

2015 RULE BOOK

SECTION 1 – MQHA BREEDERS' FUTURITY

MISSION

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

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- All entries are eligible under any one of the following guidelines:
 - if the sire of the entry sold in the Stallion Service Sale in the current year sale
 - if the sire of the entry sold in the Stallion Service Sale the year of conception or as a carry over breeding
 - if the entry is Michigan owned
 - if the entry is Michigan bred – which is defined as the sire or the dam resides in Michigan, or the owners of those reside in Michigan.
- All owners of record, open and non-pro/amateur exhibitors must be members in good standing of MQHA and AQHA.
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - Any violation of AQHA rules, which the Michigan Quarter Horse Breeders' Futurity adheres to as if the Futurity is an AQHA approved show, 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.
- Weanlings:** Weanlings may be shown at halter as follows: open and/or non-pro fillies; and open and/or non-pro stallions or geldings.
- Yearlings:** Yearlings may be shown at halter as follows: open and/or amateur mares, open and/or amateur stallions, and open and/or amateur geldings. Yearlings may also be shown in open and/or non-pro yearling longe line, which will be considered performance classes.
 - The MQHBF will follow NSBA yearling longe line rules.
- Two Year Olds:** Two year olds may be shown in performance classes in open and/or non-pro.
- Three Year Olds:** Three year olds may be shown in performance classes in open and/or non-pro.
- Four Year Olds & Over:** Four year olds & over may be shown in performance classes in open and/or non pro **and are exempt from the Futurity eligibility requirements.**
- Horses entered in three year old performance may be shown one handed in a bit or two handed in a snaffle bit or bosal.
- The Michigan Quarter Horse Breeders' Futurity will be shown each year at such place as may be designated by the Board of Directors.
- All classes will be judged by a qualified judge or judges.
- All fees and dues dates will be published in the MQHA Journal.
- The Stallion Service Sale will pay a \$25 nomination fee to the Michigan Quarter Horse Breeders Futurity for weanlings entered or nominated to the Futurity.

CLASS ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND FEES

- To enter a 'Michigan Bred' horse in an open and/or non-pro halter or performance class at the Futurity, the following conditions must be complied with:
 - A weanling must be eligible to be registered in either the appendix or numbered section of the AQHA Stud Book.
 - Weanling sire and dam information, as well as the foal's date of birth must be included with original weanling entry. If the foal is not yet born by the payment due date, the sex and foaling date information **must** be provided as soon as possible.
 - Yearlings and older must be registered with either the appendix or numbered registry of the AQHA Stud Book and a copy of the registration papers must accompany the payment of fees.
 - If an entry is gelded, it is the owner's responsibility to notify the Futurity office in writing no later than August 15th prior to the date of the Futurity. Notification after the date of August 15th will require an additional payment of the entry fee amount to register and show in the gelding class.
- 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 in the MQHA Journal.
- All owners of record, open and non-pro exhibitors must be members of MQHA or pay the appropriate membership fee.
 - Amateur exhibitor status will be determined according to current AQHA amateur rules. An amateur in the Michigan Quarter Horse Breeder's Futurity is required to hold an AQHA amateur card and present their card at the Futurity office.

- 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 (½) hour prior to the start of the show day.

- All payments to the Futurity must be made to the secretary of the Michigan Quarter Horse Breeders' Futurity. Canadian entrants must make payments payable in U.S. funds. Entries will not be accepted by telephone. Entries may be faxed to the MQHA Office if accompanied by a Visa, MasterCard or Discover number.

REFUNDS

- 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.
- 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

- Any entry whose payment of fees is returned by the bank for non-sufficient funds 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, or money order. Payment in full must be received by the day of the Futurity.

PRIZE FUND

- The value of the prize fund of the Futurity each year will be the total amount of money paid in entry fees, less 20%.
- The following will be the payback format used in all open & non-pro classes based on the number of horses entered and paying a minimum of 4 places. (SEE CHART ON NEXT PAGE)
- Any money remaining from the operating fund after expenses will be included in the following year's operating fund.
- Six ribbons will be awarded per class for all MQHBF classes.
- Tie-breaker system:** All placings will be determined on a point system.
 - In the event there is a tie for first place, the following rules will be in effect: Prize monies for the tied entries will be added together and divided equally. The entries will be listed in the official results as tied and will receive equal publicity. Only one award will be given. The recipients of the first place award will be determined by the use of a tie breaker judge. All tied first place winners will receive first place ribbons.
 - In the event there is a tie for any placing other than first, the following rules will be in effect: Prize monies for the tied entries will be added together and divided equally. The entries will be listed in the official results as tied. The recipient of the ribbon for the tied placing will be determined by the use of a tie breaker judge.
 - An additional two horses will be placed beyond horses paid in each class.

POST ENTRIES

- 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:
 - Once the in-gate opens for a class, no more post entries will be allowed for that class.
 - Once the gate is open, only those whose back number appears on the recorder sheet shall be allowed to enter the ring.

DISPUTED ENTRIES

- In the case that a back number is not present on the recorder sheet, the gate will be held until the owner/agent or exhibitor can verify that payment was made for the class prior to the opening of the in-gate.
 - If the owner/agent or exhibitor cannot provide immediate evidence of payment but still feels an error has been made on the part of the Futurity, the entry may be allowed into the ring under the following conditions:
 - A check, cash or credit card is used for full payment of the class with the appropriate late fees.
 - A \$50.00 earnest fee is collected.
 - The class will be judged with the entry in question.
 - The owner/agent or exhibitor shall have 30 days after the class to produce evidence that the class had indeed been entered prior to the opening of the in gate. If the Futurity has made an entry error, the class payment, late fees and \$50.00 earnest money paid at the in-gate shall be returned.
 - If pre-payment cannot be verified, the money collected at the in-gate shall be retained as payment for the class.
 - 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.

FUTURITY PAYBACK PERCENTAGES		1	2	3	4-12	13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24	25 & More
	Number of Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
All Futurity Classes	100	60	50	40	35	30	29	28	27	
NUMBER OF PAID ENTRIES		40	30	30	25	24	23	22	21	
			20	20	20	18	15	13	12	
				10	13	12	11	10	10	
					7	9	9	9	9	
						7	7	7	7	
							6	6	6	
								5	4	
									3	
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

JUDGING, EXHIBITING, EQUIPMENT AND ARTIFICIAL APPLIANCES

27. 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. Two and three year old performance classes will be split at the discretion of the show management.
 - C. The Futurity Committee follows all AQHA rules and regulations regarding bits, bosals and artificial appliances. Further, the Futurity Committee, at its discretion, reserves the right to do a random check in all classes for artificial devices or equipment. If there are any violations discovered, then the horse involved will not be allowed to enter the ring.

DRUG TESTING

28. For the purposes of the Breeders' Futurity *ONLY*, weanlings will not be subject to drug testing. All horses exhibited at the MQHBF are subject to the current AQHA Drug testing rules and regulations.
- 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. If the laboratory report on the chemical analysis is of the presence of a forbidden drug or medication, this shall be taken as prima facie evidence that such substance has been administered to the horse either internally or externally.
 - B. The exhibitor, whether owner or otherwise, shall be responsible for, and be the absolute insurer of, the condition of the horses he/she enters and exhibits, regardless of the acts of third parties.
 - C. 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.
 - D. If a positive drug test occurs at the MQHA Futurity, it could result in a maximum penalty of forfeiture of all monies and awards earned by that horse and owner/exhibitor in that current year's Futurity. In addition, the owner/exhibitor may be ineligible to show or have any of their horses shown in the following year's Futurity.
 - 1. A sub-committee, consisting of, the Futurity Director, the Drug Testing Director and the MQHA Executive Committee, will review the drug test information and make its recommendation to the MQ Board.
 - 2. The MQ Board will then proceed with the final decision abiding by section 8, MQHA DRUG TESTING AND THERAPEUTIC MEDICATION RULES in the MQHA rule book, or any other applicable AQHA guideline.

SECTION 2 - MQHA STALLION SERVICE AUCTION, FUTURITY AND SNAFFLE BIT

29. 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. Classes offered are: weanling

halter, yearling longe line, two-year-old snaffle bit, and three year old hunter under saddle. The MQHA Stallion Service Sale Futurity is completely separate and different from the regular MQHA Breeder's Futurity.

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

30. The Procedure:

- A. The MQHA Stallion Service Sale Futurity will be held in conjunction with the MQHA Breeders' 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, by September 1st of the year shown, the choice of which entry will represent the stallion. Entries will be accepted from September 2nd 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.
- C. Proceeds of the auction will be divided as follows after expenses: 20% MQHA, 40% Stallion Owner's purse, 40% Mare Owner's purse.
 - 1. Stallion Service Sale pays MQHA 20% for MQHA contribution, which provides the Stallion Service Sale/Futurity Secretary. Stallion Service Sale will pay all additional expenses directly related to the Stallion Service Sale and a percentage of expenses incurred directly at the MQHBF/SSS circuit. 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 or personal check will be accepted.
- E. September 10th is the cut-off date to purchase unsold stallion services from the MQHA Stallion Service Sale.

31. PAYBACKS:

- A. The purse structure is as follows: 34% to weanling fillies (mare owners and stallion owners), 34% to weanling colts or geldings (mare owners and stallion owners), 17% to the 2-year-old snaffle bit class entries (mare owners and stallion owners) 7% to the yearling longe line (mare owners and stallion owners) and 5% to the 3 Year Old Hunter Under Saddle (mare owners and stallion owners). Classes with fewer than 5 entries may be run concurrently and awarded by mare owner and stallion owner division. A 3% discretionary fund is established and its use will be decided by the committee on an annual basis. It will provide for larger awards and start up paybacks.
 - 1. For the weanlings, the total weanling purse will be divided equally between the four weanling classes and the paybacks will go to six (6) places. If there are more than 32 exhibitors in the class, that class payback will go to seven (7) places. 6 places will pay 30%, 24%, 18%, 12%, 9% and 7%. 7 places will pay 29%, 23%, 15%, 11%, 9%, 7%, and 6%. The yearling longe line, the two year old and the three year old SSS classes will follow the SSS Payback Schedule.
- B. In the event of a tie, the tie breaker judge will decide who receives the award and ribbon, but monies will be combined and divided equally, the tie positions shall be designated as co-position (example: two-way tie for 1st place will be designated Co-Champions of said class).

STALLION SERVICE SALE PAYBACK PERCENTAGES For All Classes Except Weanlings NUMBER OF ENTRIES SHOWN		1	2-5	6-9	10-13	14-18	19-24	25 & More
	Number of Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	100	60	45	40	34	32	28	
		40	35	30	27	22	22	
			20	20	20	19	17	
				10	10	10	10	
					9	9	9	
						8	8	
							6	
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

32. 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.
- E. Terms and conditions of the auction will apply and be strictly adhered to.
- F. A stallion's service must sell in order for the Stallion owner's foal to be eligible.
- G. There will be five halter classes at the Futurity (Mare Owner Colts/Geldings and Mare Owner Fillies, Stallion Owner Colts/Geldings, Stallion Owner Fillies and Non-Pro Weanling), one Yearling Longe Line class, two 2-year old western pleasure snaffle bit classes: mare owner snaffle bit and stallion owner snaffle bit, and one 3-year old hunter under saddle class.
- H. A Non-Pro Halter Class will be offered for any weanling sired by a stallion that sold in the prior year Stallion Service Sale Auction. This weanling is not eligible to show in any other weanling SSS class. The class is Non-Pro only and requires MQHA membership and will have an entry fee. The added money will come from the discretionary fund and the amount will be determined on a yearly basis by the SSS Committee. 20% of the entry fee will be retained.
 - 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 re-breed the following year. The 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. 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 by September 1st. Entries will be accepted from September 2nd to the start of the class but will be subject to a late fee.
- I. The MQHA Stallion Service Sale Yearling Longe Line Class will follow current NSBA Longe Line rules.
 - 1. This class is open to all yearlings sired by MQHA Stallion Service Sale stallions that sold two years previously in the MQHA Stallion Service Sale. (i.e. Stallion sold in 2004, yearling shows in 2006).
 - 2. Entry fees, late fees and any added money, less no more than 10% for expenses, will determine the class purse. The entry fee will be due by September 1st of the calendar year. A late fee in addition to the entry fee will be assessed for entries received after September 1st and up to the day of the show.
 - 3. A Stallion owner whose stallion's breeding has sold two years previously is eligible for one free entry in the SSS Yearling Longe Line class. (i.e. Stallion sold in 2004, free entry for yearling in 2006).
- J. All yearlings, two year olds and three year olds must show registration papers on the day of the futurity or mail a copy with the entry. Late entries must show registration papers upon making entry.
- K. Stallion owners may show any of their stallion's get (as long as 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 MQHA office. No exhibitor will be allowed to show in stallion owner classes without an authorization letter. The authorization letter must indicate how any winnings will be dispersed.
- L. If a mare owner sells his/her horse, the eligibility goes along with the horse.
- M. 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. Mail in bids will be sold at 60% or highest bid over 60 % (minimum or \$400.00). There will be an add'l. \$25 office fee added to each transaction for each stallion sold.

- N. A Three Year Old Hunter Under Saddle for mare owner and stallion owner will be offered. The entry will be due by Sept. 1st of the calendar year. Entries will be accepted from Sept. 2nd to the start of the class but will be subject to a late fee.
 - 1. A 3 Year Old Hunter Under Saddle entry must be the result of a MQHA Stallion Service Sale Auction. The breeding would have been purchased by the mare owner four (4) years prior. (i.e. Breeding sells in 2004, entry shows in 2008).
 - 2. The Stallion owner would get one free entry provided the breeding sold four (4) years prior. (i.e. Breeding sold in 2004, entry shows in 2008).
 - 3. Entries are required to send a copy of the horse's registration papers with their entry form and fee. Entries the day of the Futurity must show registration papers at the show.
 - 4. The AQHA Junior Hunter Under Saddle rules will apply; any exhibitor violating those rules will be disqualified.
- O. All entries of the MSSS must have the correct back number on or they will be disqualified.

33. MQHA STALLION SERVICE SALE RULES:

- 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 MI 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 2009 Sale, 2010 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.
- O. When a stallion sells in the three previous years' auction and then becomes unfit to breed, is sold, or dies, his last foal crop (last year he sold and bred mares) will be eligible to compete in the SSS performance classes through their 3 year old year (yearling longe line and then in two years in the three year old classes).