



March 3, 2015

Ms. Teresa Bippen, President
FOSH

Dear Ms. Bippen:

Since there seems to be some confusion, it would be best to clarify what the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association does in relationship to horse show titles.

The Celebration owns the Title of 'World Grand Champion', and sets the standards and requirements for same. This year they solicited the services of the Veterinary Advisory Committee organization, an independent, science-based inspection program, to achieve a higher level of scrutiny to assure a fair competitive environment that far exceeded any legal requirement contained in The Horse Protection Act. We would be remiss if we failed to acknowledge that commitment and thank them for their contribution.

TWHBEA denotes by a special mark, approved by the Executive Committee March 27, 2000, any horse that has attained the honor of World Grand Champion on the registration certificate. Once a horse has achieved that status, he/she will appear with a special mark on every pedigree in which he/she appears. The most recent WGC, I Am Jose' achieved the pinnacle of success in 2013 and again in 2014, the only horse to do so in over 50 years; and either of those wins qualifies him for the special mark. They, too, should be congratulated.

TWHBEA checked with the SHOW HIO, and in 2013 and again in 2014, I Am Jose was presented for inspection eight times for four exhibitions and has never failed an inspection.

The record reflects, I Am Jose' meets the requirement for the special mark by the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association.

Thank you for your interest and your membership. I would encourage FOSH to follow the Celebration and TWHBEA leadership and establish a V.A.C. protocol at FOSH shows.

Sincerely

Walter D. Chism
Acting Executive Director
Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association