

*To rein a horse is not only to guide him, but also to direct his every movement.  
The best reined horse should be willingly guided through a set of complex maneuvers,  
with little or no apparent resistance.*



## **Mandate on Abuse**

The Central Canada Reining Horse Association is refocusing attention on the topic of equine abuse.

The Board of Directors has received numerous requests from its membership to make a visible stand on this issue.

The CCRHA, both its Board of Directors and its membership at large, will not tolerate abuse of horses or unsportsmanlike conduct in any manner whatsoever on the show grounds. Actions which are considered to be abusive will be promptly reported to the NRHA for consideration of disciplinary action. The CCRHA, itself, reserves the right to take independent action against any persons that are considered to be abusive.

The NRHA defines abuse to be:

“That which a reasonable person informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and exhibition procedures, would determine to be cruel, abusive and inhumane.”

The NRHA Handbook goes on to reference some examples of abuse:

“This may include the exhibition of an animal which is clearly not in a fit or sound condition, the use of abusive equipment, and/or the use of abusive showing techniques by the rider... The NRHA has determined that the exhibition of a horse that is obviously lame or is otherwise in an unhealthy condition must be considered abuse. The exhibition of a horse that has a cut or abrasion showing clear evidence of fresh blood in the mouth, nose, chin, shoulder, barrel, flank or hip area (those areas reasonable to believe the injury may have been caused by the rider or equipment) must be considered abuse regardless of how the injury was caused.”

--- NRHA Handbook, Judges' Guide, No Scores, Sections 2-4.

Members who observe behavior on the part of any of their fellow riders that may meet this definition are asked to speak to a member of the CCRHA Board / Show Committee or the NRHA Representative immediately to be advised on the appropriate procedure to be followed.

The CCRHA knows that the overwhelming majority of horsemen/women that belong and show in our association and other associations hold the welfare of their animals in high regard. We appreciate your attention to these matters.

CCRHA Board of Directors