



Professional to Amateur Status

Procedure #: OP403

Purpose: This procedure outlines the criteria for transferring from professional status to amateur status per NWA Rule 6.4.

Scope: This procedure applies to all NWA members who have either held or claimed the status of a Professional and intend to claim the status of an Amateur.

Title: A person must be inactive as a Professional for the same period of time he/she was a Professional for up to five years maximum. The Professional must notify the NWA office in writing regarding his/her intent to change from Professional to Amateur status.

Responsibilities:

Executive Committee/Executive Director: Executive Director shall assure that individuals wishing to file their written intent have provided the necessary required information. Executive Director will submit to the Executive Committee for approval or disapproval. Executive Director will send acknowledgement letter.

Definitions:

Rulebook Section 6.1 Amateur

(Note: If there is a question of whether or not a person is an Amateur, determination shall be made by the NWA.)

- A. A person is an amateur for horse show purposes who, after his / her 18th birthday, does not engage in any activities which would cause him/her to be classified as a professional.
- B. A person who has not reached their 18th birthday is declared to be an amateur.

Rulebook Section 6.2 Non-Amateurs

A person is not an Amateur for horse show purposes if after his/her 18th birthday that person:

- A. Engages in brokering, dealing in, hiring out, acts as a paid agent or takes on consignment for the purpose of sale or training horses/ponies other than those owned wholly or in part by him/her or by a family member.
- B. Accepts remuneration for riding, schooling, driving, showing in halter/in hand, training or conducting seminars.

See Section 6.1 (F)(5) for exceptions.



- C. Accepts prize money in Equitation or Showmanship classes. Prize money may be accepted by Amateur riders in Dressage.
- D. Rides or shows in halter/in hand in horse shows any horse for which he/she or family member accepts remuneration for boarding or training for a person outside of the immediate family.
- E. Accepts remuneration for employment in any capacity rides or shows in halter/in hand in horse shows, any horses which his/her employer or a member of the immediate family of such employer owns, boards or trains.
- F. Accepts remuneration for the use of his/her name, photograph or other form of personal association as a horseperson in connection with any advertisement or article to be sold.
- G. Stands a breeding stallion as his/her principal means of income.
- H. Accepts remuneration for employment in other capacity (secretary, bookkeeper, veterinarian, groom farrier) AND gives instruction, rides, drives, shows in halter/in hand, trains or schools horses, other than horses actually owned or lease by him/her, when his/her employer or member of the family of said employer or a corporation which a member of his/her family controls, owns, boards or trains said horses.

Rulebook Section 6.3 Relative of a Professional

- A. Any member of a Professional's family who has reached his/her 18th birthday is not an Amateur if he/she aids or assists in the activities which make the aforesaid a professional.
- B. Any member of a Trainer's immediate family who has reached his/her 18th birthday shall not be considered an Amateur if he/she shows a customer's horse.
- C. Performing clerical work only or providing financial aid only is not deemed "aiding or assisting."

Procedure:

A person must be inactive as a Professional for the same period of time he/she was a Professional for up to five years maximum. The Professional must notify the NWHHA office in writing regarding his/her intent to change from Professional to Amateur status. This written notification shall be sent prior to the start date of intended status change requested by the Professional. The letter of intent must be accompanied by three separate affidavits from NWHHA members as witness that the Professional requesting status change to an Amateur has not engaged in any activity that would cause him/her to be classified as a Professional during the same period of time he/she was a Professional for up to five years maximum.

Upon receipt of the intent letter and three affidavits, the Executive Director shall forward the information to the President for distribution and consideration by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will then approve or deny the request and the Executive Director will notify the applicant of the results.

If a written letter of intent is not accompanied by three affidavits, it will not be considered valid.



List of Appendices:

Appendix A: Current National Walking Horse Rules and Regulations