

2024 RULES

SECTION 1 – MQHA FUTURITY

MISSION

The purpose of the Michigan Quarter Horse Futurity is to promote and showcase American Quarter Horses resulting from Michigan breeding programs.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. All entries are eligible provided the entry is registered with a breed association that is recognized by the NSBA or WCHA.
2. All owners of record, open and non-pro/amateur exhibitors must be members in good standing of MQHA and their breed's registry.
 - A. Any person on suspension or otherwise denied privileges from MQHA will be ineligible to exhibit or have horses exhibited at the Futurity if the Futurity is held during the specified dates of said suspension. All horses which are recorded in the name of such person, or owned in whole or part by such person, are not eligible to participate in said Futurity.
 - B. Any horse on suspension from MQHA will be ineligible to be exhibited at the Futurity if the Futurity is held during the specified dates of said suspension.
 - C. Any violation of NSBA or WCHA rules, which the Michigan Quarter Horse Futurity adheres to, could result in the following: 1) forfeiture of all monies and awards and 2) the exhibitor of the entry could be ineligible for exhibiting horses in the following year's Futurity.
3. Weanlings: Weanlings may be shown at halter as follows: open and/or non-pro fillies; and open and/or non-pro stallions or geldings.
 - A. The weanling classes will follow WCHA rules.
4. Yearlings: Yearlings may be shown in open western longe line, open HUS prospect longe line and/or non-pro-western/hus combined yearling longe line. The horse should be judged with its suitability as a future performer under saddle in mind. This class should define what it means to be a "western pleasure prospect" or "hunter under saddle prospect". Because these are yearlings, they are not expected to demonstrate the behavior or quality of a finished show horse, but only that performance necessary for a reasonable presentation to the judge.
 - A. The MQHA will follow NSBA yearling longe line rules.
 - B. A horse may not be shown in both the open western longe line and the open HUS prospect longe line.

CLASS ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND FEES

5. To enter a horse in an open and/or non-pro halter or performance class at the Futurity, the following conditions must be complied with:
 - A. A weanling must be eligible to be registered with a breed association that is recognized by the WCHA. All horses must be registered with their respective breed association to enter the arena. Payback checks will not be issued until registration papers are received by the MQHA office. A copy of registration papers should be sent as soon as they are processed by breed registries.
 - B. Weanling sire and dam information, as well as the foal's date of birth must be included with the original weanling entry.
 - C. If a junior division is offered for weanlings, foals born March 1 and later will be considered junior and foals born before March 1 will be senior.
 - D. Horses entered in a Non Pro class must be owned by the exhibitor or a family member per breed registry rules.
 - E. Yearlings and older must be registered with the appropriate breed association. A copy of the registration papers must accompany the payment of fees.
 - F. All horses two and older may be shown in performance classes in open and/or non pro. All riding classes will follow NSBA rules.
 - G. If an entry is gelded, it is the owner's responsibility to notify the Futurity office in writing no later than check-in at the Futurity.
 - H. The Michigan Quarter Horse Futurity will be shown each year at such place as may be designated by the Board of Directors.
 - I. All classes will be judged by a qualified judge or judges.
 - J. All fees and due dates will be published on the MQHA website.
6. Each class entry fee is a one-time payment, with the fee progressively greater based on postmark date. The class entry fee schedule is published on the MQHA Website.
7. All owners of record, open and non-pro exhibitors must be members of MQHA or pay the appropriate membership fee.
 - A. Amateur/non-pro exhibitor status will be determined according to current respective breed association rules. All amateurs/non-pros must submit a copy of the amateur/non-pro card with the entry or prior to the class showing-
 - B. All exhibitors must be declared at least one class prior to the start of their class. Exhibitors in the first class of the day must be declared at least one-half (1/2) hour prior to the start of the show day.
8. All payments to the Futurity must be made to the Michigan Quarter Horse office. Canadian entrants must make payments payable in U.S. funds. Entries will not be accepted by telephone. Entries may be faxed or emailed to the MQHA Office if accompanied by a Visa, MasterCard, Amex or Discover number.

REFUNDS

9. No entry is liable for more than the amount paid in, but there will be no return of a payment unless the showing of the Futurity is called off in any and all divisions. The right is reserved to reject an entry, and to bar any entry from competition for failure to comply with the conditions of the Futurity.
10. In the event of the death of a Futurity horse prior to the Futurity, a refund will be allowed. The MQHA office must be notified in writing and a death certificate from a veterinarian must be submitted within 30 days of the horse's death.

NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS

11. Any entry whose payment of fees is returned by the bank for non-sufficient funds, a declined credit card or any other reason will be assessed late/penalty fees. Such entry will be ineligible to show until all such fees have been paid by cash, certified check, credit card or money order. Payment in full must be received by the day of the Futurity.

PRIZE FUND

12. The value of the prize fund of the Futurity each year will be the total amount of money paid in entry fees, less 20%.
13. The payback format used in all open & non-pro classes will be based on the number of horses entered. (SEE CHART)
14. Any money remaining from the operating fund after expenses will be included in the following year's operating fund.
15. Six ribbons will be awarded per class for all MQHBF classes.

16. Tie-breaker system: All placings will be determined on a point system.

A. In the event there is a tie for first place, the following rules will be in effect: Prize monies for the tied entries will be added together and divided equally. The entries will be listed in the official results as tied and will receive equal publicity. Only one award will be given. The recipients of the first place award will be determined by the use of a tie breaker judge. All tied first place winners will receive first place ribbons.

B. In the event there is a tie for any placing other than first, the following rules will be in effect: Prize monies for the tied entries will be added together and divided equally. The entries will be listed in the official results as tied. The recipient of the ribbon for the tied placing will be determined by the use of a tie breaker judge.

C. An additional two horses will be placed beyond horses paid in each class.

Payback Percentages All Futurity Classes and Stallion Service Sale Yearlings and SSS 3 Year Olds Does NOT include SSS 2 Year Old Payback									
Number of Paid Entries									
	1	2-4	5-6	7-9	10-12	13-15	16-19	20-23	24-27
# of Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
% Paid	100	60	45	40	34	32	28	26	26
		40	35	30	27	22	22	22	19
			20	20	20	19	17	14	13
				10	10	10	10	10	10
					9	9	9	9	9
						8	8	8	8
							6	6	6
								5	5
									4

2024 Payback Amounts SSS - 2 Year Old				
# Entries	1	2-3	4-6	7-10
	\$2000	\$2000	\$2000	\$2000
		\$1750	\$1750	\$1500
			\$1500	\$1000
				\$600

POST ENTRIES

17. A post entry shall be defined as an entry made during the Futurity. Post entries will be accepted at the Futurity accompanied by the appropriate fees under the following conditions:

A. Once the in-gate opens for a class, no more post entries will be allowed for that class.

B. Once the gate is open, only those whose back number appears on the recorder sheet shall be allowed to enter the ring.

DISPUTED ENTRIES

18. In the case that a back number is not present on the gate sheet, the entry will be allowed to show to allow time for verification of entry. If the entry is deemed ineligible for any reason, including class criteria, class not entered, non-sufficient funds, etc., the placing and any potential money earned by the ineligible entry will be forfeited and all other entries moved up one placing.

A. It shall be the owner's responsibility to verify the accuracy of all entry information and to notify the MQHA office immediately if any corrections are necessary in the published list of entries.

JUDGING, EXHIBITING, EQUIPMENT AND ARTIFICIAL APPLIANCES

19. Judging begins when the gate is closed. The in-gate will not be re-opened once judging has begun.

A. Failure by exhibitor to wear correct number(s) in a visible manner shall result in disqualification.

B. Draws: Weanlings will enter the arena and be lined up according to foaling date with the youngest horse first.

C. Riding classes will be split at the discretion of the show management.

D. The Futurity Committee follows all NSBA/WCHA rules and regulations for showing horses, including weanlings. Further, the Futurity show manager reserves the right to do a random check in all classes for artificial devices or equipment. If there are any violations discovered, it shall be reported to NSBA/WCHA for further action.

DRUG TESTING

20. All horses exhibited at this event are subject to the current testing rules and regulations. The MQHA Board of Directors and the MQHA Futurity Committee will follow applicable NSBA and WCHA drug testing guidelines.

A. Every exhibitor at the Michigan Quarter Horse Breeders' Futurity shall upon request permit a specimen of urine, saliva, blood or other substance to be taken for testing. Refusal to comply with such request shall constitute grounds for immediate disqualification of the animal from further participation at the show and forfeiture of all awards earned by that animal.

B. Any person entering the arena with a horse for the purpose of having his/her horse judged shall be deemed to have given his or her consent to have said horse submit to testing.

C. If a positive drug test occurs at the MQHA Futurity, it will result in forfeiture of all monies and awards earned by that horse and owner/exhibitor in that current year's Futurity.

SECTION 2 - MQHA STALLION SERVICE AUCTION & FUTURITY

21. THE CONCEPT:

A. To provide a select, direct entry Futurity for the benefit and promotion of both stallions and mares through participation in this Futurity.

B. To develop a high-money Futurity funded by the sale of donated stallion services.

C. This Futurity will be known as the MQHA Stallion Service Sale Futurity. It is only for foals resulting from the Stallion Service Sale.

D. All foals showing in the Stallion Service Sale Futurity (mare owners and stallion owners) must be eligible to be registered with a known breed association.

22. THE PROCEDURE:

A. The MQHA Stallion Service Sale Futurity classes will be held in conjunction with the MQHA Futurity and judged by three judges. One judge can be a non-AQHA approved judge.

B. A stallion owner will be eligible to enter a foal from the stallion he/she donates. A stallion owner may donate more than one service if he/she wishes to do so. The stallion owner (agent) shall notify MQHA in writing, before September 1st of the year shown, the choice of which entry will represent the stallion. Entries will be accepted from September 2 to the start of the class but will be subject to a late fee. The stallion owner (agent) is the owner (agent) who signed the breeding contract for the year the foal was conceived. Any conflicts will be decided by the SSS Committee. All decisions are final.

1. Stallion Service Sale pays MQHA 20% for MQHA contribution.

Stallion Service Sale will pay all additional expenses directly related to the Stallion Service Sale. Any expenses arising from past years sales will affect the current year's purse.

D. Purchase of a service must be paid for on the day of the auction. Cash, money order, Visa, Mastercard, Amex or a personal check will be accepted.

E. September 10th is the cut-off date to purchase unsold stallion services from the MQHA Stallion Service Sale.

23. PAYBACKS:

A. The purse structure is as follows: 32% to weanling fillies (mare owners and stallion owners), 32% to weanling colts or geldings (mare owners and stallion owners), 7% to the stallion/mare owner yearling western longe line, 7% to the stallion/mare owner yearling hus longe line, 5% to the stallion/mare owner 2-year-old western pleasure, 7% to the stallion/mare owner 3 Year Old Hunter Under Saddle and 7% to the stallion/mare owner 3 Year Old Western Pleasure. A 3% discretionary fund was established, and its use will be decided by the committee on an annual basis. It will provide for larger awards and start up paybacks. Classes with fewer than 5 entries may be run concurrently and awarded by mare owner and stallion owner division.

1. For the weanlings, the total weanling purse will be divided equally between the four weanling classes and the paybacks will be:

a. (6) places for 32 or fewer entries - 30%, 24%, 18%, 12%, 9% and 7%.

b. More than 32 entries, the payback will go to seven (7) places - 29%, 23%, 15%, 11%, 9%, 7%, and 6%.

c. If there are only five (5) showing – 31%, 25%, 19%, 14% and 11%.

d. If there are only four (4) showing – 33%, 28%, 24% and 15%.

2. The yearling longe line and the three year-old SSS classes will follow the payback chart.

B. In the event of a tie, the tie breaker judge will decide who receives the award and ribbon, but monies will be combined and divided equally, the tie positions shall be designated as co-position (example: two-way tie for 1st place will be designated Co-Champions of said class).

3. In an effort to adjust to equine industry changes and standards, the Stallion Service Sale committee reserves the right to reallocate money designated to a specific year's retainment within the classes from the same sale year. Any adjustment must be approved by the MQHA Board of Directors.

4. If there is any money remaining because of the newly established (2023) 2-year-old structured payback (see new payback chart), it will be moved to the 3-year-old western pleasure payback in the same sale year.

24. GENERAL RULES:

A. The primary means of raising revenue will be an auction, to be held at the MQHA Annual Convention.

B. Cut-off date for all Stallion Service donations will be the day of and prior to the start of the MQHA Stallion Service Sale auction.

C. Foals from this breeding will not be automatically paid up in the regular MQHA Breeders' Futurity.

D. Any disputed contracts will be arbitrated by the MQHA Stallion Service Sale Committee and all decisions of this committee will be final. Terms and conditions of the auction will apply and be strictly adhered to.

E. All entries of the MSSS must have the correct back number on or they will be disqualified.

F. A stallion's service must sell in order for the Stallion owner's foal to be eligible.

G. There will be four weanling halter classes held during the Futurity (Mare Owner Colts/Geldings and Mare Owner Fillies, Stallion Owner Colts/Geldings, and Stallion Owner Fillies), two Yearling Longe Line classes (WP and HUS), a two 2-year old western pleasure class and two 3-year old classes (WP and HUS) which will be for mare owner and stallion owner entries only. Retainments will determine the class purse.

25. SSS CLASS FORMAT:

A. The Stallion Service Sale Weanling halter classes will follow current WCHA rules.

1. The weanling mare owner class entry must be out of the mare declared during the breeding year one year prior, or the result of a rebreed the following year. The mare owner is allowed a free entry.

2. The weanling stallion owner class entry is an entry by a stallion donated one year prior and declared by the stallion owner (agent) that signed the breeding contract. The stallion owner is allowed a free entry.

3. All weanlings that are eligible for the weanling halter classes must declare their intent to show in the respective class by sending in the entry form prior to September 1st. Entries will be accepted until the day prior to the start of the class but will be subject to a late fee.

B. The Stallion Service Sale Yearling Western Longe Line and Yearling Hunter Under Saddle Longe Line Class will follow current NSBA Longe Line rules.

1. The yearling longe line mare owner entry must be out of the mare declared during the breeding year two years previously, or the result of a rebreed the following year. The mare owner is allowed free entry.

2. The stallion owner yearling longe line entry is an entry by a stallion donated two years previously and declared by the stallion owner (agent) that signed the breeding contract. The stallion owner is allowed a free entry in each the western longe line and the hunter under saddle longe line.

3. All yearlings that are eligible for the yearling longe line must declare their intent to show in the respective class by sending in the entry form prior to September 1st. Entries will be accepted from September 2nd to the day prior to the start of the class but will be subject to a late fee.

4. A horse may not be shown in both the western longe line and the hunter under saddle prospect longe line.

C. The Stallion Service Sale 2-year-old western pleasure will follow NSBA rules.

1. The two-year-old mare owner snaffle bit entry must be out of the mare declared during the breeding year three years previously, or the result of a rebreed the following year.

2. The two year-old stallion owner snaffle bit entry is an entry by a stallion donated three years previously and declared by the stallion owner (agent) that signed the breeding contract. The stallion owner is allowed a free entry.

3. All two year olds that are eligible for the MSSS snaffle bit classes must declare their intent to show in the respective class by sending in the entry form prior to September 1st. Entries will be accepted from September 2nd to the day prior to the start of the class but will be subject to a late fee.

D. A Three Year Old Hunter Under Saddle and Three Year Old Western Pleasure will follow NSBA rules.

1. One class for all mare owner and stallion owner entries will be offered in each the HUS and WP classes.

2. The mare owner entry must be out of the mare declared during the breeding year four years previously, or the result of a rebreed the following year.

3. The stallion owner entry is an entry by a stallion donated four years previously and declared by the stallion owner (agent) that signed the breeding contract. The stallion owner is allowed one free entry in both the 3 Year Old Hunter Under Saddle and 3 Year Old Western Pleasure classes.

4. All three-year-olds that are eligible for the SSS 3 Year Old class must declare their intent to show by sending in the entry form by September 1st. Entries will be accepted from September 2nd to the day prior to the start of the class but will be subject to a late fee.

E. All yearlings, two year-olds and three year-olds must show registration papers by the day of the futurity or submit a copy with the entry. Late entries must show registration papers upon making entry.

F. Stallion owners may show any of their stallion's get (provided the foal is eligible or already registered with a known breed association).

1. In the event a Stallion owner wishes to give another person authorization to exhibit an entry by their stallion in the appropriate stallion owner class, a letter of authorization must be sent to the Michigan Quarter Horse Association office. No exhibitor will be allowed to show in stallion owner classes without an authorization letter. 25% of money earned will be returned to the stallion owner unless otherwise indicated.

G. If a mare owner sells his/her horse, the eligibility goes along with the horse.

H. Bids for all stallions in the MQHA Stallion Service Sale Auction will start at sixty (60%) percent of their advertised breeding fee or a minimum of \$400.00. Breedings sold after the close of the auction will be available at 60% of the original breeding fee or a (minimum or \$400.00). There will be an additional \$25 office fee added to each transaction for each stallion sold.

26. MQHA STALLION SERVICE SALE:

A. Any disputes over eligibility will be decided by the Stallion Service Sale Committee. Their decision will be final.

B. All donated stallion breeding services will be treated equally (advertising, etc.).

C. All Mare Owners who purchased a stallion service through the MQHA Michigan Stallion Service Sale auction are required to declare one mare bred before December 1st of the year of the auction. If declaration is not made by December 1st, but by January 1st following the year of the auction, a \$25 penalty will be imposed for eligibility. If declaration is not made before January 1st following the year of the auction, the resulting foal will be considered ineligible for competition in the MQHA Stallion Service Sale Futurities. The year following the auction will be the extent of validity of all contracts purchased through the auction.

D. All Mare Owners who purchased a stallion service through the MQHA Michigan Stallion Service Sale auction may declare additional mares (provided he/she is owner or lessee of record) for a fee of \$25 per mare due by December 1st of the year of the auction or \$125 due January 1st following the year of the auction.

E. The stallion owner's entry is in the year following his/her donation (As per 2018 Sale, 2019 Futurity) provided the service sells.

F. The MQHA Stallion Service Sale Committee must be notified in writing when a mare is open or a substitute mare is necessary. A copy of this notification must be sent to the MQHA Office and the SSS Director.

G. A written notice will be returned to the mare owner and the stallion owner by the SSS Committee upon receipt of this notification in response to rule "E".

H. All money will be paid as per MQHA Stallion Service Sale records.

I. No money will be transferred to another year.

J. In the Stallion Owner Class the stallion owner may show a foal out of any mare and by the stallion he/she donated. The stallion owner does not have to own the foal or the mare.

K. Each stallion breeding service donated and sold allows the stallion owner one (1) entry.

L. The stallion owner who buys back his/her own service will have one entry in the stallion owner class and one entry in the mare owner class. However, the mare owner entry must follow all mare declaration guidelines as previously stated.

M. In the case of the death of a foal after it stands and sucks, the contract will be considered to have been fulfilled.

N. The mare owner must own or be a registered lessee with a known breed association at the time of breeding.