expulsion	Owner/Driver/Assistant
5C	Cruelty to horses	\$25 or 15-day suspension	All
6C	Failure to obey call to race or heat	Fine	Driver
12C	Failure to forward race sheets to ITPA Office	Fine	Race Secretary
12	Failure to comply with Race Secretary's Duties	Fine	Race Secretary or track
14	Insulting language from Judge or Officials	Relieved of Authority	Judge/Official

**Chapter VII / Section 2 – Entries**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
2	Failure to pay entrance fees	Suspension	Owner
3	Falsification of entry	Fine, suspension or expulsion	Owner
6	Going outside authority of ITPA	Suspension	Member

**Chapter VII / Section 4 – Starting**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
6	Delaying start, not obeying starter instructions, rushing ahead of gate wing, starting out of order, crossing over before start point, interference with another driver	Disqualification or setback, fine or suspension, or expulsion for start	Horse/Driver
8-9	Refusal or failure to follow orders of starter	Fine or set back	Driver
10	Unmanageable horse	Expulsion from race	Horse

**Chapter VII / Section 5 – Racing and Track Rules**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
3	Interference or collision in race	Disqualification, setback, fine, suspension or expulsion	Horse/Driver
4	Sandbagging	Suspension	Driver/Owner
5	Unfit Driver	Suspension or expulsion	Driver
6	Failure to finish	Horse ruled out	Horse/Driver
8	Brutal or indiscriminate whipping	Up to \$50 fine	All
9	Fraudulent alteration or removal of hobbles	Suspension or expulsion	All
13	Failure to lose ground on a break	Setback one or more places	Horse
14	Excessive breaking	Setback one or more places	Horse
15	Deliberately causing horse to break	Penalties for fraud and fouls	Driver
20	Driving inside the marked hub rail (pylon) during a race	Disqualification, setback, fine or combination	Horse/Driver
23	Horse turns around, goes off track, driver gets off sulky	Disqualification	Horse
25	Break during time trial	Disqualification	Horse
25	Prompter going ahead of back pad during time trial	No trial/ No time	Horse

**Chapter VII. Section 7 – Decorum and Misconduct**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
3	Impeding a race meet	Suspension or expulsion	All
4	Threatening not to race	Suspension	Driver/Owner

**Chapter VII / Section 8 – Drivers**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
1	Driver misconduct	Up to \$25 and/or suspension up to 15 days	Driver
7	Administering needles to horse	Up to \$100 and suspension of not less than 10 days	All
8	Whipping	Up to \$100 and/or season suspension	Driver
9	Kicking	Up to \$100 and/or season suspension	Driver

**Chapter VII / Section 9 – Stimulants and Drugs**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
	Administering drugs or stimulants	Up to \$1,000 fine or expulsion	All

**Chapter VIII – Fines, Suspensions, Expulsion**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
1	Failure to pay fine	Suspension until fine is paid	All
5	Racing by suspended or expelled person	\$10 - \$50	Driver
5	Racing a suspended or disqualified horse	\$10 - \$50	Owner
6	Fraudulent transfer	Fine	All
8	Allowing suspended person or horse to race	\$50, suspension or expulsion	Track
9	Allowing a suspended person, the use of the grounds	\$100, suspension or expulsion	Track
10	Allowing a suspended or expelled person to serve as an officer	Fine	Track
11	Non-Sufficient Funds / Returned Checks	Fine not exceeding amount of check, suspension until paid	All
13	Bribery	One year suspension	All

**Chapter X / Section 1 – ITPA Stakes and Futurities**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
	Sponsoring stakes or futurity on an unlicensed track	\$200	Sponsor
1C	Host club backing out of stakes obligation	Forfeit bid money	Sponsor
2	Missed stakes payment(s) 2 & 3-year-olds till June 15 <sup>th</sup> .	\$150 late fee in addition to each missed payment	Owner
3	Late nomination allowed up to November 15 <sup>th</sup> of yearling year	\$100	Owner

**Chapter X / Section 2 – ITPA Sale**

<b><u>Rule</u></b>	<b><u>Infraction</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Payer</u></b>
3	Failure to present a horse for sale that has been cataloged for ITPA Sale	\$1,000	Seller/Buyer
7	Failure to supply mating certificate for bred mare	Sale money withheld until certificate provided	Seller
9	Late Sale Consignment up to 10 days before sale	\$30	Owner
12	Vendor / tack sold illegally	\$50	Seller

# Schedule of Fees

## Membership

Premium Membership*	\$95.00
Full Membership*	\$60.00
Second Membership	\$40.00
Associate Membership	\$25.00
Foreign Membership	Add \$10.00
*After January 1 <sup>st</sup>	Add \$10.00

## Driver's License

Driver License Only	\$40.00
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## Eligibility

Eligibility*	\$15.00
*After March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Add \$10.00

## Insurance

Per Driver	\$15.00
Per Horse	\$15.00

## Judges / Race Secretary

License (each)	\$20.00
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## Track License

Original	\$30.00
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## Registration

0 Months – 12 Months	\$50.00
12 Months – 3 Years Old	\$250.00
3 Years – 5 Years Old	\$500.00
5 Years – 10 Years Old (nothing over ten can be registered)	\$1,000.00
Standardbred (for breeding purposes only)	\$100.00
Transfer	\$20.00
Duplicate Copy	\$10.00

## Name Change

Name Change	\$50.00
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Stable Registration	\$25.00
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## The Trottingbred Magazine

Subscription	\$40.00
Foreign Subscriptions	\$50.00

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