

2023 ADOPTED RULE & BYLAW CHANGES

The following proposed rule and bylaw changes were considered by the USTA Board of Directors at the 2023 Annual Meeting. Unless otherwise noted, these changes will go into effect on May 1, 2023.

Newly adopted rules are **bold underlined**; deletions are ~~struck out~~.

1. **5.20 Racetrack Infield.** – All extended pari-mutuel track infield ponds shall be enclosed by a fence or barrier.

2. 6.11 Duties of the Judges.—

~~(g)~~ **(h) The following shall be considered grounds for the judges to declare a heat or race a “no contest:”**

1. In the event an accident occurs on the track during a heat or race and the field must pass the spot of the accident before the finish;

2. If one or more driver or horse is down;

3. If, in the opinion of the judges, the safety of the drivers and horses are in jeopardy due to an incident;

4. If a horse is traveling clockwise;

5. Or, in the event the racetrack is thrown into darkness during the progress of a race by failure of electricity.

3. Rule 8. Racing, Farm, Corporate, Stable, or Stallion Syndicate Names

Section

8.01 Registration of ~~Stallion Syndicates and~~ Racing, Farm, Corporate, ~~or~~ Stable, **or Stallion Syndicate** Names

8.02 Individual Membership Requirements for Members

8.03 Prohibition Against Duplicate Names

8.04 Liability of Owners and Other Persons

8.05 Inactivity of Registered Stable

8.06 Signature on Transfers and Other Documents Relating to Racing, Farm, Corporation, ~~and~~ Stable **Names, or Stallion Syndicates** Names

8.07 Designation of Corresponding Officer

8.01 **Registration of Stallion Syndicates and Racing, Farm, Corporate, or Stable, or Stallion Syndicate Names.** ~~Stallion syndicates and~~ Racing, farm, corporate ~~or~~ stable, **or stallion syndicate** names, hereby referred to as a registered stable, may be used by owners or lessees if registered with the USTA ~~giving the names of all persons who are involved in the stable or will use the name.~~

8.02 **Individual Membership Requirements for Members.**— All persons who are members of a registered farm, ~~syndicate, corporation, or~~ stable, racing or **the corresponding officer of a stallion syndicate, or any person** breeding a horse as provided in Rule 4.10 must be USTA members. The USTA shall be notified immediately if additional persons become interested in a registered farm, ~~syndicate, corporation, or~~ stable, **or stallion syndicate** or if some person listed in a registration disassociates himself or herself from the registered farm, ~~syndicate, corporation, or~~ stable, **or stallion syndicate**. Failure to do so will place the registered farm, ~~syndicate, corporation or~~ stable, **or stallion syndicate** in violation of the Rules.

8.03 **Prohibition Against Duplicate Names.** — Two registered racing, farms, ~~corporations~~ ~~corporate, or~~ stables, **or stallion syndicates** cannot be registered under the same name and the ~~USTA Executive Vice-~~

President may reject an application for a name that is confusing to the public, unbecoming to the sport, or exceeds 25 letters including spaces between letters.

8.04 **Liability of Owners and Other Persons.** — All owners and persons listed in a registered racing, farm, corporation, ~~or stable~~, or stallion syndicate, whether incorporated or not shall be jointly and severally liable for entry fees and penalties against the registered racing, farm, ~~corporation~~ ~~corporate~~, ~~or stable~~ or stallion syndicate. In the event one of the owners or persons listed in a registered racing, farm, corporation, ~~or stable~~, or stallion syndicate is suspended, all the horses shall be included in accordance with Rule 22.05.

8.05 **Inactivity of Registered Stable.** — A registered stable must have its membership renewed each year. If the stable is not renewed for a period of 15 years, it will be presumed abandoned and may be reissued to another party upon proper application. Stallion syndicate names may never be reissued.

8.06 **Signature on Transfers and Other Documents Relating to Racing, Farm, Corporation, ~~and Stable~~, or Stallion Syndicate Names.** — Only the signature of the corresponding officer of a racing, farm, corporation, ~~or stable~~, or stallion syndicate name will be recognized on transfers and other documents pertaining to such organizations. Documents bearing the signature of the stable by the corresponding officer will be considered binding upon the members thereof.

8.07 **Designation of Corresponding Officer.** — Each member of a registered farm, corporation, ~~or stable~~, or stallion syndicate should sign a document designating the name and address of the corresponding officer thereof. As used in Rule 8, the word “corporate” name shall include the name of a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, trust, and any other recognized legal entity.

4. 26.05 **Artificial Insemination.**—A foal conceived by transported fresh or frozen semen shall be eligible for registration. The fact that the foal is the product of transported fresh or frozen semen shall be annotated on all documents relative to that foal, including but not limited to stallion reports, mating certificates, registration certificates and electronic eligibility certificates.

In the event of the castration or death of a stallion, semen frozen from such stallion may be used in the breeding seasons during and immediately following the breeding season, or year, in which such castration or death occurred. Foals by that stallion conceived from this period may be registered. No foal conceived by semen from that stallion after that time period is eligible for registration. *(Effective 02/01/2023)*

5. 27.01 **Individual Membership.**

- (a) New Member (1 year) \$ 90.00
- (b) New Member (3 years) \$222.00
- (c) Renewal (1 year) \$ 75.00
- (d) Renewal (3 year) \$200.00

27.02 Standardbred Incentive Program Membership *(Effective 1/1/2024)*

- (a) New Member (1 year) \$45.00
- (b) New Member (3 years) \$100.00
- (c) Renewal (1 year) \$20.00
- (d) Renewal (3 years) \$50.00

1.01 **Qualifications of Members.** — The following shall qualify for membership in this association.

(a) **Track Members.**

- 1. Persons, firms, corporations, and agricultural societies and associations sponsoring and conducting meetings other than extended pari-mutuel harness race meetings.

2. Persons, firms, associations, and corporations conducting extended pari-mutuel harness race meetings.

(b) Individual Members.

1. Owners of registered Standardbred or non-Standardbred horses.
2. Officials licensed by the association.
3. Drivers licensed by the association.
4. Trainers licensed by the association.
5. Corporations, associations, individuals or stake secretaries sponsoring stakes or futurities, but not engaged in conducting race meetings.
6. Officers, directors, managers, speed superintendents, race secretaries and executive employees of corporations or associations conducting harness race meetings.
7. Officers, directors and stockholders of corporations owning and racing horses.
8. Farm managers or persons designated to verify breeding records.

(c) Standardbred Incentive Program Membership. A non-voting membership for participants in the Standardbred Incentive Program (SIP) only, for individuals competing in non-racing events with a registered Standardbred. (Effective 1/1/2024)

6. 5.03 Number of Directors in Each District and Their Terms of Office. —

(f) The district board of directors of District 6 shall consist of five (5) members, ~~of which one (1) shall be elected by pari-mutuel track members of sub-district 6A and one (1) of which~~ **two (2)** shall be elected by the pari-mutuel tracks of ~~sub-district 6B~~. Of the other three (3) general membership elected directors, one (1) shall be elected from sub-district 6A, one (1) from sub-district 6B with one (1) to be elected at large.