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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ATRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:)
Megan M. Baker,) HPA Docket No. 13-0265
Respondent.)
) Consent Decision and Order

This proceeding was instituted under the Horse Protection Act ("Act"), as amended (15 U.S.C. § 1821 *et seq.*), by a complaint filed by the Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, alleging that the respondent violated the Act. This decision is entered pursuant to the consent decision provisions of the Rules of Practice applicable to this proceeding (7 C.F.R. § 1.138).

Respondent Megan M. Baker admits the jurisdictional allegations in paragraph 1 of the complaint and specifically admits that the Secretary has jurisdiction in this matter, neither admits nor denies the remaining allegations, waives oral hearing and further procedures, and consents and agrees, for the purpose of settling this proceeding and for such purpose only, to the entry of this decision.

The complainant agrees to the entry of this decision.

Findings of Fact

1. Respondent Megan M. Baker is an individual whose mailing address is (b) (6). At all times mentioned herein, said Respondent was the owner and trainer of the horse known as "Double Clutchin."

2. On May 26, 2012, the respondent entered "Double Clutchin" as entry number 256 in class number 34, in the Brodhead Lions Club Horse Show in Brodhead, KY, for the purpose of showing or exhibiting the horse.

Conclusions

Respondent having admitted the jurisdictional facts and the parties having agreed to the entry of this decision, such decision will be entered.

Order

Respondent Megan M. Baker is disqualified for eight (8) months from showing, exhibiting, or entering any horse, directly or indirectly through any agent, employee, or other device, and from judging, managing or otherwise participating in any horse show, horse exhibition, or horse sale or auction. "Participating" means engaging in any activity beyond that of a spectator, and includes, without limitation, transporting or arranging for the transportation of horses to or from equine events, personally giving instructions to exhibitors, being present in the warm-up or inspection areas, or in any area where spectators are not allowed, and financing the participation of others in equine events.

This order shall have the same effect as if entered after a full hearing and shall become effective on the first day after service of this decision on the respondent.

Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

[Redacted signature]

Megan M. Baker
Respondent

[Redacted signature]

Robin L. Webb
Attorney for Respondent

[Redacted signature]

Charles L. Kendall
Attorney for Complainant

Done at Washington, D.C.

This 6 day of APR, 20145

[Redacted signature]

Administrative Law Judge

Jill S. Clifton