



AMERICAN QUARTER
HORSE ASSOCIATION

2022 AQHA Performance Halter Q&A

Beginning January 1, 2022, current performance halter eligibility rules (SHW365.3) will apply and/or horses which are competing in a performance class at the same show may also be shown in performance halter. Horses must be ridden or driven at that show. Walk/Trot classes and showmanship do not count as an eligible performance class. The exemption for horses that have earned a Racing Register of Merit will still apply.

1. Is a performance ROM still required?
 - a. No, however, if a horse does not have a performance ROM it must be shown in a performance class under the same show number.
2. Does the Racing ROM exempt horses from having to have a performance ROM?
 - a. Yes.
3. Does the Racing ROM exempt horses from having to be shown in a performance class at the same show they are showing performance halter?
 - a. Yes.
4. Showmanship is considered a performance class, does showmanship count towards the requirement of one performance class?
 - a. No.
 - b. Walk/Trot classes also do not count as fulfilling the requirement.
5. I want to show performance halter, but I only do cow classes and there are no cow classes offered. What are my options?
 - a. If the horse has its performance ROM, the requirement of showing in a performance class at the show is not applicable.
6. I'm a level 1 amateur exhibitor. Do my level 1 classes count for the performance class requirement, and if the level 1 classes do count, will walk/jog classes count?
 - a. Yes, level 1 classes (except for showmanship) do count towards the performance class requirement.
 - b. No, walk/trot and walk/jog classes do not count towards the performance class requirement.
 - c. Walk/Trot, Walk/Jog, Level 1 amateur, and Level 1 youth classes still do NOT count towards the performance ROM achievement.
7. I'm a rookie exhibitor, will my rookie performance class(es) meet the requirement?
 - a. Yes, rookie classes (except for showmanship) do meet the performance class requirement.
8. Do I have to show in the same division for both performance halter and performance class?
 - a. At weekend shows - no. The horse can be shown in different divisions; for example, open performance class will satisfy the requirement for an amateur or youth performance halter class, or vice versa.
 - b. At AQHA World Show - yes. The horse must be shown in the same division of both the performance halter and performance class requirement.

9. How do weekend shows handle these entries?
 - a. At time of entry for a horse in performance halter, please ensure the horse does have a performance or Racing ROM, or the horse is entered in a performance class (excluding walk/trot, walk/jog classes or showmanship). Performance Halter and performance classes do not have to be in the same division.
10. What if the performance class entry is scratched after the horse has been shown in performance halter?
 - a. If the horse does not also have a performance ROM, the entry in performance halter will be disqualified.
11. What if performance halter is held at the beginning of a circuit, the horse is able to show in its performance class for the first set of show numbers, but is then scratched from performance class(es) of the second set of show numbers? In this example the horse does not have a performance or Racing ROM.
 - a. The first set of show numbers will be ok as the performance class requirement was met. Performance halter entry for the second set of show numbers will be disqualified as the requirement was not met for that set of show numbers.
12. Do VRH performance classes count towards the performance class requirement?
 - a. No VRH classes do not cross over to count towards performance halter performance class participation.

Quick reference

Does the horse have a racing ROM?

Yes – meets requirement

Does the horse have a performance ROM in any division?

Yes – meets requirement

No – horse must be shown in a performance class in any division; noting showmanship and walk/trot and walk/jog classes do not count.

Scenario – horse is show in open, amateur AND youth performance halter geldings by three different exhibitors. Horse must be shown in one performance class in any division under each show number.