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Bylaw 4.2 A Terms

As we relayed in the February Newsletter, earlier this year, the Board became aware of issues with Bylaw 4.2.A. Terms, which had been placed on the 2021 ballot for vote and adopted by the membership on June 19, 2021.

The Board sent the Bylaw back to the Rules Committee to address the issues and a new draft amendment was

brought before the Board at their March meeting.

The Board would like



to give the membership an opportunity to provide constructive feedback on the draft amendment prior to

placing it on the ballot.

Please select [this link](#) to review the new draft amendment. To provide feedback, enter your member number and name on the form and any comments you may have.

If you have any issues with the form, please email admin@rmhorse.com

Show, Trail, Versatility Programs

Please be sure to update your membership and rider cards for the 2022 competition year. It's time to enjoy your Rocky Mountain Horse and pack Trail program miles in and accumulate points for the Versatility and Show programs, too.

More info about all of these programs is available on the RMHA website, under the PROGRAMS tab and Show bills for all currently scheduled shows are up on the website at [this link](#).

More details, including show bills and contact information, is available for each scheduled show by clicking on the name of the show.



Kentucky Horse
Breeders' Incentive
Fund

*"Success is no
accident. It is hard
work, studying,
sacrifice, and
MOST of all, love
of what you are
doing."
-Pele*

Photo credits
Luka Bowman

KHBIF - Check your emails and Mailboxes!

If you participated in the 2021 RMHA KHBIF program, please check your email or mailbox for the claim forms and W-9 for the program, both need to be completed and turned in to the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission to receive your awards.

The forms can be mailed to:
KHRC
4063 Iron Works Parkway
Building B
Lexington, Ky
40511

or faxed to:
859-246-2887

If you have not received your KHBIF claim form, please email Wendy Montgomery at:

Blue-
grass35@outlook.com

Get your horses nominated for 2022, forms can be found on the RMHA website at [this link](#).

Annual Awards Banquet

The RMHA would like to once again congratulate all those who participated in our Trail Mileage, Versatility, Show, and Youth Programs. We celebrated on February 26 at the Bluegrass Stockyards. Here is a look at some of the awards presented to our members to commemorate their achievements!





List of 2022 RMHA Board Candidates

The RMHA Board certified the list of candidates for the upcoming election at the March Board Meeting. Ballots will be sent out by mail or email by May 1st, 2022. Please be sure to check and update your membership information on the RMHA Member Portal, including your preference for a mailed or emailed ballot, to ensure you receive your ballot.

President/Vice President (Ticket) Candidates:

Gina Purdue/Janet Peters

Hearing Panel Candidates:

Paige Ramey
Susan Travers

Director of Examiners Candidates:

LaTasha Ross
Marianne Jolley

Member At Large Candidates:

Chastity Adkins
Justin Blevins
Cyndee Davis
Chrissy Knight
Travis Robinson
Jessica Shannon

The Tevis Cup Ride by Dean Moon



Photos of Dean Moon

(above)

and

Leahe Daby

(next page).

Photos by Bill Gore

of Gore/Baylor

Photography

Tevis is a 100 mile in one day endurance race considered to be one of the toughest endurance rides in the world. It follows a rugged portion of the Western States Trail which stretches from Salt Lake City, Utah to Sacramento, California.

Beginning at the Robie Equestrian Park (elevation 7,000 feet), south of Truckee, CA, the trail descends gradually, over approximately nine miles, to the Truckee River at the Midway Crossing on Highway 89. The trail takes a route through Squaw Valley, the U.S. Olympic training facility and site of the 1960 Winter Olympics, and ascends from the valley floor (elevation 6,200 feet) to Emigrant Pass near Watson's Monument (elevation 8,750 feet), a climb of 2,550 vertical feet in 4½ miles. From the pass, following the trail once used by gold and silver miners during the 1850s and rediscovered

by Robert Montgomery Watson in 1929, riders will travel west, ascending another 15,540 feet and descending approximately 22,970 feet before reaching the century-old town of Auburn via the traditional route through Robinson Flat, Last Chance, Deadwood, Michigan Bluff, Foresthill, and Francisco's.

The ride was first organized by Wendell Robie, an Auburn businessman and devoted rider of the Sierra high country. Many people in the 50s doubted that any modern-day horse could cover the rugged trail from Lake Tahoe to Auburn in a single day. Wendell and a few of his friends proved them wrong in August of 1955. He continued to hold the ride annually thereafter and organized the Western States Trail Foundation to preserve the 100 mile trail and the Ride.

All horses, mules, donkeys and ponies, except lactating mares and mares in foal, are eligible to enter the Ride provided they are shod or wearing protective footwear, are at least 7 years old on the day of the Ride, are in compliance with the Ride drug and medications policy,

and, in the sole opinion of the Ride Veterinary staff, are in fit condition to compete. The rider is required to have completed at least 300 endurance miles in order to qualify to enter the ride. Properly preparing your horse and yourself to compete in the ride involves many miles of conditioning. Most riders will tell you it takes a couple years of conditioning and competing to get your horse ready to have a chance at completing Tevis.

I personally am 2 completions for 6 attempts. My riding partner Leahe Daby is 2 for 2. Nothing is really the "norm" with Tevis.

In 2021, we had been riding conditioning rides beginning in December of 2020. Usually 2-3 rides per week. A couple 10 to 13 mile rides and then one at a longer distance, maybe 18 to 23 miles. We entered our first 50 mile ride in March, then in April we did the 20 Mule Team 100 in Ridgecrest CA. In June, 4 weeks before Tevis, we completed the Cooley Ranch 50 in very hot tough conditions. All this helps to prepare horse and rider for the big day!

The Tevis Cup Ride - continued

I also was working on losing some weight, jogging and attending cross fit classes. The rider should be reasonably fit when considering competing in the ride. Being in shape will make it easier on you and your horse.

After all the preparation there is still a good chance you will not finish. The completion rate is usually in the 43%-55% range. In 2021 there were 133 starters and 63 finishers.

In 2011 on my 4th attempt I finished the ride on, my now deceased horse, Bryant's Midnight Blue. Blue was the first Rocky to complete Tevis.

In 2021, I was fortunate to finish on my mare F.H. Sassy Cassie! I rode with my riding buddy, Leahe, who was on her Rocky, Aces Queen of Hearts aka Lucy.

The 5:15 AM start is always hectic and a little crazy with 133 horses separated into two groups, "Pen 1 and Pen 2", released at almost the same time. We headed out in the dark, down the rocky fire road which shortly becomes a single track switchback trail. Crossing the highway and heading up Squaw Valley, to the top of the pass at Watson's Monument, the 133 horses begin to spread out.

Eventually there is quite a gap between the front finishers, who normally finish around 10:30 Saturday evening, and the last of the finishers, who get in at 5:14 AM Sunday

morning. You must cross the finish line in the allotted 24 hour time to receive a completion.

From Watson's Monument, its on to Granite Chief Wilderness and eventually the vet check at Robinson Flat, which is 35 miles into the ride and the first place we would see our crew. Tevis is a one way ride and impossible to ride without a crew. A knowledgeable crew is a tremendous help! At Robinson Flat, the horses receive their mash and hay and, after they pulse in at the required 60 bpm, an hours rest. At each of



the vet checks, the horses pulse must come down to 60 bpm with the exception of the finish where they need to come down to 64. The crew also helps Leahe and myself with something to eat and refilling our packs with water and vitamin water and snacks. We give the horses electrolytes and soon we're off continuing the rest of the ride through the rugged

mountains and hot canyons. Temperatures can vary as much as 20 degrees from the cooler mountain tops to the bottom of the canyons which may reach 110 degrees or more!

Next is a check point called Last Chance and from there we head down the canyon to "Swinging Bridge", a bridge crossing the river that literally swings and bounces a little as you cross it. From there it's up the very steep switchbacks to Devil's Thumb. Here is where I can help Cassie by getting off her back and tailing her up that hill. I tail her up from just off the base 2 miles to the top, Leahe's horse in front of us helps motivate both Cassie and I to keep going. At the top I'm huffing and puffing and hot! Cassie is too! I throw some water on myself and the volunteers do the same for Cassie and Leahe's horse, Lucy, while we have a popsicle.

Leahe suggests we walk/jog the mile into the Deadwood vet check which we do. This helps the horses heart rate to come down shortly after we reach the vet check, so soon we're off and heading toward El Dorado Canyon and Michigan Bluff above. Again, I get off Cassie and tail her up as much as I can to help her save some energy and move a little faster up the canyon. My riding partner, Leahe, sticks with us all the way. We had planned on sticking together through the

Tervis Cup Ride - continued



Dean Moon

ride, which is sometimes difficult to do during Tervis, and finishing together is even more rare!

At Michigan Bluff, a couple members of our crew meet us and help cool off the horses then we are off to Chicken Hawk vet check where more of our crew is waiting and then on to Forrest Hill, where the horses again get an hour rest and we change clothes. Our crew helps with the tack change on the horses, adding glow sticks and head lamps. This year we found some awesome head lamps with a soft green light that doesn't blind the horses but makes it easier for us to see. Soon, we are riding the

cliffs above the American river and stopping at Fransisco's vet check. The horses get a 1/2 hour rest and Leahe reminds me that there is a huge crowd of riders coming in not far behind us and we need to get going!

With 15 miles to go we're headed to the river crossing at Poverty Bar. We ride in this area often and so our horses are very familiar with the crossing and the darkness does not affect them at all. There is a full moon which the ride is planned around and this year there are no clouds in the sky blocking it's light, helping us so that we often don't use the headlamps. Cassie is now getting pretty tired although her heart rate is great and she passes the vet checks just fine. I know her and she's tired. She now prefers to walk rather than move in her gait. We walk most of the way in to Auburn.

Again, thanks to Leahe and her horse Lucy for sticking with us. We finish 32nd and 33rd in 21 hours 17 minutes. We started at 5:15 Saturday morning and finished at 4:29 Sunday morning! We pass the final vet in and our crew helps us take care of the horses. Leahe applies poultice and wraps their legs. I'm out. We sleep for a few hours and at 2:00 pm at the awards ceremony we receive our Tervis Buckles!

Tervis can be a grueling 100 miles, riders often say to each other "why are we doing this?" But it is a beautiful ride through some fantastic parts of the Sierras! So the next morning we are already talking and planning for the next year and what we might do different leading up to and during next year's Tervis 100 mile adventure!

One Horse for all Occasions®

Expo Fun

The RMHA would like to thank those who represented the Rocky Mountain Horse breed at the PA Horse World Expo. It takes a lot of time and work to attend these expos and these ladies did a wonderful job, we heard they were the crowd favorite and how could they not be? Beautiful women, beautiful horses!



KonnyTroupe,
Amy Stefanic,
and
Makayla Hill



Looking For A Certain Stallion

How about we do a short review on an easy way to search the pedigree database for specific things?

The first thing is to log into your member portal, go to the pedigree database and at the bottom of the page, click advanced search.

This will bring up a block of search criteria.

In the field area you can search by status (Male, Female, Stallion, Gelding or Mare) and by color (type in the color)

For example, if you are looking for a red dun stallion, click on field and choose color and type in the color (red dun, in this case) then choose status and select stallion.

Click search, and this will bring up the results for red dun stallions.

Did you Know?

Happy Hunting!

Kathy House- Member at Large

Reminders from the RMHA Office

1. Reminder again that we have moved. Anyone using old forms, certification or breeding forms may have the wrong address. Please make sure to send to 4561 Ironworks Pike, Ste 156, Lexington, KY 40511.

2. Please note as a general rule, it can take up to 4-6 weeks to process Registrations and Certifications.

****For Registrations**, the paperwork and DNA information is received, documented, payment processed, then sent out to the UK lab and their process time may vary. When the DNA paperwork comes back, there are several steps and information that is manually entered in the pedigree database, Registration papers produced, reviewed for accuracy and then sent.

****For Certifications by video**, staff have to arrange for Examiners to review the videos for Certifications which sometimes means working around schedules of 3 individuals to either come to the office or review on their computer, who may also have full time jobs.

3. Any paper work sent into the office without payment will have a \$10.00 convenience fee applied.

4. A 4% fee will be added to all credit card transactions to offset the cost incurred by the RMHA.

5. Board meeting minutes are available to be viewed inside your member portal, minutes are posted after they are approved by the board as per our bylaws. Recordings will no longer be posted as this is not a requirement of our bylaws.

6. Please note the following staffing contacts and responsibilities:

Registry (Registrations, certifications, transfers and other inquiries)
Shawna Smith, Registrar @ registrar@rmhorse.com

Membership and riders' cards
Brittany Buchanan, Office Assistant @ officeclerk@rmhorse.com

Programs (show, trail, versatility, youth, and social media)
Emily Roberts, Program Coordinator @ coordinator@rmhorse.com

All other
Lori Nelson, Office Manager @ admin@rmhorse.com



@ THE BLUEGRASS STOCKYARDS
4561 IRON WORKS PIKE, STE. 156
LEXINGTON, KY 40511
859-644-5244
ADMIN@RMHORSE.COM

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Check out the **RMHA Facebook page** and the **Latest News Items** and the calendar on the **RMHA website** for information about upcoming **RMHA events, RMHA programs, and RMHA members.**

The RMHA's mission is to encourage the preservation, promotion, breeding and development of the Rocky Mountain Horse throughout the United States and Internationally.

The Rocky Mountain Horse Association name and logo are registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Our service mark, certification mark, and trademarks are used to authenticate the services and products of the Rocky Mountain Horse Association.