



Michigan Quarter Horse Association

2026
Rule Book

FOREWORD

2026 Constitution, By-Laws and Rule Book

The Constitution, By-Laws and Rule Book for the Michigan Quarter Horse Association updated by the appropriate committees, the Board of Directors, and membership are here presented.

The need for correcting and updating the Constitution, By-Laws, and Rule Book of a vibrant and growing organization requires constant attention.

MQHA is run by volunteers from the membership. Each member is urged to participate in the affairs of the organization by serving on a committee or work group. Call or write MQHA at:

MQHA
PO Box 278
Greenville, MI 48838
(616) 225-8211
www.miquarterhorse.com
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MQHA LOGOS

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MICHIGAN
QUARTER
HORSE
ASSOCIATION

MQHA
MICHIGAN QUARTER
HORSE ASSOCIATION



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MQHA PAST PRESIDENT LISTING

1955	Bud Leetch	2000	William “Dutch” Guthrie
1956	Tom E. McKinley	2001-02	Kelly Boles Chapman
1957	Franklin Branch	2003-04	Kathryn Boggetta
1958	Frank Flock	2005 – 06	Stephanie Scheid Griffin
1959	Richard Hagood	2007-08	Bob Daniels
1960-61	Dave Brian	2009-10	Jennifer Goss
1962	Keith Forbush	2011 -12	Trish Steele
1963	George Van Loozen	2013 -14	Karen Waite
1964	Clem Ziegler	2015-16	Tiffany Weitzel
1965-66	Wesley Lickfeldt	2017	Jacquelin Moody
1967	Richard Ross	2018	Meggen Morrow Baynes
1968-69	Theodore Lincoln	2019	Kathy Christensen
1970	William G. Hassel, Jr.	2020	Megan Hirschman
1971-72	Dr. Gerald O’Connor	2021	Mike Huntoon
1973-74	W. Bryce McGinnis	2022	Barb Foster
1975	Dr. Richard J. Gross	2023	Heather Dunigan Coe
1976-77	W. Bryce McGinnis	2024	Rob Kirkpatrick
1978-79	A. Bruce Arbogast	2025	Chris Perniciaro
1980-81	Clinton Raines	2026	Kevin Cubitt
1982-83	Michael Havens		
1984	Douglas Cline		
1985-86	Susan Walton		
1987-88	Larry Limonoff		
1989	Jan Buhl		
1990	David Clinton		
1991	Susan Walton		
1992	Tim Christensen		
1993-94	Karen DeVlieger		
1995	Harold Howard		
1996	Mary Wilkins-Fenech		
1997	Ken Mumy		
1998-99	Leslie McAllister		

MQHA – MQHYA CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - TITLE, OBJECTS, LOCATION AND TERMS

SECTION 1 - TITLE

This Corporation shall be known as the Michigan Quarter Horse Association and shall at all times be operated and conducted as a non-profit corporation in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan providing for such organizations and by which it shall acquire all such rights as granted to corporations of this kind. The Michigan Quarter Horse Association shall have a division known as the Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association.

SECTION 2 - AFFILIATION

This Association shall be affiliated with the American Quarter Horse Association and shall conform to its policies.

SECTION 3 - OBJECTS

The Objects of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association shall be to:

- A. Promote in all ways the interest of Quarter Horse owners.
- B. Provide a vehicle whereby the necessary services can be supplied to persons interested in owning, breeding, training, showing and racing Quarter Horses.
- C. Encourage high ethical standards of sportsmanship and competition among all exhibitors.
- D. Provide a vehicle for the advancement of youth participation in Quarter Horse activities and in the governing of an association to provide and promote such activities.

SECTION 4 - PLACE OF BUSINESS

The principal office and place of business of this association shall be such a place as shall be designated by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5 - FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Association shall commence January 1st of each year and shall terminate December 31st of the same year.

SECTION 6 – MISSION

Michigan Quarter Horse Association will be the industry leader serving all horse enthusiasts in Michigan with diverse programs that promote the American Quarter Horse.

SECTION 7 - VISION

Michigan Quarter Horse Association will be the first point of contact as a resource for both our members and horse enthusiasts in the state by offering inclusive programs with integrity that provide beneficial services to all.

SECTION 8 – DISSOLUTION OF ASSOCIATION

All assets and real property will revert to the local government or another nonprofit organization should the organization dissolve.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERS

SECTION 1 - MEMBERSHIP

Members of the Association shall be admitted, retained and expelled in accordance with such rules and regulations as the Board of Directors may, from time to time, adopt. In all matters governed by the vote of the members, each member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote. Membership cards shall be issued and are non-transferable. All members shall abide by rules of the American Quarter Horse Association and rules of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association.

SECTION 2 - TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

The following memberships are available in this Association:

A. INDIVIDUAL - Any individual who has attained the age of 19 years by January 1st of a current fiscal year shall be eligible to join this Association as an individual member.

B. FARM, RANCH, CORPORATION OR PARTNERSHIP - Any farm, ranch, corporation or partnership as shown on the horse's registration papers shall be eligible to join the Association as a member. A farm, ranch, corporation or partnership is entitled to one vote only and no farm, ranch, corporation or partnership may hold office in this Association.

Co-ownership or joint ownership of a horse does not necessarily constitute a legal partnership. If both are individual and/or youth members, a separate partnership fee is not required. If one or all co-owners or joint owners are a farm, ranch, corporation or partnership, then an additional partnership is required.

C. INDIVIDUAL LIFE - Any individual who is eligible for an individual membership shall be eligible for a life membership. Such members shall enjoy all the benefits of an individual membership for the remainder of his/her life.

D. YOUTH - Any individual who has not attained the age of 19 years on or before January 1st of any fiscal year of the Association, shall be eligible to join the Association as a youth member. By so joining this Association, said individual will automatically become a member in the Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association, a division of this Association, and shall enjoy all the benefits of that division.

SECTION 3 - DEFINITION OF TERMS USED IN REGARD TO MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership in "good standing": Any individual Member, Farm, Ranch, Corporation or Partnership Member, Individual Life Member or Youth Member whose dues are received by the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of this Association except while suspended by AQHA and/or MQHA for cause, is membership in "good standing." A member in "good standing" is entitled to all the rights and privileges of this Association. Care should be taken to apply for membership in the proper manner, as outlined by the Board of Directors, for accrual of Michigan points and entry of a horse in the Michigan Quarter Horse Breeders' Futurity.

B. Membership in the Association is a privilege, not a right. Membership or application, therefore, may be

terminated or rejected by the Board of Directors for cause detrimental to the interests of the Association, its programs, policies, objectives, and harmonious relationship of its members as determined by the Board of Directors. If a member is suspended or denied privileges of the Association, failure to comply with these restrictions and any other expressed conditions or restrictions of said disciplinary action may constitute grounds for further disciplinary action.

C. General privileges and responsibilities of members and non-members are as follows:

1. While a member in "good standing", all members shall have equal rights, interests, and responsibilities with respect to the Association and its property; shall obey and be bound by all by-laws, rules, and regulations of the Association and decisions or actions of the Board of Directors; shall have the right to vote by personal attendance at membership meetings; and shall have the right to hold office and committee assignments: and shall have the right to participate in Association sponsored activities, except otherwise noted.

2. Non-members who participate in association approved activities, by such actions do thereby agree to be bound by all by-laws, rules and regulations of the Association and decisions and actions of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4 - DUES

A. Application for membership in MQHA or MQHYA can be found online at the current Michigan Quarter Horse website.

B. Membership dues shall be as follows:

1. \$45.00 Individual Adult
2. \$20.00 Legal spouse of individual member (12 months)
3. \$45.00 Farm, Ranch, Corporation, or Partnership (12 months)
4. \$250.00 Individual Life
5. \$30.00 Youth

C. The legal spouse of any individual member shall be entitled to become an individual member of this Association with the annual payment of \$20.00. Both the

spouse and the individual member will be entitled to enjoy the full benefits of this Association which accompanies an individual membership.

D. All correspondence received by the office of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association will be time/date stamped, and all memberships will be determined by this date stamp. Memberships will be taken by telephone only when charged to VISA/MASTER CARD, AMEX or DISCOVER, or by special action by the MQHA Board of Directors. The time/date stamp for membership will determine when Michigan show points begin accrual by the point secretary.

E. Membership of Michigan Quarter Horse Association will run for 12 months from the date received, indicated by the date stamp.

ARTICLE III - DIRECTORS

SECTION 1 - NUMBER OF DIRECTORS

Directors of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association shall number twelve (12).

Three (3) Officers of the Executive Committee shall serve for a one (1) year term in each of the three positions creating a three (3) year succession plan (President, Vice President, and Vice President Elect) with each person ascending to the next position over that three (3) year term. Each year a new Vice President Elect will be nominated from the current Board to fill the vacated Vice President Elect position. That individual will serve a three-year term on the Executive Committee regardless of their current term limit.

Director Terms

Up to four (4) Directors shall serve a three (3) year term. Any additional vacancies filled would be for a two (2) year term.

SECTION 2 - ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for election as a Director, an individual member must have attained the age of 19 by January 1st of the then current year. No member may run for a Directorship unless such individual is a member in "good standing". No more than one person from an immediate

family may run concurrently for or serve in the position of Director.

SECTION 3 - VACANCY

When a Director's vacancy occurs for any reason, a replacement will be made by the majority of the remaining Directors for the balance of the year. A new Director shall then be duly elected at the annual election meeting to serve for the balance of the term of the Director who is being replaced.

SECTION 4 - DUTIES

The Board of Directors shall be empowered to transact all the business of the Association and to report such business to the membership. Such decisions as are required must be by a quorum of the Board. A quorum shall consist of one (1) more than half of the current Board of Directors which includes at least two (2) officers from the executive committee, provided however, that National Directors present may vote at board meetings when necessary to make a quorum.

SECTION 5 - ABSENTEEISM

A Director who has had three (3) absences during the course of the calendar year will be replaced as outlined in Section 3 of this Article. Any MQHA business will not be counted as an absence. Every effort must be made to notify the Executive Secretary of an absence, no later than the morning of a scheduled meeting. A Director may appeal for an exception by submitting a letter to the Executive Committee.

SECTION 6 - AUTHORITY

The Board of Directors shall have the power and authority to make, amend, repeal, and enforce such rules and regulations, not contrary to law or the Certificate of Incorporation or these by-laws, as they may deem expedient concerning the conduct, management, and activities of the Association, the admission, classification, qualification, suspension, and expulsion of members, removal of officers, the rules and regulations governing the procedure of such suspension and expulsion and removal, the fixing and collecting of dues and fees, the

expenditure of money, the auditing of books and records, the making of awards, the conducting of shows, contests, exhibitions, sales, and social functions, and other details relating to the general purposes of the Association, all, however, subject to revision or amendment by the members at any regular or special meeting of the members, provided written notice of intention by any member to move the revision or specified amendment of any rule or regulation shall have been mailed to all members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

SECTION 7 - ADVISORY BOARD

An ad-hoc Advisory Board to the Michigan Quarter Horse Association Board of Directors will consist of all past-Presidents.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND DUTIES

SECTION 1 - ELIGIBILITY

Only individual members who have attained the age of 19 years during the then current year, who are members in "good standing" and who are residents of the State of Michigan may hold office with the exception of an out of state youth who has a hardship on file from the prior and the current year. These youth will be allowed to run for an officer position within the youth association.

SECTION 2 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the Association will consist of the President, Vice-President, Vice President Elect, Finance Director and the Treasurer. If needed, another qualified individual, as determined by the sitting President; (i.e. an attorney or CPA, whose input might be needed to make an informed decision can be requested.

The Executive Committee is a decision-making think tank that can be called upon between board meetings, by the President of the Board. The main purpose of the Executive Committee is to decide on any issues that should not and just cannot wait for a full board discussion; under such circumstances the Executive Committee can be convened and can vote. All members of the Executive Committee will be allowed to vote on Executive Committee issues with the exception of items

that may be deemed a conflict of interest. Actions taken by the Executive Committee will be discussed with the Board by the President at the next board meeting following the vote of the Executive Committee on any given issue.

SECTION 3 - PRESIDENT

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Association. The written contracts of the Association shall be executed on behalf of the Association by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors. The President shall see that the Constitution and by-laws, rules and regulations of the Association are enforced and shall perform all other duties that may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors. The President may from time to time create and empower other committees, general or special, and he/she shall be ex-officio member of all committees.

SECTION 4 - VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer, either at regular or special Board meetings, or for Association business should a vacancy occur in the Presidency.

SECTION 5 – VICE PRESIDENT ELECT

The Vice President Elect shall perform the duties of the Vice President in the absence of the Officer either at regular or special board meetings; of for the Association business should a vacancy occur in the Vice Presidency.

After one year as Vice President Elect, that elected official will then ascend to Vice President the following year and President the third year.

When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Vice President Elect, the position will remain vacant for the remainder of the term.

SECTION 6 - EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/ TREASURER

The Executive Secretary/Treasurer shall be appointed and removed by the President with the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors. The Executive

Secretary/Treasurer shall conduct the Association business as directed by the President and Board of Directors. All paid employees of MQHA shall report directly to the Executive Secretary.

The Executive Secretary is ex-officio member of all committees and would act on that committee as directed by the President when the committee fails to carry out its prescribed function. The Executive Secretary shall keep all records of the Association in the central office.

SECTION 7 - OFFICERS OR EMPLOYEES

For cause, any of the officers or employees may be removed from office by a two-third (2/3) vote of Directors.

SECTION 8 - SURETY BONDS

All officers and employees of the Association who may have the handling of any funds of the Association shall secure a surety bond to be furnished at the expense of the Association.

SECTION 9 - AUDITING OF ACCOUNTS

Every year the accountant and the finance committee shall conduct an informal review of the books of the Association. Every third year a review shall be made by a Certified Public Accountant of all accounts of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Futurity Secretary-Treasurer and all other officers or members of the Association who may have the handling of any funds of the Association, in accordance with the review policies of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

ARTICLE V - GENERAL ELECTIONS

SECTION 1 - NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A nominating committee will consist of members in "good standing" that are not presently on the Board of Directors. Committee Members will be appointed by the Director assigned to oversee the Committee with the approval of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2 - BALLOTS

General election ballots will be offered to the adult membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting to all members in "good standing."

After marking their ballots, members will return them by a means designated by the MQHA. Ballots will be accepted by the MQHA office until seven (7) days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting. The results of the election will be announced to the membership at the Annual Membership Meeting and the term of office of those Directors so elected shall begin with the announcement of "election results" at the Annual Membership Meeting.

SECTION 3- INSTALLMENT OF THE PRESIDENT

The Vice President will be installed as President at the Annual membership meeting.

SECTION 4 -INSTALLMENT OF VICE-PRESIDENT

The Vice-President Elect will be installed as Vice President after the current Vice President is installed as President at the Annual membership meeting.

SECTION 5- INSTALLMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT ELECT

Any director who intends to run for the office of Vice President Elect, must submit a letter of intent to be included on the ballot by the September Board Meeting preceding elections. Candidates must have served on the board for two years. The election process will take place annually at the November meeting by ballot and tallied by the President and the Executive Secretary. The chosen Vice President Elect term will be extended through their Presidency.

SECTION 6 - PROXY VOTES

In all elections of the Association, the majority will rule. No proxy votes are permitted.

ARTICLE VI - GENERAL AND SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS

SECTION 1 - ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

An Annual Membership Meeting will be held in the month of December of the current fiscal year (or in January or February of the following year). The time and place of this meeting will be determined by the Board of Directors at least sixty (60) days prior to the meeting.

SECTION 2 - SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings of the membership may be held at any time, on the call of the President, the Board of Directors, or by notice signed by not less than ten (10) percent of the members of the Association.

SECTION 3 - BOARD MEETINGS

The President may call a Board meeting at any time or shall call a Board meeting on request of four (4) or more Board members. All Board of Directors meetings shall be open to the membership except those specifically designated as Executive Session by the President. All Board meetings are closed to non-members, except by invitation of the President, with the exception of those appointed to liaison positions by the President with the approval of the Directors. Certain board meetings may be held by conference calls or electronic media.

Any MQHA member wishing to speak on an issue during a MQHA Board Meeting must request that during Approval of the Agenda to be placed on the agenda.

SECTION 4 - NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Notice of all meetings and agendas shall be transmitted to all concerned (unless there is an emergency) at least one (1) week in advance. Phone conference meetings will have a call number posted on the MQHA website or electronic instructions.

SECTION 5 - ORDER OF BUSINESS

Regular Meetings - The order of business at regular meetings shall be as follows:

- Roll Call of Officers and Directors
- Approval of Agenda

- Reading and approval of minutes of previous meetings and board meetings
- Financial reports
- Other reports
- Unfinished business
- New business
- Adjournment

Annual Membership Meeting - The order of business at the Annual Membership Meeting will also include:

- Announcement of election results
- Installation of President, Vice President, Vice President Elect, and Directors.

ARTICLE VII - SUSPENSION AND DENIALS

Any member may be suspended and denied privileges of the Association and any non-member may be denied the privileges of the Association by the Board of Directors of the Association for the failure to pay when due any obligation owing to the Association, or for giving a worthless check for Futurity fees, entry fees, stall fees, office charges, stock charges or any other fees or charges connected with the exhibition of horses, provided, however, that fifteen (15) days before action by the Board of Directors, written notice of the account due and the intention to suspend or withhold privileges of the Association shall be delivered to such member or non-member. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the member or non-member at his/her address as it appears on the records of the Association with the postage thereon prepaid. Any suspension and denial of privileges under this section shall terminate upon full payment of the obligation due.

Any member of this Association who is suspended for any cause by the American Quarter Horse Association shall automatically be suspended from this Association upon receipt of notice thereof.

ARTICLE VIII - BOARD OF REVIEW

SECTION 1 - COMPOSITION

There is hereby created a Board of Review consisting of the MQHA President, a Past President, a National Director from the State of Michigan, an official of AQHA or a Michigan Professional Horseman and a MQHA member in good standing subject to no potential conflict of interest. The members of the Board of Review, excluding the President, may not have an active position on the current board. MQHA General Counsel will serve as an Ex Officio member of this committee. The Board of Directors shall appoint these individuals at the annual membership meeting, and they will serve until their successors are appointed.

SECTION 2 - DUTIES

The Board of Review shall act as a panel of arbitrators and rule on all complaints and disciplinary matters brought before them by any member of the Association. The complainant or respondent agrees to abide by such rulings and penalties as may be directed by said Board of Review.

SECTION 3 - APPEAL

A member of the association may appeal against any ruling of the Board of Directors' to the Board of Review. The appeal must include all pertinent facts, signed by the appellant, sent in writing to the MQ office, and be postmarked no later than fifteen (15) days after the Board of Directors' Decision.

SECTION 4 – THE REVIEW

The review will be scheduled within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the appeal. The review will be conducted by a recorded conference call or meeting that includes the appointees, a representative from the Board of Directors, the complainant or respondent. Witnesses may be added to the conference call or meeting for specific testimony by either side.

SECTION 5 – THE DECISION

The Board of Review will have five (5) days after the above hearing to render a written decision. The decision of the Board of Review will be final in all cases.

SECTION 6 - FEE

A non-refundable fee of one hundred fifty (\$150) dollars must accompany the request to appear before the Board of Review.

ARTICLE IX - MQHA STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SECTION 1

The MQHA shall by appointment of the Vice President and approval of the Board of Directors, select current Board members to be responsible for the functioning of individual committees of the Association.

SECTION 2 - COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

The designated Board member will select a Committee Chairman from the membership with the approval of the Vice-President and the Board of Directors.

Committee Chairmen will select committee members from the Association membership in numbers required, and as balanced geographically as possible for the committee to function effectively. Committee chairmen will call and conduct meetings of their committees a minimum of twice a year, or whenever there is business to transact.

SECTION 3 - COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee members will attend meetings and participate in the business and functions of the committee.

SECTION 4 - COMMITTEE FUNCTION

All committees will report to the Board of Directors through their Committee Chairman of their designated Director. All committee recommendations are subject to approval of the Board of Directors, and/or the general membership if required by Constitutional provisions. All committees make up an integral division of the

Association and as such are a part of the MQHA. Funds generated and funds expended by committee action are subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5 - LISTING OF COMMITTEES

The following committees are those presently functioning. Additions or deletions may be made as required by the Vice-President with approval of the Board of Directors.

1. MQHA Breeder's Futurity Committee
2. MQHA Journal Committee
3. MQHA Stallion Service Sale Committee
4. MQHA Membership Committee
5. MQHA Nominations and Election Committee
6. MQHA Constitution Revision & Rules Committee
7. MQHA Show Approval Committee
8. MQHA Queen Committee
9. MQHA Shows Committee (divided by show)
10. MQHA Awards Committee
11. MQHA Finance Committee
12. MQHA Convention Committee
13. Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association
14. Amateur Committee

Liaison advisory positions may be created at any time by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors. Individuals holding liaison positions shall be invited to all Board meetings however, they will have no voting rights, duties and/or authority of the regular directors.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

The Articles of this Constitution of this Association, with the exception of Article XII which requires MQHA Board approval only, may be amended at the Annual Membership Meeting, or a special meeting if the membership has been notified by ordinary mail of such proposed amendment at least thirty (30) days prior to said meeting. While not mandatory, an "intent" description clause or exact verbiage of the proposed amendment is desirable in the notification.

ARTICLE XI - MICHIGAN QUARTER HORSE BREEDERS' FUTURITY

SECTION 1

The Michigan Quarter Horse Breeders' Futurity is a division of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association. Rules and regulations of the Futurity are governed by the MQHA Board of Directors.

SECTION 2 - MONIES RECEIVED

All monies received will be part of the MQHA and recorded separately on the MQHA budget. The MQHBF will designate, via a budget process, annual income and expenses from funds generated by the Michigan Quarter Horse Breeders' Futurity.

ARTICLE XII - MICHIGAN QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

SECTION 1

This organization shall be a division of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association, shall operate within the scope of the by-laws, rules and regulations of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association, (and is herewith sometimes referred to as the "Youth Association" or MQHYA).

SECTION 2 - OBJECTIVES

This Youth Association shall have as its principal objective:

A. Development of leadership, initiative, self-reliance, sportsmanship, and other desirable traits of character.

B. To promote pride of ownership of registered Quarter Horses among boys and girls.

C. Safety in the care and handling of horses with regard for the welfare of others.

D. The teaching and learning of horsemanship, both care and handling of horses, and participation of the above.

E. To improve and develop the capabilities of young people individually through group participation and to encourage high moral character, sportsmanship and clean living among its members.

F. To be of service to the Michigan Quarter Horse Association.

SECTION 3 - MEMBERSHIP

A. Members of this Youth Association shall consist of, and be limited to, those members of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association who have not attained the age of nineteen (19) years by January 1st of the then current year. Initial membership of Youth should be accompanied by a birth certificate to establish birth date for eligibility to accumulate show points in the correct age brackets. Youth who are not residents of the State of Michigan may join the Association and enjoy all the benefits, except that they may not participate in Youth Team events or in any other activities expressly denied by MQHA, or the MQHYA Constitution and/or rules without the appropriate AQHA Hardship on file.

B. Members of the Youth Association shall be admitted, retained, and expelled in accordance with such rules and regulations as the Youth Association Board of Directors may, from time to time, adopt. In all matters governed by the vote of members, each member in "good standing" shall be entitled to one (1) vote. Membership cards shall be issued and are non-transferable. All members should abide by the rules of the American Quarter Horse Association and the rules of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association.

C. A member in "good standing of this Youth Association" shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges for this Youth Association which include the rights and privileges attributed to a member of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association except that a member of this Youth Association shall not:

1. Be eligible to serve as a Director or as an Officer of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association.

2. Be eligible to vote on financial matters relating to the Michigan Quarter Horse Association.

SECTION 4 - DEFINITION OF TERMS USED IN REGARD TO MEMBERSHIP

Membership in "good standing": Any individual whose dues are received by the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association except while suspended by AQHA, MQHA, AQHYA and/or MQHYA for cause.

SECTION 5 - DIRECTORS

A. This Youth Association shall elect from among its then membership in "good standing" a minimum of twelve (12) Directors whenever possible, and a maximum of fifteen (15). A quorum shall consist of seven (7).

B. Directors: Directors of the Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association shall number up to fifteen (15). They shall be elected annually by those members in "good standing" and shall serve for a period of one (1) year.

C. Vacancy: Where a Director vacancy occurs for any reason, a replacement will be made for the balance of the year.

D. Duties: The Board of Directors shall be empowered to transact all business of the Association and to report such business to the membership. Such decisions as are required must be by a quorum of the Board. All Directors are expected to volunteer at MQHA sponsored shows and events. Directors are expected to participate on committees and have a report at each Board meeting.

E. Absenteeism: A Director who has had three (3) absences during the course of the calendar year will be replaced as outlined in Section 5-C of this Article. Any MQHYA business will not be counted as an absence. Every effort must be made to notify the President or Secretary of the MQHYA Board, no later than the morning of a scheduled meeting. A Director may appeal for an exception by submitting a letter to MQHA's Executive Committee. Officers who miss two (2) consecutive meetings will be removed from their position. This may only be appealed to the MQHA Executive Committee.

F. Advisory Position: There is hereby created an Advisory position to the President and the Board of Directors, to be filled by the immediate Past-President.

SECTION 6 - OFFICERS AND DUTIES

A. Eligibility: Only members in "good standing" residing in Michigan may hold office. An out-of-state youth may be considered for the Board under the following conditions:

1. Must have been a MQHYA member for at least three (3) years and
2. Must complete an AQHA hardship form that has been approved by the MQHA Youth Advisor which has been cleared by the MQHA Board

B. Officers: The Officers of the Youth Association shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Reporter, all of which shall be first nominated and elected to the current Board of Directors. A person may only hold one office at a time. To be eligible for an officer position, a Youth must have served on the MQHYA Board the previous year.

C. President: The President shall be the Chief Executive officer of the Youth Association. The President shall see that the rules and regulations of the Youth Association are enforced and shall serve on the MQHA Board of Directors as a Special Guest and is expected to give a report at no fewer than two (2) meetings. The President may from time to time create and empower other committees, general or special, and he/she shall be the ex-officio member of all committees.

The President shall submit to the members annually at their meetings a report of the status of the Youth Association and its activities during the preceding year.

Vacancy: When a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, the Vice-President shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the year.

Ineligible for Directorship: Should it occur for any reason that the President, while remaining a member in "good standing" and a resident of Michigan, becomes ineligible for Directorship, such officer, even though losing his/her Directorship, shall retain the Presidency for the remainder of the year.

D. Vice-President: The Vice-President shall assist the President and, in addition, shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer, either at

regular, special or board meetings or for the Youth Association business should a vacancy occur in the Presidency.

Vacancy: When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Vice-President, another member of the Board of Directors shall be selected and appointed by the remaining Directors to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the year.

Ineligible for Directorship: Should it occur for any reason that the Vice-President, while remaining a member in "good-standing" and a resident of Michigan, becomes ineligible for Directorship, such officer even though losing his/her Directorship, shall retain the Vice-Presidency for the remainder of the year.

E. Secretary: The Secretary shall conduct the Youth Association business as directed by the President and the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the members and the Board of Directors. Shall record or cause to be recorded all votes taken and the minutes of all proceedings in a minute book of the Youth Association kept for that purpose. In addition, he/she shall perform like duties for all committees when requested to do so.

Vacancy: When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Secretary, another member of the Board of Directors shall be selected and appointed by the remaining Directors to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the year.

Ineligibility for Directorship: Should it occur for any reason that the Secretary, while remaining a member in "good standing" and a resident of Michigan, becomes ineligible for Directorship, such officer, even though losing his/her Directorship, shall retain the position of secretary for the remainder of the year.

F. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall conduct the Youth Association business as directed by the President and the Board of Directors and shall keep an up-to-date roster of the current membership. The MQHYA Treasurer shall submit a copy of all financial transactions of MQHYA.

Vacancy: When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Treasurer, another member of the Board of Directors shall be selected and appointed by the remaining Directors to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the year.

Ineligibility for Directorship: Should it occur for any reason that the Treasurer, while remaining a member in

"good standing" and a resident of Michigan, becomes ineligible for Directorship, such officer, even though losing his/her Directorship, shall retain the position of treasurer for the remainder of the year.

G. Monies Received: All monies received will be part of the MQHA and recorded separately on the MQHA budget. The MQHYA will designate, via a budget process, annual income and expenses from funds generated by the Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association.

H. Reporter: The duties of the Reporter shall be to report all activities as well as other special interest items to the Michigan Quarter Horse office and any other Association's news or magazines as deemed appropriate.

I. Removal of an Officer or Officers: For cause, any of the officers may be removed from the office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board of Directors.

SECTION 7 - GENERAL ELECTION

A. Nominating Committee: A nominating committee consisting of members in "good standing", not presently on the Youth Board of Directors, will be appointed by the Youth President, with the approval of the Youth Board of Directors. Such a committee must be appointed by August 1st. The Chairman of this committee is not eligible for nomination to the Ballot. The nominations shall be submitted to the MQHYA secretary and the MQHA Executive Secretary prior to the November meeting.

In the event the nominating committee is unable to secure the required nominees, the Chairman should so certify in writing to the Secretary; Youth Association's Board of Directors responsibility to appoint from its membership the required number of additional Directors to fill their Board.

B. Ballots: Ballots will be offered to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting to all members in "good standing".

After marking their ballots, members will return them by a means designated by the MQHA. Ballots will be accepted by the MQHA office until seven (7) days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting. The results of the election will be announced to the membership at the

Annual Membership Meeting and the term of office of those Directors so elected shall begin with the announcement of "election results" at the Annual Membership Meeting.

C. Election of the President: The President shall be nominated from the current sitting Board of Directors (i.e. 2018 President nominated by the 2017 Board) and elected by the Membership present at the Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association Annual Membership Meeting. The President shall serve until replaced at the next Annual Membership Meeting of the next succeeding year. No person shall serve as President more than two (2) successive years. Any President replaced at an Annual Membership Meeting shall continue to be the presiding, but non-voting officer of such Annual Membership Meeting until adjournment.

D. Election of the Vice-President: The Vice-President shall be nominated from the current sitting Board of Directors and elected by the Membership present at the Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association Annual Membership Meeting.

E. Election of Secretary: The Secretary shall be nominated from the current sitting Board of Directors and elected by the Membership present at the Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association Annual Membership Meeting.

F. Election of the Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be nominated from the current sitting Board of Directors and elected by the Membership present at the Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association Annual Membership Meeting.

G. Election of the Reporter: The Reporter shall be nominated from the new Board of Directors and elected by the Membership present at the Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association Annual Membership Meeting.

H. Proxy Vote: In all elections of the Youth Association, the majority will rule. No proxy votes permitted.

SECTION 8 - GENERAL AND SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS

A. Annual Membership Meeting: An Annual Membership Meeting will be held in the month of December of the current fiscal year (or in January or February of the following year). The time and place of this meeting will be determined by the Board of Directors at least sixty (60) days prior to the meeting.

B. Special Meetings: Special Meetings of the membership may be held at any time on the call of the President, the Board of Directors, or by notice signed by no less than ten (10) percent of the members of the Youth Association.

C. Board Meetings: The President may call a Board Meeting at any time or shall call a Board Meeting on the request of four or more Board members. Board of Director's meetings shall be open to the membership except those specifically designated as Executive Session by the President. All Board meetings are closed to non-Members, except advisors, or by invitation of the President.

D. Order of Business:

Regular Meetings - The order of business at regular meetings shall be as follows:

- Roll Call of Officers
- Read and approval of minutes of previous meetings and board meetings
- Financial reports
- Other Reports
- Unfinished Business
- New business
- Adjournment

Annual Membership Meeting - The order of business at the Annual Membership Meeting shall also include:

- Announcement of election results and installation of new Directors
- Election of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Reporter
- Election of Advisors

SECTION 9 - NUMBER OF ADVISORS

There shall be a group of at least three (3) adult advisors:

A. Two (2) elected at the annual meeting by the current Board of Directors of the Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association.

B. One (1) advisor is to be appointed by the Michigan Quarter Horse Association from their Board of Directors who is responsible for Youth Activities.

SECTION 10 - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The advisors shall offer assistance when necessary or when called upon by the President or the Board of Directors.

B. An adult advisor shall be assigned by the Board to work with each officer.

C. Vacancy: Where an MQHYA Advisor's vacancy occurs for any reason, an MQHA approved replacement will be made by the majority of the Youth Association Board of Directors for the balance of the year.

SECTION 11 - AMENDMENTS

The By-Laws of Article XII under which the Youth Association operate may be amended with MQHA Board approval only.

SECTION 12 – YOUTH EXCELLENCE SEMINAR

Delegate positions will be offered for the Youth Excellence Seminar (YES) in the following order:

- 1) A MQHYA Past President
- 2) The current MQHYA President
- 3) The MQHYA Vice President
- 4) Any Youth Director based on age with oldest given priority

In the event that MQHYA has a candidate for national office, declaration must be made to the Youth Advisor no later than February 25.

SECTION 13 - DEFINITIONS

Association: Michigan Quarter Horse Association

Youth Association: Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association

APPENDIX: *This appendix is not intended to be a formal part of the Constitution. This appendix is intended as an organizational aid, a definition of term and a series of job descriptions. It may be changed, updated, and so forth, by the President, or by the Board actions required to meet the operational needs of this Association.*

MQHA ORGANIZATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND JOB-CHART DEFINITIONS

1. PAST PRESIDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

- A. Advisory to the President only. No policy making powers.
- B. Made up of all Past Presidents - the immediate Past President is automatically Chairman.

2. PRESIDENT:

According to the MQHA Constitution Article IV, Section 3, the President shall be Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Association. The written contracts of the association shall be executed on behalf of the association by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors.

The President shall see that the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Association are enforced and shall perform all other duties that may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

The President may from time to time create and empower other committees, general or special, and he/she shall be ex officio member of all committees.

3. ROLE DESCRIPTION OF PRESIDENT:

- A. Accept responsibility and accountability for operation of MQHA.
- B. Establish MQHA objectives for his/her term in office.
- C. Approve Vice-President's recommendations for Director and committee assignments as per organizational chart.
- D. Emphasize Director responsibility as per organizational chart.

E. Set examples for meeting attendance and punctuality.

F. Appoint Ad Hoc Committee as needed.

G. File report of MQHA accomplishments at end of term for MQHA archives.

4. VICE PRESIDENT:

According to the MQHA Constitution Article IV, Section 4, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer, either at regular or special Board meetings or for Association business should a vacancy occur in the Presidency.

5. ROLE DESCRIPTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT:

A. Accept responsibility and accountability for the effective functioning of Directors and committees under his/her direction.

B. Approve Directors recommendations for Chairman and committee members' assignments as per organizational chart and submit to President as necessary for good performance.

C. Set example for meeting attendance and punctuality.

D. Call special meetings as necessary for good performance.

6. ROLE DESCRIPTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT ELECT:

A. Take an active position in all aspects of Board function

B. Shall become a co-chair on the finance committee and actively pursue understanding of the financial statements as well as the financial process.

C. Shall become a voting member of the Executive Committee.

D. Set example for meeting attendance and punctuality.

7. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TREASURER:

A. Execute all matters of policy made by Board of Directors.

- B. Handle all incoming and outgoing correspondence including all necessary reports to various organizations and agencies requiring MQHA reports.
- C. Maintain membership records.
- D. Collect dues and special assessments.
- E. Pay authorized bills.
- F. Publish Board of Directors meeting minutes.
- G. Have financial reports at each regular Board Meeting.
- H. Refer members to proper committee to handle any problems dealing with their area of involvement.
- I. Cooperate with MQHYA Secretary and Treasurer.
- J. Bookkeeping.
- K. File Federal and State Tax
- L. Do all the mailings.

8. DIRECTORS

- A. Accept responsibility and accountability for the performance of committees under their direction.
- B. Appoint committee chairman and members as per organizational chart with approval of Vice-President.
- C. Set example for meeting attendance and punctuality.
- D. Call special meetings as necessary for good performance.
- E. Make it his/her business to know what his/her constituency wants and represent them as such.
- F. Voluntarily submit his resignation if circumstance dictates that he/she cannot fulfill the Director responsibilities.

9. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN - Generally pertaining to all chairmen

- A. Accept responsibility and accountability for committee under his/her direction.
- B. Plan and lay out framework the committee will function within.
- C. Have any questions dealing with MQHA policy or monies approved by Board of Directors.
- D. Make reports to Board of Directors as necessary and at least one report quarterly. When possible, the report is to be sent to the MQHA office neatly

composed, to be sent out via email prior to the Board Meeting.

E. Make requests for funding to Finance Committee by November 1st of business year to be included in the budget.

10. JOB DESCRIPTION WEBSITE MAINTENANCE & SOCIAL MEDIA - The MQHA office staff is responsible for the following duties.

A. To process advertising requests and ensure advertising is placed on the website in a timely manner.

B. To cooperate with MQHA committees in providing promotional coverage to the general membership for special events.

C. To prepare a monthly statement of income and expenses for the Board and committee chairperson and to work with committee chairperson in preparing a projected budget at the end of the fiscal year.

D. To compile feature articles and spotlights to report on Association shows, MQHA Queen Contest, MQHA Futurity and the MQHA Annual Convention and other sponsored events.

E. Invoice advertising fees monthly, as well as report delinquent accounts to the Board.

11. POINT SECRETARY:

A. Work under Show Approval Committee

B. Record and publish all MQHA points.

12. FUTURITY SECRETARY:

A. Formulate policy and practice with Futurity Committee and so execute.

B. Type, print and distribute all entry forms as scheduled in MQHBF rules.

C. Determine eligibility of nominated sale entry.

D. Prior to Futurity Show:

1. Figure premiums.

2. Order in plenty of time, ribbons and trophies.

3. Obtain insurance.

4. Make reservation for show venue.

E. Manage or obtain a show manager/secretary, handling all necessary procedures such as:

1. Stall assignments.
 2. Assign exhibitor numbers.
 3. Pay judges and ringmasters.
- F. Post Futurity Show:
1. Correlate show results.
 2. Turn in futurity results in printable form as per journal requirements.
 3. Prepare and distribute Futurity premium checks

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEES:

13. GENERAL RULES:

- A. After any committee has formulated policy and practice, these must be presented to the Board of Directors for approval.
- B. Committees must have a minimum of two (2) meetings per year.
 1. Organizational meeting - first (1st) month of business year, or when appointed.
 2. Meeting last month of business year to review accomplishments and unfinished business.
- C. Committee Chairman must see to it that the Board of Directors have at least one (1) report from committee each quarter (can be done through Director in whose area committee functions), as per organizational chart.
- D. Must have approval of Board to spend over \$500.00

14. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

- A. Formulate policy and practice in cooperation with Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

15. NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE:

- A. Attempt to secure nominations by July 1st.
- B. Printing candidates' pictures and resumes.
- C. That each candidate has such leadership qualities that he/she should be able to be considered for an officer position.
- D. Shall secure a nominee (s) for each Board member to be elected. The nominations shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary by the November Board Meeting. Nominations shall be accepted by any Director or member in good standing at the November

Board meeting. Nominees will not be accepted after that date except to fill a vacancy where no candidate is running.

16. FUTURITY COMMITTEE:

Formulate policy and practice with the MQHA office and/or MQHA Show Management

Areas of consideration:

A. Planning of Futurity.

1. Hiring show personnel (Judges, ringmasters, announcers, etc.)
2. Choosing show site and date.
3. Supply proper manpower for show.
4. Select appropriate awards other than monies to be given at the Futurity.

17. SHOW APPROVAL COMMITTEE:

Formulate policy and practice with Point Secretary.

Areas of consideration:

A. Show approval meetings – the committee must meet at least one (1) time per year with attendance by a show representative being mandatory as a prerequisite for approval.

B. Expansion of show listing on website calendar of events, including show name, show secretary and/or manager name, and other contact information.

18. YOUTH ADVISORS:

To be elected by Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association from a list approved by MQ Board of Directors. To advise on policy and practice or MQHYA. To be liaison between Michigan Quarter Horse Association and Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association.

19. MQ SHOW COMMITTEE:

Formulate policy and practice with Executive Secretary-Treasurer, manage and produce Annual MQ Shows. This committee is sub-divided to include all MQHA owned shows.

- A. Sponsors.
- B. Ribbons and Trophies.
- C. Judge, Ringmaster, Gate, Announcer, Stall and Camping
- D. Printing of Programs.
- E. Anything else dealing with the show.

20. FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Formulate policy and practice.

- A. Draw up budget for operating funds.
- B. Draw up budget for project funds.
- C. Know the MQHA status with U.S. IRS and the State of Michigan

21. STALLION SERVICE SALE AND FUTURITY COMMITTEES:

Formulate policy and practice. Areas of consideration.

- A. Stallion Service Sale.
- B. Stallion Service Futurity. Work in cooperation with Convention Committee and MQHA Futurity Committee.

22. YEAR END AWARDS COMMITTEE:

Formulate policy and practice.

- A. Manage any awards given in the name of MQHA at Convention.
- B. Do the planning, ordering, and purchasing of any awards presented by MQHA.
- C. Work in cooperation with MQHA Convention Committee to organize procedure and format for presentations.
- D. Awards Committee will manage all year end awards and any of the special awards needed for Sportsperson of the Year, Member of the Year, etc.
- E. Consider outstanding or meritorious service awards to people inside or outside MQHA who have done separate and distinct service to or for MQHA above and beyond that usually expected of people.

23. MQHA CONVENTION:

Formulate policy and practice.

A. Manage the yearly MQHA Convention

1. Site and Date
2. Menu
3. Speakers
4. Band or Entertainment
5. Any other function reasonably classified in this area.

2026 RULE BOOK

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 western and/or hus longe line in open and/or non pro. The horse should be judged by 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.

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 associations 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 qualified 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 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 for the Futurity will be the total amount of money paid in entry fees less 25%.
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 using a tie-breaker judge. All tied first place winners will receive first place ribbons.

B. In the event there is a tie for any place 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 using 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

2026 Payback Amounts SSS - 2 Year Old Only

# Entries	1	2-3	4-6	7-10
	\$2000	\$2000	\$1500	\$1250
		\$1500	\$1200	\$1000
			\$ 800	\$ 750
				\$ 500

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 place.

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 show management.

D. The Futurity Committee follows all NSBA and 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 or 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 shown 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.

C. 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: 30% to weanling fillies (mare owners and stallion owners), 30% 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 hunter under saddle longe line, 5% to the stallion/mare owner 2-year-old western pleasure,

9% to the stallion/mare owner 3 year old hunter under saddle and 9% 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.

B. Classes with fewer than 5 entries may be run concurrently and awarded by mare owner and stallion owner division.

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

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

2. 32 or fewer entries pays to (6) places - 30%, 24%, 18%, 12%, 9% and 7%.

3. Five (5) showing pays – 31%, 25%, 19%, 14% and 11%.

4. Four (4) showing – 33%, 28%, 24% and 15%.

D. The yearling longe line, the 2-year-old and the three-year-old Stallion Service Sale classes will follow the payback charts.

E. 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).

F. 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 with the classes from the same sale year. Any adjustment must be approved by the MQHA Board of Directors.

G. If there is any money remaining because of the established 2-year-old structured payback (see payback chart), it will be moved to the 3-year-old western pleasure payback in the same 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 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. Retainment 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's 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.

C. The Stallion Service Sale Two-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. The 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 of 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 \$35

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 2024 Sale, 2025 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.

SECTION 3 - MQHA SHOW/SPECIAL EVENT APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS

(MQHA Show/Special Event will hereafter be referred to as S/SE)

AQHA rules will govern all matters concerning the registration and showing of horses. Please refer to the AQHA rulebook for appropriate rules.

27. S/SE Approval, Probations, Violations

A. Obtaining MQHA S/SE Approval:

1. A group must first be an approved sponsor of an AQHA S/SE.

2. Prior to March 1, the S/SE manager, secretary or a pre-approved representative must agree to a Show Approval phone conference or zoom meeting with someone from the MQHA staff to review the requirements of maintaining MQHA approval for an event.

3. The S/SE manager and S/SE secretary must be current members of MQHA.

4. No new S/SE will be granted MQHA approval if a MQHA S/SE already exists on the requested date. The S/SE that has MQHA approval has precedence over the new requesting S/SE. Exception: A restricted special event may be allowed by the show approval committee if there are no event conflicts.

5. Failure to meet requirements may result in probation or possible suspension at the discretion of the show approval committee.

B. When a show is put on probation for violation of a rule or regulation, they will be notified in writing of the probation with only a warning to correct the situation for the first year, the second year of probation will result in a fine of \$250, the third year will be \$300, fourth year will be \$450; for each year after an additional fee of \$150 will be added. This fee will be for a repeat violation of the same offense.

28. Required Forms, Information & Fees to be Submitted to MQHA

A. By the annual Show Approval **phone/zoom call**:

- Completed MQHA Horse S/SE Application.
- **A rough draft** of proposed showbill. The show bill should include the following:

1. Date(s) of show(s).

2. Listing of proposed class order with appropriate AQHA class code including MQHA Class Codes if offering MQHA Small Fry / Lead Line Classes.

Please use these codes:

- (900) Small Fry Halter
- (901) Small Fry Showmanship
- (902) Small Fry Western Pleasure
- (903) Small Fry Horsemanship
- (904) Small Fry Trail
- (905) Small Fry HUS
- (906) Small Fry Equitation
- (910) MQHA Lead Line
- (911) MQHA Intermediate Lead Line
- (202) Adult Walk Trot Western Pleasure
- (402) Youth Walk Trot Western Pleasure
- (203) Adult Walk Trot Horsemanship
- (403) Youth Walk Trot Horsemanship
- (205) Adult Walk Trot HUS
- (405) Youth Walk Trot HUS
- (206) Adult Walk Trot Equitation
- (407) Youth Walk Trot Equitation

3. Lodging - area motels/hotels with phone numbers.

4. Fees:

a. Entry fees

b. Stall fees

c. MQHA charge of \$1.00 per horse per S/SE

d. AQHA Processing Fee per current AQHA rules.

5. Showbill must contain name, address and phone number of an exhibitor contact.

6. S/SE approvals - list each association for which approval has been granted. Designate after each class if the class is approved by other than AQHA for example, show NSBA or NRHA for classes holding such approval.

B. The names of all judges hired must be emailed to the MQHA Office each year. All changes in judges must be reported to the MQHA office immediately upon your knowledge of need for a change in judges.

C. Prior to April 15

- Proposed showbill.

- MQHA Show Approval Application

D. Prior to 90 Days of your S/SE:

- Judges hired if not already provided

- Check for the appropriate fees payable to MQHA

- Approval fee for existing shows will be \$200 per show

- Approval fee for new shows will be \$250 per show

- Approval fee for shows on probation will be \$200 per show day plus \$250 penalty fee per show.

- Approval fee for special events will be \$100 per approved special event.

- Approval fee for an all-novice show will be \$100.

E. Prior to 30 Days of your S/SE:

- Certificate of Liability Insurance, naming MQHA as an additional insured. Policy must be at least \$1,000,000.

F. Within Ten (10) Days after the completion of circuit:

- Complete set of results including Grand and Reserve – if sending electronically using Horse Shows for Windows program, this would be the (.TXT files)

- If classes are combined in a manner different than what is stated on the showbill, show management

MUST notify the MQHA office when the results are submitted.

- Small Fry & Lead Line results (if applicable & not included in the electronic format)
- PDF Files of the class results, showing how many in the class and results under each judge
- MQHA Membership Forms with payment
- \$1.00 per horse per day fee, with proof of the number of entries (back number list or roster) for each S/SE.

G. Following the completion of the circuit, any change(s) to the results received from AQHA must be forwarded to the MQHA Point Secretary at the MQHA office immediately upon receipt.

29. Lead-Line Horsemanship:

A. The maximum entry fee for these classes will be \$1.00.

B. Participants in lead line must be eight (8) years of age or younger as of January 1.

C. Participants must hold a current MQHYA membership in their name to qualify for year-end awards.

D. Participants are not required to own the horse that they exhibit.

E. All participants will be judged on horsemanship.

1. Participants in Lead Line will be assisted by a handler that must be 18 years of age or older.

2. Participants may also exhibit without a handler but must have a sidewalker at least 18 years old. The exhibitors will not be placed.

F. Proper attire is mandatory - either English or Western.

G. Participants in Lead Line will not be eligible for any approved AQHA class.

H. All participants in the Lead Line who compete at a minimum of three circuits will receive a like year end award with no designation of year end standing. Only one year-end award will be given to each participant.

30. Small Fry Division:

A. Participants in Small Fry must be nine (9) years of age or younger as of January 1.

B. Gaits in all classes in the Small Fry Division are limited to walk and trot. Classes that can be offered are halter, showmanship, horsemanship, western pleasure, trail, hunter under saddle and hunt seat equitation.

C. Participants must hold current MQHYA membership in their name to qualify for year-end awards.

D. Participants are not required to own the horse that they exhibit. Horses or ponies of any breed may be shown. No stallions are permitted.

E. Proper attire is mandatory - either English or Western. For safety purposes, all equipment must fit exhibitor properly.

F. Participants in Small Fry riding classes will not be eligible for any lope/canter classes during a circuit.

G. All participants in the Small Fry who compete at least three times will be ranked for year-end awards.

H. Small Fry performance classes will work both ways in the ring.

31. Walk Trot Division:

A. Participants in MQHA Youth Walk Trot must be 19 or under as of January 1 and the MQHA Adult Walk Trot must be 19 or over as of January 1.

B. The gaits in all classes in the Walk Trot Division Classes are limited to walk and trot. Classes that can be offered are: showmanship, horsemanship, western pleasure, trail, hunter under saddle and hunt seat equitation. Classes offered are at the discretion of the individual show committees and additional classes can be offered.

C. Participants must hold a current MQHA membership in their name and compete at three circuits to qualify for year-end awards.

D. Participants are not required to own the horse that they exhibit. Horses or ponies of any breed may be shown. No stallions are permitted.

E. Proper attire is mandatory in either English or Western.

F. Participants in Walk Trot riding classes cannot participate in a lope/canter class at the same circuit in the same class. (I.e. walk trot western pleasure and youth western pleasure are not permitted, walk trot pleasure and youth horsemanship are permitted.)

G. Performance classes will work both ways in the ring.

32. Order of Go:

A. In all performance classes where each entry performs individually, the order of competition shall be determined by show management drawing lots. Shows with multiple judges and arenas may make trail, western riding and working hunter classes available to exhibitors in a random order and position.

B. Late entries to pattern events can be added in any order to the list at the show's discretion.

33. S/SE Personnel: Shall include a ring steward, manager, secretary, and announcer. The duties of each member of the S/SE personnel will be concurrent with those duties outlined for their job as stated in the current AQHA official rulebook.

34. Trophies, ribbons, premiums & paybacks:

A. MQHA will require that a trophy/award equal to or greater than one half of the value of the entry fee be awarded to the first-place exhibitor in each class.

B. Grand and Reserve Champion ribbons must be available in all divisions for mares, geldings and stallions.

C. For AQHA and MQHA approved classes, shows are required to have ribbons or awards through sixth place.

35. Objectives and Jurisdiction of Show Approval Committee:

A. The MQHA Board has the authority to grant approval, disapproval or place on probation S/SEs and/or exhibitors according to the standards established by MQHA.

B. MQHA's disclaimer of responsibility for safety of S/SE participants:

1. S/SE management is responsible for the condition of the premises, including arena and exercise areas; the conduct and competence of S/SE employees and other representatives;

implementation of S/SE activities and events and all other aspects of the S/SE.

2. MQHA does not assume or accept duty or responsibility for safety at the S/SE in regard to participants or any other third parties or for the horses or other property thereof.

3. As an express condition of the privilege to participate at an MQHA approved show or special event each Michigan Quarter Horse owner, exhibitor, trainer and participant assumes the risks of participation and releases and discharges MQHA, its officers, directors, representatives and employees from any and all liability, whenever or however arising as to personal injury or property damage occurring as a result of participation in an event conducted by the S/SE or on the S/SE grounds thereof. The following wording should be added to a showbill whenever possible: *In consideration of the possible injuries or losses which could occur by my being a participant and/or spectator at this horse show, I, the undersigned, release and hold harmless this horse show, its sponsors (including MQHA and AQHA), its personnel, its affiliated person, and/or affiliated entities from any and all liability that may arise from any injuries, damages or losses whatsoever to myself or my personal property (including horses I may own) arising from my involvement in this horse show. Also, by signature hereon, I acknowledge that I am aware of the AQHA / MQHA drug test program and expressly consent to the drug testing of any horse entered by me or on my behalf. I understand that failure to comply or cooperate with the program shall be interpreted as a determination of a positive test result pursuant to the drug program.*

36. Restricted Special Events

The MQHA Show Approval Committee has the right to approve “restricted special events”. These restricted special events would be dual approved cattle, speed or reining events. Any group applying for restricted special event approval would be subject to the following requirements:

- A. Management must complete a restricted special event application at least 90 days prior to the event.
- B. Show management must return a copy of the showbill or premium book which would include the names of judges, at least 90 days prior to the event. Judges hired for a restricted special event may judge additional MQHA approved events.
- C. A Certificate of Liability Insurance naming MQHA as an additional insured must be on file in the MQHA office no later than 30 days prior to the event. Policy must be at least \$1,000,000.
- D. The MQHA Special event fee would be waived for a restricted special event, but a \$1 per horse per show fee and proof of entries would be required to be returned to MQHA within 14 days following the event.
- E. Show results must be returned to the point secretary no more than 14 days following the event. If changes are made to the final results standings once they are processed by the national association, the restricted special event management is required to update the results records with the MQHA point secretary and the MQHA office.

37. Introductory Show Approval

- A. AQHA defers to the state affiliates for approval of Introductory Show dates. MQHA will always consider allowing any introductory show.
- B. An introductory show will be allowed provided that there is no other AQHA approved event in the lower peninsula of Michigan on the same dates requested.
- C. If there is an AQHA approved event in the lower peninsula of Michigan, an introductory show will be allowed provided that:
 - 1. The location of the show is greater than 150 miles shortest driving distance from the AQHA approved event if the event is MQHA owned.
 - 2. If the AQHA event is not MQHA owned, but less than 300 miles shortest driving distance, then the management of the AQHA show must grant permission for the introductory show to be held.
 - 3. The location of the show is less than 150 miles but offering no similar classes.

D. No introductory show will automatically be granted MQHA approval for MQHA points. Special consideration by the MQHA Board is required if MQHA approval is requested.

E. Application will be considered by date received in the MQHA office. Requests for approval of introductory shows must be submitted annually.

SECTION 4 - MQHA YEAR-END AWARDS

ITEM A - REGULATION: ALL AGES DIVISION

38. Eligibility:

A. Year end standings: there shall be one final set of year-end standings for MQHA year-end points and MQHA year-end awards. This set of standings will be posted on the MQHA website as the MQHA honor roll and shall be referred to in the following text as the year-end standings.

B. To be eligible for accumulation of MQHA points towards year-end awards the person, farm or corporation (name that appears on the AQHA registration papers) must be a member of MQHA.

EXAMPLES: * Horse registered to John & Jane Doe; membership held in name of John Doe - NOT ELIGIBLE - must be registered in both names.

* Horse registered to ABC Farm; membership held in name of John Doe - NOT ELIGIBLE - must be in farm name.

* Horse registered in name of John Doe; membership held in ABC Farm name - NOT ELIGIBLE - must have individual membership.

* Horse registered in the name of John &/or Jane Doe; membership held in name of Jane Doe - ELIGIBLE - membership may also be in the name of John Doe and still be eligible.

* Horse registered in name of John & Jane Doe - membership held in name of Susie Doe (daughter), membership held in MQHYA - points are only accumulated in Youth Activities.

* Horse registered in name of Susie Doe - membership held in MQHYA - ELIGIBLE in both open and youth points.

C. Points will be accumulated from the time MQHA dues are paid.

D. The MQHA point year will begin January 1st and end November 30th.

1. Points will be kept on a cumulative basis. Classes offered at fewer than three (3) circuits do not qualify for the year-end standings and awards will not be given. Horses earning fewer than ten (10) MQHA points on the year end standings are eligible for honorable mentions only. No award will be given.

2. Points from all MQHA approved shows will count for year-end awards.

3. If a class is offered on a showbill with both select and amateur division, and the classes are combined for whatever reason, the points will be split back out for the purpose of the year end awards and year end high point. Individual show managers will need to determine what to do for their own circuit and high point/all around awards.

4. If a class is offered as only an amateur class on the showbill, select points will remain within the amateur division.

5. If show management combines classes in a manner than what is stated on the showbill, the show management MUST notify the MQHA point secretary when the results are submitted. Those class results may require manual entry for year-end awards computations.

6. Once the final year-end point standings have been calculated, the following rules will apply:

a. If there is a tie for Grand, two Grand awards will be given. The next placing would be 3rd. No Reserve award will be given. If there is a tie for Reserve, two Reserve awards will be given. The next placing would be 4th.

b. If a class is split between Junior and Senior horses at some shows and offered as a combined class at other shows, the way the class is offered the majority of the time will prevail for the Year End Award.

7. Any changes to be made to the point standings must be made to the point secretary within seven (7)

days of final posting/notification of final standings.
After that date no changes will be made.

8. Points are awarded as follows for all classes:

<u>Place</u>	<u>Points</u>
FIRST	Equals number of horses in class (not to exceed 9)
SECOND	Equals number of horses in class less 1 (not to exceed 8)
THIRD	Equals number of horses in class less 2 (not to exceed 7)
FOURTH	Equals number of horses in class less 3 (not to exceed 6)
FIFTH	Equals number of horses in class less 4 (not to exceed 5)
SIXTH	Equals number of horses in class less 5 (not to exceed 4)
SEVENTH	Equals number of horses in class less 6 (not to exceed 3)
EIGHTH	Equals number of horses in class less 7 (not to exceed 2)
NINTH	Equals number of horses in class less 8 (not to exceed 1)

9. The halter classes shall be awarded points as above with the following exceptions: the Grand Champion animal in each sex division shall be awarded an additional two points and the Reserve Champion animal in each sex division shall be awarded an additional one point more than the largest class in the sex division.

ITEM B - REGULATION: OPEN DIVISION

39. Points are transferable during the calendar year if earned in accordance with rules in Section 4. Credit will be given to a horse for points earned during the time the present and/or previous owner(s) was a member of MQHA.

40. The MQHA Awards Committee may recommend and the MQHA Board of Directors may approve special consideration categories not presently listed.

ITEM C- ALL-AROUND AWARDS REGULATION

41. The following awards will be calculated and granted on total points earned. Once an exhibitor has met an All-Around requirement, points earned in any additional classes will be counted toward that All Around.

- *Champion and Reserve Champion All Around Horse
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All Around Youth
13 and Under
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All Around Youth
14 – 18
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All-Around Novice
Youth 13 & Under
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All-Around Novice
Youth 14 - 18
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All-Around Amateur
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All-Around Amateur
Select
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All-Around Novice
Amateur
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All Around Rookie
Youth
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All Around Rookie
Amateur
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All-Around Small
Fry
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All Around Adult
Walk Trot
- *Champion and Reserve Champion All Around Youth
Walk Trot

42. Champion All-Around Horse: To qualify for this award a horse must place in the MQHA year-end standings in its respective halter class. A horse must be in the MQHA year-end standings in three (3) or more different performance events. Green classes do not count towards the Open All Around Horse.

43. Champion All-Around Youth 13 & under: To qualify for this award a youth must place in the MQHA year-end standings with one horse in at least three (3) AQHA/MQHA approved youth events. Youth points are compiled on a one horse – one youth basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however,

the points earned by the youth with each horse will be compiled separately.

44. Champion All-Around Youth 14 -18: To qualify for this award a youth must place in the MQHA year-end standings with one horse in at least three (3) AQHA/MQHA approved youth events. Youth points are compiled on a one horse – one youth basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the youth with each horse will be compiled separately.

45. Champion All-Around Novice Youth 13 & Under: To qualify for this award a novice youth must place in the MQHA year-end standings with one horse in at least three (3) AQHA/MQHA approved novice youth events. Novice Youth points are compiled on a one horse – one novice youth basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the novice youth with each horse will be compiled separately.

46. Champion All-Around Novice Youth 14 -18: To qualify for this award a novice youth must place in the MQHA year-end standings with one horse in at least three (3) AQHA/MQHA approved novice youth events. Novice Youth points are compiled on a one horse – one novice youth basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the novice youth with each horse will be compiled separately.

47. Champion All-Around Small Fry: To qualify for this award a small fry exhibitor must place in the MQHA year-end standings with one horse in at least three (3) MQHA approved small fry events. Small Fry points are compiled on a one horse – one small fry basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the small fry with each horse will be compiled separately.

48. Champion All-Around Rookie Youth: To qualify for this award a rookie youth must place in the MQHA year-end standings with one horse in at least three (3) AQHA/MQHA approved rookie youth events. Rookie

Youth points are compiled on a one horse – one rookie youth basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the rookie youth with each horse will be compiled separately.

49. Champion All-Around Amateur: To qualify for this award an amateur must place in the MQHA year-end standings with one horse in at least three (3) AQHA/MQHA approved amateur events. Amateur points are compiled on a one horse - one amateur basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the amateur with each horse will be compiled separately.

50. Champion All-Around Novice Amateur: To qualify for this award a novice amateur must place in the MQHA year-end standings with one horse in at least three (3) AQHA/MQHA approved novice amateur events. Novice Amateur points are compiled on a one horse - one novice amateur basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the novice amateur with each horse will be compiled separately.

51. Champion All-Around Amateur Select: To qualify for this award an amateur select must place in the MQHA year-end standings with one horse in at least three (3) AQHA/MQHA approved select amateur events. Points earned in amateur halter will be also counted toward the All-Around Amateur Select Award. Amateur select points are compiled on a one horse – one amateur select basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the amateur select with each horse will be compiled separately.

52. Champion All-Around Rookie Amateur: To qualify for this award a rookie amateur must place in the MQHA year-end standings with one horse in at least three (3) AQHA/MQHA approved rookie amateur events. Rookie Amateur points are compiled on a one horse – one rookie amateur basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the rookie amateur with each horse will be compiled separately.

53. Champion All Around Adult Walk Trot: To qualify for this award an exhibitor must place in the MQHA Year End standings with one horse in at least three (3) MQHA approved adult walk trot events. Adult walk trot points are compiled on a one horse-one exhibitor basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the adult walk trot exhibitor with each horse will be compiled separately.

54. Champion All Around Youth Walk Trot: To qualify for this award an exhibitor must place in the MQHA year end standings with one horse in at least three (3) MQHA approved youth walk trot events. Youth walk trot points are compiled on a one horse – one exhibitor basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse; however, the points earned by the youth walk trot exhibitor with each horse will be compiled separately.

ITEM D - SPORTSMANSHIP & MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARDS & VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

55. Sportsmanship:

A. Annually, one youth and one adult winner will be chosen.

B. Space will be provided on the election ballot allowing membership to vote for Sportsperson of the year.

C. Desirable qualifications: Sense of fairness, consistently courteous, continually displays self discipline, cheerful, considerate of others and accepts responsibilities while carrying out objectives of MQHA.

D. To qualify, you must be a member of MQHA/MQHYA, own and/or exhibit Quarter Horses.

56. Member of the Year Award: The recipient of this award is to be chosen annually by the MQHA Board of Directors on the basis of any member who has given consistently of their time and/or expertise in the fulfillment and furthering of the goals and objectives of MQHA.

57. Volunteer of the Year Award: Consideration can be given yearly to recognize a Volunteer of the Year. The Volunteer does not need to be a MQHA member. The award recognizes a volunteer who has gone above and beyond to help MQHA in any capacity, for no remuneration. The individual can be nominated by the Board or by a MQHA member. The nomination should be submitted in writing to the MQHA office no later than November 1. The nomination will be reviewed by the current Board of Directors and recognition will be given at the annual Convention.

ITEM E - REGULATION: YOUTH ACTIVITIES DIVISION

58. Eligibility: Only MQHYA members earning points in Youth Activities classes and /or events at approved MQHA shows are eligible for consideration.

59. Points for Youth, Novice Youth and Rookie Youth Activities halter and performance events are awarded to the youth and the horse - as a team. Should the team dissolve for any reason during the calendar year, the points earned to date are NOT transferable but stand as the record for that team. Should either or both members of the team acquire a new partner, they will start off as a new team (s) and acquire points starting at zero (0).

60. Year-end awards for Youth and Novice Youth Performance events, including Showmanship at Halter, shall be awarded in each of the following specific youth age brackets: 13 years and under, 14 years through 18 years. Youth and Novice Youth class points shall be awarded to the placing individuals in their specific youth age bracket regardless of the show's general youth bracket nomenclature.

61. Points and Year End Awards for MQHA Small Fry and MQHA Youth Walk Trot are awarded to the youth and the horse as a team. Should the team dissolve for any reason during the calendar year, the points earned to date are NOT transferrable but stand as the record for that team. Should either or both members of the team

acquire a new partner, they will start off as a new team(s) and acquire points starting at zero (0).

62. Year End Awards for MQHA Small Fry and MQHA Youth Walk Trot which may include showmanship and halter, shall be awarded as MQHA Small Fry for nine (9) and under and MQHA Youth Walk trot for eighteen (18) and under.

DEFINITIONS

- A. Youth: an MQHA/MQHYA member who is 18 years or younger as of January 1st.
- B. Youth Age Brackets: age segments of the youth designation
 - a. 18 years & under
 - b. 13 years & under, 14 years to 18 years
- C. Youth Performance Event: the generic individual youth contest. Example: Western Pleasure.
- D. Qualified: the youth performance event must be offered affording any youth the opportunity to participate; however, approved shows - regardless of the General of Specific age bracket nomenclature used.
- E. Youth Class: a youth performance event that encompasses any one or combination of the General Youth age brackets.

ITEM G - BEST CIRCUIT OF SEASON

- 63. "Best Circuit of the Season: Award will be given annually.
- 64. Space will be provided on the election ballot allowing membership to vote for the "Best Circuit of the Season."

ITEM H - REGULATION: AMATEUR DIVISION

65. Eligibility:

- A. Must hold an Amateur card issued by AQHA and be a member of MQHA.
- B. Points for Amateur events are awarded to the amateur and horse - as a team. Should the team dissolve for any reason during the calendar year, the points earned to date are NOT transferable but stand as the record for that team. Should either or both members of the team acquire a new partner, they will

start off as a new team (s) and acquire points starting at zero (0).

66. Points and Year End Awards for MQHA Adult Walk Trot are awarded to the amateur and the horse as a team. Should the team dissolve for any reason during the calendar year, the points earned to date are NOT transferable but stand as the record for that team. Should either or both members of the team acquire a new partner, they will start off as a new team(s) and acquire points starting at zero (0).

67. Year end awards for MQHA Adult Walk Trot which may include showmanship and halter, shall be awarded as MQHA Adult Walk Trot for nineteen (19) and over.

ITEM J - MQHA HALL OF FAME

68. Purpose: This is an opportunity to recognize and award those individuals who have been instrumental in promoting and participating in the MQHA for many years. It will also be used to recognize and award those horses who have made an impact on the Quarter Horse breed, as a breeding horse or show quality individual.

A. Qualifications: The nominees may be living or dead but must have been permanent residents of Michigan for at least FIVE years. Horses nominated must have been bred in Michigan or owned by a Michigan resident for at least FIVE years. Horses nominated must not be showing, standing at stud or taking remuneration of any kind.

SECTION 5 - MQHA QUEEN RULES & REGULATION

69. The purpose of the MQHA Queen Contest is to select a special lady to represent the Michigan Quarter Horse Association, one who will positively promote Michigan as a great place to visit and show horses and who will be a positive role model for all young women

70. Candidates will:

A. Be between the ages of 19 and 26 as of January 1st of the current year.

B. Be single, never divorced, annulled or a single parent. The candidate must also be a high school graduate and currently employed, in college or taking a gap year.

C. Not have competed or represented this or any other Quarter Horse Association previously three times.

D. Be a member in good standing with AQHA and MQHA and be a Michigan resident. An exception of residency may be granted with the following criteria met:

1. Candidate can prove involvement with the Michigan Quarter Horse Association for at least two years before competing in the contest. Involvement can be defined as showing, volunteering, or other activities the Queen Committee may seem a good fit for a prospective Queen candidate.

2. The exception must be granted first through the Queen Committee and then brought to the MQHA Board of Directors for final approval.

E. Be judged in three categories: Written test, Oral interview and Horsemanship. In judged categories, the overall scores will be averaged.

F. Ride in the horsemanship competition any AQHA registered horse.

G. Complete application and have it with the \$25.00 fee and photo received at the MQHA office no later than the current year due date.

H. Be approved by the Queen's Committee and the MQHA Board of Directors.

71. Queen will:

A. Represent Michigan at the following mandatory events:

1. All American Quarter Horse Congress

2. AQHA Level 1 Championship East

3. MQHA Spartan Spectacular

- a. Be in attendance on the day of the Thayne Miner Memorial Horsemanship class and help with the class awards presentation.

4. MQHA Harbor Classic

- a. Attend show on the day of the MQHA Princess Contest and day of the Queen/Princess Photoshoot.

- b. Organize and run the MQHA Princess Contest
 - c. Hand out awards when applicable
- 5. Michigan State 4-H Horse Show (August)
 - a. Attend show and hand out awards
 - b. Coordinate a MQHA information table
- 6. MQHA Futurity
 - a. Attend entire show and hand out awards. Conflicts due to school or work must be determined no later than 14 days prior to the show.
- 7. MQHA Convention
 - a. Prepare Queen Speech
 - b. Pose for photographs with award winners
 - c. Have MQHA Queen/Princess display for attendees
 - d. Submit a Queen's message 30 days prior to Convention. This will be published in the Honor Roll.
- 8. MQHA Queen Contest (following year)
 - a. Help coordinate the MQHA Queen Contest with the Queen's Committee
 - b. Crown the next year's queen.
- B. The Queen may also choose to represent MQHA at the following optional events:
 - 1. Present awards during leadline classes at the MQHA shows during reign.
 - 2. MQHA Tack Sale
 - a. Interact with attendees
 - b. Set up Queen display for attendees
 - 3. The Queen will be encouraged to attend additional events that are approved by the Queen's Committee and that work within the Queen's availability. These include but are not limited to remaining MQHA shows, local fairs, open horse shows, etc.
- C. Automatically be on the following years Queen's Committee.

72. If the Queen is actively showing a horse on MQHA circuit the Committee will, on a case-by-case basis, take into consideration showing commitments and Queen duties and adjust appropriately.

73. The Queen must not post any improper posts on social media during or prior to her reign. Social media posts should always reflect good judgement, values and professionalism. They should always reflect on the MQHA positively. Any disagreement with MQHA should be dealt with through the Committee or the MQHA Board of Directors.

74. The Queen must not drink, smoke or vape when representing MQA in any capacity.

SECTION 6 - MQHA YOUTH WORLD TEAM & CONGRESS (NYATT) TEAM

GENERAL RULES

75. The purpose of the Youth Team is to provide an opportunity for Michigan youth to participate at the American Quarter Horse Youth Finals and the All-American Quarter Horse Congress in Columbus, Ohio. The Congress Team (NYATT) does not presently have age divisions (13 & Under and 14-18).

A. The MQHYA Board will appoint a Team Coach and Advisor for each team to go and help at the Youth World and Congress. The team Advisor should be selected from one of the current MQHYA Youth Advisors if possible.

B. All Team Members are responsible to the Team Coach and Team Advisor.

C. Team members shall always conduct themselves in a becoming manner. Each member's actions reflect on all MQHYA members and the State in general. Conduct unbecoming to the team in general or to the MQHA/MQHYA Associations is cause for dismissal from the Team by the Team Advisor.

D. All Youth World and Congress Youth Team rules apply from Youth World or Congress Registration through the end of the Team Tournament Awards Ceremony, at which time all responsibility for the youth is relinquished, Remember, however, you are representing the entire MQHA/MQHYA Associations and the State of Michigan.

E. Team stalls and aisles must be kept clean during the entire week.

F. When the team is selected, you will be competing as a team and must work together.

G. The Congress and Youth World Team colors and uniforms shall be chosen annually by the MQHYA Board.

H. Mandatory items listed on the Letter of Intent need to be turned into the MQHA Office by the deadline. Any item missing constitutes an incomplete application and ineligibility to participate on either team.

I. Points tabulated for Youth Team and class selection will be based on the MQHA point system.

J. A tie shall be decided by totaling the number of firsts received by each tied member, and then seconds, etc. through sixth until the tie is broken.

K. A Youth team member and family will be designated to be in charge of stall decorations and making arrangements for the transportation of them to the AQHYA World show and Congress.

L. Each Team member should contribute to the fund-raising activities that support the team.

M. The Selection Committee shall consist of MQHYA Advisors and the MQHA Youth Director.

MQHYA World Team Rules:

76. For all matters pertaining to the AQHYA World Show, AQHA guidelines will be followed. At the AQHYA Finals, every type of AQHA approved Youth class is offered. Halter classes are divided into yearlings, two-year olds, three-year-olds, aged and performance for mares and geldings. MQHYA is able to send four youth for each class plus those youth who are nationally invited. In the event that four youth (with letters of intent in the office) are not available for an offered class, the selection committee may choose additional youth to participate on the team. Additional youth may be added as AQHA allows.

1. The Youth must be a current member in good standing of MQHA and AQHA.
2. The Youth will participate in a minimum of two MQHYA Board Meetings within the qualifying period.
3. The Youth will pay all fees assessed by AQHA for exhibiting this horse at the AQHA World Show (class fees, AQHA processing fees, stalls, etc.).

Please note that all Youth attending the World Show must share a tack stall. All tack and feed must be out of the aisle way.

A youth exhibiting more than one horse must complete a Letter of Intent for each horse. The team fee applies per horse.

The youth must submit by the deadline to be considered for a spot on the Youth World Team:

4. The completed Letter of Intent.
5. A \$100 payment (which will be refundable if not selected for the team).

The Youth that is referred to must complete the items below:

6. The family of the youth is required to sell a predetermined number of tickets for the yearly cash raffle.
7. The Youth and family must secure \$200 in sponsorships. Youth completing requirements for the Youth World Show Team are not required to secure additional sponsorships for NYATT.
8. The youth is required to exhibit at one Michigan Quarter Horse circuit during the qualifying period. If a show is not attended, the Youth will be asked to secure an additional \$150 in sponsorships.
9. The Youth is required to attend the World Show meetings in June and July. The dates and times will be announced.

Placement on the team:

10. The team will be determined based on point standings from June 1 through May 31 from the 13 and under, 14 to 18 and all age youth classes. Overall points will be considered when filling the individual classes. An older youth may get priority on team placement.

11. If a Youth is Nationally qualified and wishes to be on the Michigan team, they must fulfill items 1 through 7 to be eligible to receive Michigan Youth Team World Show benefits such as apparel, port-a-cools, night watchman and other items to be determined.

12. If a Youth is asked to fill any class where Michigan qualifying is not an option, they must complete items 1,3,4, 5 and 7.

13. If an out of state Youth wishes to be on the Michigan Team, they must have a valid Change of Affiliation Form on file with AQHA.

14. To be fair to all Youth involved, if a Youth accepts a position on a team and does not show in their class without prior written approval of the Youth Advisor or the on-site adult responsible for the Youth team, they **may** not be eligible for participation on this team the following year.

15. The Youth Advisor and Selection Committee may waive any of the requirements above for any special conditions that may arise provided the exception is approved by the MQHA Board of Directors. The death or disability of a horse is considered an exception.

MQHYA Congress (NYATT) Team Rules:

77. Congress Team Tournament classes are showmanship, horsemanship, western pleasure, hunter under saddle, equitation, ranch riding, reining, and barrels. The Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association will select two youth to participate in each class.

1. The Youth must be a current member in good standing of MQHA and AQHA.

2. The Youth will participate in a minimum of two MQHYA Board Meetings within the qualifying period.

3. MQHA will cover the cost of the class fees assessed for the NYATT entries. NSBA entries are not included

The Youth must submit by the deadline to be considered for a spot on the NYATT team:

4. The completed Letter of Intent

5. A \$100 payment (which **will** be refundable if not selected for the team).

The Youth must complete the items listed below:

6. **The family of the youth is asked to help sell a predetermined number of tickets for the yearly cash raffle.**

7. The Youth and family must secure \$200 in sponsorships. Youth completing requirements for the Youth World Show Team are not required to secure additional sponsorships for NYATT.
8. The youth is required to exhibit at one Michigan Quarter Horse circuit during the qualifying period. If a show is not attended, the Youth will be asked to secure an additional \$150 in sponsorships to the requirements listed in item 7.
9. Participate in the required NYATT Team meeting. The date and time will be announced.
Placement of the Youth on the Team:
10. The team will be determined based on point standings from July 15 through the Harbor Classic.
11. Two youth will be chosen for each class offered. Older youth may get priority on team placement.
12. If any class is not filled in the above manner, any remaining spots will be filled at the discretion of the youth advisors. If a Youth is asked to fill any open position for NYATT, they are required to provide items #4 and #5 above. Out of state youth must have an AQHA Change of Affiliate Form on file with MQHA. They must meet all of the requirements above to be eligible for team selection.
13. To be fair to all Youth involved, if a Youth accepts a position on a team and does not show in their class without prior written approval of the Team Advisor or the on-site adult responsible for the NYATT team, they may not be eligible for participation on that team the following year.
14. The Youth Advisor and the Selection Committee may waive any of the requirements above for any special conditions that may arise provided that the exception is approved by the MQHA Board of Directors. The death or disability of a horse may be considered an exception.

SECTION 7 - MQHA DRUG TESTING AND THERAPEUTIC MEDICATION RULES

78. In the interest of fairness to all exhibitors and to ensure the health and well-being of the American

Quarter Horse used in competition, this Association subscribes to AQHA's mandatory drug testing program. The Therapeutic Medication and Drug Test Policy as established by the American Quarter Horse Association, is supported by the Board of Directors of this Association. This policy will adhere to the Therapeutic Medication/Drug Testing Section of the current AQHA Rulebook. In addition, MQHA agrees to collect mandatory AQHA drug testing fees and submit these fees with the individual show results as required by AQHA.

79. If AQHA determines the test results are positive, then AQHA will contact owner, exhibitor and MQHA. If the MQHA Board of Directors then deems to take action regarding MQHA status, points, or other options, then owner and exhibitor of such horse will be notified via certified mail.

SECTION 8 - MQHA ANTI-HARASSMENT, ANTI-INTIMIDATION, OR ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying behavior by any AQ member/AQ professional/AQ or MQ personnel at any sanctioned MQHA event is strictly prohibited, and such conduct may result in disciplinary action, including suspension and/or expulsion from the Michigan Quarter Horse Association and review by the American Quarter Horse Association. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying, in accordance with House Bill 750.411h, means any conduct directed toward a victim that includes, but is not limited to, repeated or continuing unconsented contact that would cause a reasonable individual to suffer emotional distress and that actually causes the victim to suffer emotional distress.

This can include intentional written, verbal, graphic or physical acts including electronically transmitted, either overt or covert, by an (AQ member/AQ professional/AQ or MQ personnel) or group toward other (AQ member/AQ professional/AQ or MQ personnel) with the intent to harass, intimidate, injure, threaten, ridicule or humiliate. Such behaviors are prohibited at any MQHA-

sponsored activity, that a reasonable person under the circumstances should know will have the effect of:

1. Causes mental or physical harm to the other member or professional; and
2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, unsportsmanlike, threatening or abusive environment for the other member/professional/personnel.

Policy:

A. It is the policy of MQHA that any form of harassment, intimidation or bullying behavior against its members and professionals in the organization, whether at sanctioned events, on MQHA property, or on social media, is expressly forbidden.

1. To implement this policy, the MQHA Board of Directors established a policy prohibiting harassment, intimidation or bullying. The policy shall be developed in consultation with the American Quarter Horse Association, AQHA Judges, AQHA Professional Horsemen and MQHA members.

B. Members who have been determined to have engaged in prohibited behaviors are subject to disciplinary action, which may include suspension or expulsion from MQHA events. MQHA's commitment to addressing such prohibited behaviors, however, involves a multifaceted approach, which includes education and the promotion of a professional atmosphere in which harassment, intimidation or bullying will not be tolerated by members or MQHA personnel.

C. It is imperative that harassment, intimidation, or bullying be identified only when the specific elements of the definition are met because the designation of such prohibited incidents carry special statutory obligations. However, misconduct by one member against another member, whether or not appropriately defined, will result in appropriate disciplinary consequences for the perpetrator.

D. Definition of Terms

1. “Harassment, intimidation or bullying” means either of the following:
 - a. Any intentional written, verbal, graphic, or physical act that a (AQ member/AQ professional/AQ or MQ personnel) or group of (members/professionals) exhibited toward another particular AQ member/AQ professional/AQ or MQ personnel more than once and the behavior both:
 - I. Causes mental or physical harm to the other member or professional; and
 - II. Is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, unsportsmanlike, threatening or abusive environment for the other member/professional/personnel.
 - b. By Electronic Means
 - I. “Electronic act” means an act committed through the use of a cellular telephone, computer, pager, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device.
2. Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying also means electronically transmitted acts i.e., Internet, cell phone, personal digital assistance (PDA) or wireless hand-held device that a member or professional has exhibited toward another particular AQ member/AQ professional/AQ or MQ personnel more than once and the behavior both:
 - a. Causes mental or physical harm to the other AQ member/AQ professional/AQ or MQ personnel; and
 - b. Is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, unsportsmanlike, threatening or abusive environment for the other member/professional/personnel.
3. In evaluating whether conduct constitutes harassment, intimidation or bullying, special

attention should be paid to the words chosen or the actions taken, whether such conduct occurred in front of others or was communicated to others, how the perpetrator interacted with the victim, and the motivation, either admitted or appropriately inferred.

4. A MQHA activity shall mean any activity that is sponsored, recognized or authorized by the MQHA Board of Directors.

E. Types of Conduct

1. Harassment, intimidation or bullying can include many different behaviors including overt intent to ridicule, humiliate or intimidate another member or personnel. Examples of conduct that could constitute prohibited behaviors include:
 - a. Physical violence and/or attacks;
 - b. Threats, taunts and intimidation through words and/or gestures;
 - c. Extortion, damage or stealing of money and/or possessions;
 - d. Exclusion from the peer group or spreading rumors; and,
 - e. Repetitive and hostile behavior with the intent to harm others through the use of information and communication technologies and other Web-based/online sites (also known as “cyber bullying”), such as the following:
 - I. Posting slurs on Web sites where members and professionals congregate or on web logs (personal online journals or diaries);
 - II. Sending abusive or threatening instant messages;
 - III. Using camera phones to take unauthorized photographs of members or horses and posting them online; and,
 - IV. Using Web sites to circulate gossip and rumors to other members/professionals or potential members or clients;

- V. Excluding others from an online group by falsely reporting them for inappropriate language to Internet service providers.
- VI. Falsifying information online
 - a. Pretending to be a member or professional within the MQHA or AQHA organization

F. Complaints

1. Formal Complaints

- a. Professionals, Members, and/or their parents or guardians may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation or bullying. Such written reports shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation and/or bullying, and the names of any potential member or staff witnesses. Such reports may be filed with any MQHA staff member or Board member.

2. Informal Complaints

- a. MQHA/AQHA Members and personnel may make informal complaints of conduct that they consider to be harassment, intimidation and/or bullying by verbal report to a MQHA Board Member, or other MQHA personnel. Such informal complaints shall be reasonably specific as to the actions giving rise to the suspicion of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying, including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of the prohibited behavior(s), and the names of any potential witness. Anyone who receives an informal complaint shall promptly document the complaint in writing, including the above information. This written report by the Member or personnel shall be promptly forwarded to the MQHA Board of Directors, and AQHA for review and action in accordance with Section 5.

3. Anonymous Complaints

- a. MQHA/AQHA Members who make informal complaints as set forth above may request that their

name be maintained in confidence by the MQHA staff member(s) and MQHA Board Member(s) who receive the complaint. The anonymous complaints shall be reviewed, and reasonable action will be taken to address the situation, to the extent such action may be taken that (1) does not disclose the source of the complaint, and (2) is consistent with the due process rights of the Member(s) alleged to have committed acts of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying.

4. False Reporting

- a. A statement prohibiting Members from deliberately making false reports of harassment, intimidation, or bullying and a disciplinary procedure for any Member responsible for deliberately making a false report of that nature.

G. Remedial Actions

1. Verified acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying shall result in an intervention by an MQHA Representative or his/her designee that is intended to ensure that the prohibition against harassment, intimidation or bullying behavior is enforced, with the goal that any such prohibited behavior will cease.
2. Harassment, intimidation and bullying behavior can take many forms and can vary dramatically in seriousness and impact on the targeted individual and other members. Accordingly, there is no one prescribed response to verified acts of harassment, intimidation and bullying. While conduct that rises to the level of “harassment, intimidation or bullying,” as defined above will generally warrant disciplinary action against the perpetrator of such prohibited behaviors whether and to what extent to impose disciplinary action (removal, suspension; or expulsion) is a matter for the professional discretion of the MQHA Staff and Board. The following sets forth possible interventions for staff

to enforce the Board's prohibition against "harassment, intimidation or bullying."

H. Non-disciplinary Interventions

1. When verified acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying are identified early and/or when such verified acts do not reasonably require a disciplinary response, members may be counseled as to the definition of harassment, intimidation or bullying, its prohibition and their duty to avoid any conduct that could be considered harassing, intimidating or bullying.

I. Disciplinary Interventions

1. When acts of harassment, intimidation and bullying are verified and a disciplinary response is warranted, members are subject to the full range of disciplinary consequences. Anonymous complaints that are not otherwise verified, however, shall not be the basis for disciplinary action.
2. In temporary suspension from any MQHA Activities may be imposed only after informing the accused perpetrator of the reasons for the proposed suspension and giving him/her an opportunity to explain the situation.
3. Long-term expulsion from MQHA or AQHA Activities may be imposed only after a review by the MQHA Board of Directors, and AQHA Authorized Body. This consequence shall be reserved for serious incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying and/or when past interventions have not been successful in eliminating prohibited behaviors.

J. Reporting Obligations

1. If after investigation, acts of harassment, intimidation and bullying by a specific member are verified, the MQHA Board shall notify in writing the AQHA Authorized Body of that finding. If disciplinary consequences are imposed against such member, a description of such discipline shall be included in such notification.

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2. If after investigation, acts of bullying against a specific member are verified, MQHA shall notify the member, or parent or guardian of the victim of such finding. In providing such notification, care must be taken to respect the statutory privacy rights of the perpetrator of such harassment, intimidation and bullying.