

California Gymkhana Association
Bylaws/ Rules and Judges/ General Membership Meeting Agenda
November 16, 2024, Visalia, CA

1. Opening and Introductory Comments
2. Bylaws Committee Meeting. No old or new voting business
3. Rules and Judges Committee Meeting (Old and New Business/ Voting)

(Old Business) - None

(New Business)

- a. Submitted By Timmi Lemen- As a rider and a judge, I've witnessed and experienced myself, my belt getting hung up on the horn. Although half belts are an option. I find them expensive and lacking to cover whatever our rule is that feels we should wear belts. Again, trying to stay current with the times, yet keep professionalism in our sport, I'd like to eliminate mandatory belt requirements and make it optional.

The current section 3.1 paragraph 2 of our rule book currently reads,

Clothing shall be neat and clean. All contestants shall be fully attired in a dress shirt with a button or snap (functional or non-functional) in the front from top to bottom and a collar. Long pants, belt or 1/2 belt and boots. The shirt may have a front or back zipper. If the shirt has a front zipper, it must be covered by non-functional button or snaps from top to bottom. Shirts must be tucked into pants. Only the top 2 buttons of the shirt may be left unbuttoned as long as the buttons go to the collar line of the shirt. A tie or neckerchief is not required but is encouraged.

I propose the following change.

Clothing shall be neat and clean. All contestants shall be fully attired in a dress shirt with a button or snap (functional or non-functional) in the front from top to bottom and a collar. Long pants, and boots. The shirt may have a front or back zipper. If the shirt has a front zipper, it must be covered by non-functional buttons or snaps from top to bottom. Shirts must be tucked into pants. Only the top 2 buttons of the shirt may be left unbuttoned as long as the buttons go to the collar line of the shirt. A belt or 1/2 belt, neckerchiefs or tie is not required, but is encouraged.

- b. Submitted by Lorelei Lehman- to clarify a lead line rule. The Rule currently reads as follows:2.3 Special "Lead Line" Rules for Riders who need assistance

The CGA is interested in providing an opportunity for riders who need assistance to participate in CGA Shows. For this reason, the following special rules shall be applied at CGA Shows that allow participation of these riders:

- A. A rider may be led through the course by a parent or responsible party and an additional assistant (if needed), provided the rider is not able to complete the course without assistance. Such assistance is allowed to ensure the safety of the rider but does not extend to the assistant(s) touching the poles, flags or other obstacles. The Lead Line Team (Horse, rider, leader and additional assistant) must properly complete the course. The assistant(s) must conform to the same dress code defined for judges (See Section 6.1).
- B. Hard hats are mandatory for all Lead Liners riders. The animal being led shall be in normal tack with the addition of a halter and lead rope.
- C. Lead Line riders may NOT participate in the Hurry Scurry event for safety reasons.
- D. A mount may NOT be entered in the same event more than once except as a Lead Line Entry.
- E. Lead Line riders may proceed no faster than a trot or they will be disqualified.
- F. When Leading the animal across the timing line, the assistant must be at or behind the shoulder of the animal to prevent any timer malfunctions.

I would like to change 2.3 F to read:

"When Leading the animal across the timing line, the assistant should be at or behind the shoulder of the animal to prevent any timer malfunctions. If timer malfunctions due to the position of the leader then a no time can be given.

- c. Submitted By Rachel Trani- motion to change section 4.3 of the rulebook to read as follows Rule book section 4.3
A rider may be assisted in the arena in a safe manner. Physically pushing the horse from behind is not allowed, and any other act considered unsafe may result in a disqualification.

Currently it reads: a rider may be assisted in the arena

I believe it needs to be clarified further.

- d. Submitted By Amy Odom-Tollison-Motion to add the following sentence to the end of 4.1 (c)
Intentionally setting a course 6 inches shorter to benefit a rider is considered cheating and can result in disciplinary action.

Currently the rule reads:

Resetting the course and raking: After each run, course obstacles should be reset to their original position so that the course will be as identical as possible for each contestant. The course should be raked around each obstacle if required for the safety of the contestants. A contestant has the right to request resetting and/or raking of the course. Any course may be off by a total of six (6) inches from its' prescribed dimensions and still be considered a legal course when re-checked

- e. Submitted by Shannon Cannon- Current: 3.5 Pony Size and Certification Process To qualify an animal to compete in a CGA Pony Division at a State Sponsored Show or for CGA State Year End Awards the animal must measure 13.2 hands or fifty-four (54") inches or less without shoes. An additional one-quarter (1/4") inch is allowed when a pony is shod. The measurement is taken using a CGA provided rigid measuring stick that has a leveler built into the horizontal arm. Ponies that are fifty-two (52") inches or less may be measured by a Master Judge and a Senior Judge. Ponies that are over fifty-two (52") inches must be measured by two (2) Master Judges. Certification expires at the conclusion of the current season. All annual certificates must be submitted to the CGA State Office by the certifying Master Judge(s). A copy should be given to the member for their records. Certificates are supplied to the Master Judges by CGA State Office. You may ask for a measurement for informational purposes (not a pony certificate) one time per season to verify if you need trimming, shoes or a calmer time for your pony. You ask for the Information and Certificate measurement at the same measuring session, so long as the pony does not leave the measuring area or the visual range of the Master Judge(s) doing the measuring. The final decision to certify an animal as a CGA Pony lies with the Master Judges(s) measuring the animal. The Master Judges Advisory Committee reserves the right to require a pony to be remeasured if a majority feels that circumstances have changed since the certification was granted.

Proposed: 3.5 Pony Size and Certification Process

To qualify an animal to compete in a CGA Pony Division at a State Sponsored Show or for CGA State Year End Awards the animal must measure 13.2 hands or fifty-four (54") inches or less without shoes. An additional one-quarter (1/4") inch is allowed when a pony is shod. The measurement is taken using a CGA provided rigid measuring stick that has a leveler built into the horizontal arm. Ponies may be measured by a Master Judge and a Senior Judge, or by 2 Master Judges. Certification expires at the conclusion of the current season. All annual certificates must be submitted to the CGA State Office by the certifying Master Judge(s). A copy should be given to the member for their records. Certificates are supplied to the Master Judges by CGA State Office. You may ask for a measurement for informational purposes (not a pony certificate) one time per season to verify if you need trimming, shoes or a calmer time for your pony. You ask for the Information and Certificate measurement at the same measuring session, so long as the pony does not leave the measuring area or the visual range of the Master Judge(s) doing the measuring. The final decision to certify an animal as a CGA Pony lies with the Master Judges(s) measuring the animal. The Master Judges Advisory Committee reserves the right to require a pony to be remeasured if a majority feels that circumstances have changed since the certification was granted.

- f. Submitted By Lorelie Lehman- From the rule book I would like to change the following paragraph to add the sentence that is highlighted in red.

Section 6: Gymkhana Judges

6.1 Requirements to Become a CGA Judge

Approved CGA shows must be judged by licensed CGA gymkhana judges. The judge must be physically in the arena during each and every rider's run. Apprentice judges must have a licensed judge in the arena with them at all times they are judging an event. Any CGA member may apply to become an apprentice judge at 16 years of age or an official CGA judge at 18 years of age. They must complete the entire process within 18 months of getting their apprentice card. If they fail to do so, the apprenticeship is cancelled and the candidate must start over from the beginning. **If the apprentice judge takes the written test and passes and takes the arena test and is told by the Master Judge that they need more time to refine their skills, then the apprentice Judge will be granted a 6 month extension to retake the arena test and the Master Judge will set an agreed upon date for the new arena test.** An apprentice may not start judging or taking tests until the apprentice card is received from the CGA State Office.

- g. Submitted By Jeni Thompson- 4.7 Leave the Arena- The rider is requested to acknowledge the judge after bringing his/her horse under control. The rider should watch for the judge's signal to leave the arena before walking the horse from the arena. The rider should not dismount at any time while in the arena without permission of the judge. However, if the rider dismounts for reason of safety or reasons beyond their control, the judge's permission to dismount is implied.

Proposed

4.7 Leave the Arena- The rider may leave the arena once his/her horse is under control and after the judge calls the ride either a) a good ride, b) a good ride with penalties, c) a no time. The rider should not dismount at any time while in the arena without permission of the judge. However, if the rider dismounts for reason of safety or reasons beyond their control, the judge's permission to dismount is implied.

4. Riders Committee/ General Membership Meeting

(Old Business)

- a. This was tentatively passed at the Meeting in July at Bolado Park. Submitted By Marnie Nessen items related to CGA Year End Awards
1. Level 1 cost increase to \$50 (currently \$40)

I did a percentage calculation and before the cost to participate vs cost of the award was 66% (avg award cost was \$60, cost to participate was \$40) and based on that I would suggest level 1 increase to \$50 to participate.

2. Level 2 cost increase to \$55 (currently \$45)

I did a percentage calculation and before the cost to participate vs cost of the award was 56% (avg award cost was \$80, cost to participate was \$45) and based on that I would suggest level 2 increase to \$55 to keep both increasing by \$10

These are both proposed changes to Section 3.4 of the information Manual.

(New Business)

- a. Submitted By Rebeka Crill Presented By Rachel Kelman- Rebekah unable to attend (Note all items a-p submitted by Rebeka Crill-2.2 CGA Membership

Delete Sentence #3 which reads "The individual membership is \$30.00 per person and a family membership fee is \$60.00 per family."
- b. 2.4.2 Types of Rides - Points Only
Delete Sentence #2 which reads "Most clubs charge about \$3.00 for this type of ride."
- c. 2.4.3 Types of Rides - Time Only
Delete Sentence #3 which reads "Most Districts charge about \$2.50 for "Time Only" rides."
- d. 2.4.5 Types of Rides - Schooling Rides
Amend Sentence #4 which currently reads "Districts may charge any amount for a Schooling Ride, however \$2.00 is customary and the money is kept by the club." to "Districts may charge any amount for a Schooling Ride."
- e. 2.6 Setup Events
Delete Sentence 8 which reads "Setups at the CGA State Championship Show are \$3.50/event."
- f. 3.4 How to Earn a Year End Award
Delete sentence #2 & 3. Replace with "See current Year End Awards Application for current registration fees"
- g. 4.0 Top Rating Awards
Change Sentence #4 which reads "The registration fee for this Top Rating Award is \$125." to "See current Year End Awards Application"
- h. Change Sentence #6 which reads "If the rider wishes, they may pay a fee of \$130.00 for a Top Rating with Level 2 instead of Level 1. They may also pay a fee of \$145.00 for a Top Rating with Level 1 and Level 2." to "If the rider wishes, they may pay the fee for a Top Rating with Level 2 instead of Level 1. They may also pay the fee for a Top Rating with Level 1 and Level 2. See current Year End Awards Application for registration fee"
- i. 5.0 Family Team Awards
Replace "The registration fee is \$125.00 per family member." with "See Family Team Application for current registration fee"
- j. 6.2 Registration and fees
Replace "The ROC registration fee is \$125.00, which includes Level 1 awards." with "See Race of Champions Application for current registration fee"
- k. Replace "ROC riders may sign up for Level 1 and Level 2 awards for a fee of \$145.00." with "ROC riders may sign up for Level 1 and Level 2 awards. See Race of Champions Application for current registration fee."
- l. 7.2 Registration and Fees – SE
Replace "The SE registration fee is \$125.00, which includes the Level 1 award" with "See Senior Elite Application" for current registration fee"

- m. Replace "Senior Elite riders may sign up for Level 1 and Level 2 awards for a fee of \$145.00" with "Senior Elite riders may sign up for Level 1 and Level 2 awards. See Senior Elite Application for current registration fee"
- n. 10.3 Show Secretary
Replace "This entire packet should be mailed to the State Office - PO Box 410, Wilton, CA 95693..." with "This entire packet should be mailed to the State Office. Current mailing address can be found on the CGA Website"
- o. 15.3 The CGA Budget
Replace " The CGA annual budget can exceed \$300,000 in any given year, of which CGA spends all, with the exception of a carry over to offset the decreased income during the off season." with "CGA spends all of the annual budget, with the exception of a carry over to offset the decreased income during the off season."
- p. Submitted by Marnie Nessen- My motion is to change the note in Section 8 of the CGA Information Manual to read as follows:

NOTE: No CGA approved shows may be held during the dates on which the Southern & Northern Classic Shows, State Championship Show. Jamboree or Convention are held.

currently it reads:

NOTE: No CGA approved shows may be held during the dates on which the Southern & Northern Classic Shows, State Championship Show or Convention are held. When Jamboree is held south of Bakersfield, CGA shows may be run north of Bakersfield on the same weekend. When Jamboree is held north of Bakersfield, CGA shows may be run south of Bakersfield on the same weekend. If it is held in or near Bakersfield, no shows may be run within a 200-mile radius on the same weekend. Districts located greater than 100 miles from a CGA Classic event may run set-up shows on Classic weekend.
- q. Submitted by Marnie Nessen-My motion is to increase all award fees by \$10. Currently this would be a change to the information manual. However, there is already a motion on the agenda to remove specific mention of dollar amounts in the information manual. If that passes, this becomes a vote to increase the award prices, no change to the information manual would be needed. However, if the other motion failed, this would also be a change to the respective sections of the information manual that reference award pricing.

Level 1 was \$40, increase to \$50 - this change would be in effect this current season (2024/2025)

Level 2 was \$45 increase to \$55 this change would be in effect this current season (2024/2025)

All other changes listed below would take effect for the 2025/2026 season

Top rating was \$125, increase to \$135

Top rating with L2 was \$130 increase to \$140

Top rating with L1 and L2 was \$145, increase to \$155

ROC was \$125, increase to \$135

ROC with L2 was \$130 increase to \$140

ROC L1 and L2 was \$145, increase to \$155

Senior Elite was \$125, increase to \$135

Senior Elite with L2 was \$130 increase to \$140
Senior Elite with L1 and L2 was \$145, increase to \$155
Family Team was \$125, increase to \$135
Family Team with L2 was \$130 increase to \$140
Family Team L1 and L2 was \$145, increase to \$155

- r. Submitted By Rachel Trani- information manual Section 9 Proposing Add a 9.4.
Loan program to be offered to assist new districts in gaining equipment needed to start. Cga shall purchase the necessary equipment such as timers, pole bases, and other necessary equipment, and allow payments made back to CGA shows at a decided amount per show until all is paid back.
In doing this my thoughts are that going forward CGA would have full ownership records of the equipment, districts could not say that it was donated or sponsored. It would not only be another reason for districts not to leave, but would also make sure that the equipment comes back to CGA and helps another new district in the future.
- s. Submitted By Matt Fredricks- 11.5.2. I propose adding the word "preferably" to the requirement that a Master Judge Candidate has to have served at some level of a State Show management. There are many great judges that shouldn't be overlooked because they haven't had the opportunity to be a "State Show Manager". Here is the proposed change: 'Management experience - A CGA Master Judge candidate shall have served in a management capacity at the District and preferably at the State Level. At the State Level, this includes serving in some management capacity at Jamboree, Northern or Southern Spring Classic, or State Show. At a District level, this includes being a club officer or show manager.'
- t. Submitted By Marleah Gonzales-

Current: 8.2 Southern Spring Classic And Northern Spring Classic Shows

The CGA Spring Classic Shows are special shows that are held in both Southern and Northern California each Spring. They are four day shows held during the Memorial Day Weekend. Each of CGA's 13 events is run at least 2 times during the course of the show. It is a wonderful opportunity to get times in all events for Year End Awards.

Proposed: 8.2 Southern Classic And Northern Classic Shows

The CGA Spring Classic Shows are special shows that are held in both Southern and Northern California between anytime from 1 April to 30 June. Each of CGA's 13 events is run at least 2 times during the course of the show. It is a wonderful opportunity to get times in all events for Year End Awards.

- u. Submitted By Lorelei Lehman- I would like to add the line in red below to the Information Manual

10.5 Judge

It is the primary purpose of a CGA Judge is to ensure that the competition in the arena is fair and safe for all riders.

The Judge has total control of the activities in the arena. The Judge generally knows more about the rules and the CGA procedures than most other individuals. All Judges MUST be a fully carded CGA Judge. The Judges decisions are final. Judges should keep up to date on all approved changes in the rules that are not currently published in the CGA Rules Book. An apprentice judge must judge under the direct supervision of a carded judge. The judge must stand in the arena at all times while judging. It is impossible to properly judge a show without giving continuous and full attention to all activities going on within the arena.

- v. Submitted By Shannon Cannon- Current: 11.4. G. Accompanied by either another Master judge or Senior judge, measure any pony who falls within 4” of the height requirement to give final certification as to whether or not it qualifies as a pony.

Proposed: 11.4. G. Accompanied by either another Master judge or Senior judge, measure of any pony to give final certification as to whether or not it qualifies as a pony.

- w. Submitted By Shannon Cannon- 11.5 Criteria to Become a Master Judge

Current: 11.5.4. Experience - A CGA Master Judge candidate shall have been a CGA member for at least 5 years, and an active carded CGA Judge in good standing for at least 3 years (longer is preferred). ‘Active’ means that they currently judge CGA shows on a regular basis, both in their local district and in other districts. They shall have judged at the CGA State show for at least two years. They shall be acknowledged by their peers and riders as being fair, impartial and an adherent of the rules.

Proposed: 11.5.4. Experience - A CGA Master Judge candidate shall have been an active carded CGA Judge in good standing for at least 3 years (longer is preferred). ‘Active’ means that they currently judge CGA shows on a regular basis, both in their local district and in other districts. They shall have judged at a CGA State show. They shall be acknowledged by their peers and riders as being fair, impartial and an adherent of the rules.

- x. Submitted By Shannon Cannon- 11.6 Nomination Procedure to Become a Master Judge

Current: 11.6.1 The Board of Governors and the MAC must agree that there is a need for an additional Master Judge in a specific geographic area.

Proposed: 11.6.1 A person from any District management, Board of Governors or the MAC can identify a proposed “need” and then the Board of Governors and the MAC must agree that the proposed need is valid for an additional Master Judge in a specific geographic area. A valid “need” is defined as a District who’s current Master Judge assigned is not available to the arena in question, already manages more than 1 arena, and/or the arena assigned to Master Judge more 50 miles of home District the Master Judge is a CGA member of.

- y. Submitted By Shanonn Cannon- Current: 11.6.2 The MAC will then survey the area for potential candidates, based on the above criteria. NOTE: First priority will be given to active Senior Judges in the area.

Proposed: 11.6.2. Districts and Board of Governors can submit potential candidates. The MAC will then review the submitted candidates and survey the area for additional potential candidates based on the above criteria. NOTE: First priority will be given to active Senior Judges in the area.

- z. Submitted By Shannon Cannon- Current: 11.6.3 When a suitable candidate is found, they shall be nominated by at least two (2) members of the MAC. The candidate must accept the nomination before the process can go any further. They must be apprised of the responsibilities of a Master Judge, and agree to accept those responsibilities.

Proposed: 11.6.3 When a suitable candidate is found, they shall be nominated by at least one (1) member of the MAC. The candidate must accept the nomination before the process can go any further. They must be apprised of the responsibilities of a Master Judge, and agree to accept those responsibilities.

- aa. Submitted By Shannon Cannon- Propose new additions to the CGA Information Book. 11.x Criteria to Maintain "Active" Master Judge Status

11.x.1 General - A CGA Master Judge candidate is an individual who continues to uphold the highest standard of the CGA. They continue to demonstrated history of supporting CGA and its programs. They are very knowledgeable in the structure and history of the organization, the bylaws, the rules, and the intent behind the rules. They are able to provide correct answers to any question about any aspect of CGA.

11.x.2 CGA commitment - A CGA Master Judge continues to demonstrated a commitment to the CGA. The candidate shall be willing to travel to support CGA's programs.

11.x.3 Experience - A CGA Master Judge is an active carded CGA Judge in good standing. 'Active' means that they currently judge CGA shows on a "regular basis", both in their local district and in other districts. They shall be acknowledged by their peers and riders as being fair, impartial and an adherent of the rules. NOTE: "Regular basis" to maintain active is considered at least 4 shows a year.

11.x.4 Character - A CGA Master shall continue to be generally regarded by the CGA membership as diplomatic, tactful, impartial, ethical, open to suggestions and appear to have good decision-making skills. They shall continue to demonstrate an ability to make 'hard' decisions, even when those decisions are unpopular.

- bb. Submitted by Shannon Cannon- 11.7 Master Judge Status

Propose to add

11.7.4 A person from any District management, Board of Governors or the MAC can identify that a Master Judge is not meeting the criteria to maintain "active" Master Judge status. The Board of Governors shall conduct additional interviews as needed, and then confirmation or denial of removal of "Active" Master Judge status with a 2/3 vote from the Board of Governors.

cc. Submitted By Jeni Thompson- 11.8 Senior Judge Currently Reads

A Senior Judge is recognized by the Master Judge for his or her area as having the potential to become a Master Judge. They have broad knowledge and experience regarding CGA, its rules and the organization in general. A Master Judge may appoint a Senior Judge to help him or her with the duties of a Master Judge as a first step in training them to become a Master Judge in the future. Senior Judges are appointed by the Master Judge for their area, and have responsibility and authority only in the district(s) they are assigned to. While a Senior Judge may be assigned to more than one district, no district may have more than one Senior Judge.

Proposed change:

11.8 Senior Judge

Any member that has been a judge for two years and is in good standing may request a level 2 judge's test. Upon passing the level 2 test they will become a Senior judge and work closely with the Master Judge in their area. Senior Judges have responsibility and authority only in the district(s) they are assigned to. A Senior Judge may be assigned to more than one district.

dd. Submitted by Norma Easterday

Proposed changes: (basically re-writing the whole thing)

Section 3 to be renamed

Section 3: CGA Rating System and Year End Awards program.

3.3 CGA Rating System

CGA has adopted five (5) rating divisions, separating the riders by speed ability. The FC (Future Champion) rating is the easiest rating to acquire, with A, AA, AAA and AAA+ ratings progressively harder to achieve. The times associated with these ratings are given in the CGA Divisional Rating Matrix. (See Appendix 'A')

The CGA Divisional Rating System places a rider/mount combination in a "Division" according to the speed in which they run the 13 different events. (see Appendix "A' CGA Divisional Rating Matrix)

These Divisions are:

- *FC (Future Champion)
- * Lead Line (LL), same as Future Champion
- * A
- * AA
- * AAA
- * AAA+

“Rating” means that the rider/mount combination has a certain number of successful rides within the 13 events.

For instance, a rider must run an event successfully at least three (3) times in the FC or Lead Line division in four (4) different events for that rider/mount combination to be “Rated” FC or LL if they are riding Lead Line.

To be “Rated” is as follows.

A rider/mount combination must run an event successfully at least three (3) times in the required number of different events to be rated in that Division. See below.

<u>Division</u>	<u># of events needed</u>
FC/LL	4
A	6
AA	8
AAA	10
AAA+	12

During the CGA season, if a rider/mount combination starts riding in a slower division and is successfully achieving times in a faster division they will automatically be bumped up into that division once they meet the required number of events needed to achieve the faster division.

At the start of a new CGA season all “Ratings” are reset to “not rated”.

As the show season progresses, current standings can change and may be obtained at any time by going onto the CGA web site under “Reports. General Ratings” or by email to cgastate@aol.co, and requesting your “rating report”.

**Removing the paragraph about Year End program for ponies from the 3.3 section and putting it into the 3.4 section after the first paragraph.

4. Final Vote for rules items if applicable.

5. Other issues, Concerns or Comments

6. Adjournment