

MQHYA

**MEMBERSHIP
HANDBOOK
2009**



**MONTANA QUARTER HORSE
YOUTH ASSOCIATION
2009**

THIS PUBLICATION CONTAINS

- **MQHYA RULES AND REGULATIONS**
- **BY-LAWS**
- **AQHYA QUALIFICATIONS**
- **STANDING RULES**
- **OFFICERS**

POINT INFORMATION

Before your points count toward MQHYA

year-end awards you must do the following:

- Be a member of MQHYA
- Obtain a minimum of \$150 worth of sponsorships for the MQHYA Stampede horse show
- Sponsorships must be turned in by June 1st of the current calendar year
- Exhibitor/Horse combination must earn a minimum of 10 points in a minimum of 6 shows during the current calendar year
- Purchase a number

Before your points count toward a MQHYA team qualifying for the AQHYA World

Show you must do the following:

- Be a member in good standing of MQHYA for the current year
- Be a member of AQHYA by May 31st of the qualifying year
- Have your horse in your name or your family ownership by May 31st of the qualifying year. Obtain a minimum of \$300 in sponsorships for the MQHYA Stampede horse show
- Sponsorships must be turned in by June 1st of current calendar year

AQHYA WORLD QUALIFICATIONS

First place Horse and Rider:

- The person (one horse and one rider) with the highest number of points in the seven (7) shows in any single event from the end of the MQHYA Stampede of the previous year through the MQHYA Stampede Show of the current year
- No more than three (3) shows from the previous year count (end of MQHYA Stampede to the last MQHA Show of the previous year)

Example

- 3 shows previous year + 4 shows current year
- 1 show previous year + 6 shows current year
- 7 shows current year

Note:

- The halter horses can use points from the last year even if they enter a new age group the following year

Second place Horse and Rider:

- The person (one horse and one rider) with the 2nd highest number of points in the seven (7) shows in any single event from the end of the MQHYA Stampede of the pervious year through the MQHA Stampede of the current year
- No more than three (3) shows from the pervious year count (end of MQHYA Stampede to last MQHA Show of the pervious year)

ADDITIONAL POINT INFORMATION

- Computation of points will be determined by counting your seven (7) best shows
- The point value system used by the MQHA in determining year-end awards will be used
- The points will go on a one horse/one rider youth basis
- Same exception as far as first place will apply to second place
- The alternate horse and rider slot will be offered to the next descending point earner
- If an eligible MQHYA team member receives a national invitation in the event he/she has chosen to participate in, the next eligible person will be the person with the next highest number of points earned in that event
- In case of a tie, the person receiving the highest number of first place wins in that event in the top seven (7) shows will be eligible to be selected. If a tie still remains, the person selected will be the one receiving the most first place wins overall
- If the first or second place persons are not available for any reason to fill these slots, they will be offered to the next descending point earners
- Out-of-rider: AQHYA Hardship clause in effect

STANDING RULES OF THE MONTANA QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

MOHYA YEAR END AWARDS

Awards for Class Champions, Reserve Champions, and High Point Champions will be given annually providing that the MQHYA has sufficient funds to do so. The MQHA point value system will be used. Special awards, recognition, and year-end awards may be selected by the MQHYA Board of Directors or a majority vote of the MQHYA members present at a regularly scheduled meeting.

RULE#1: You must be a member in good standing of the MQHYA. A member in good standing is current with MQHYA dues and under no suspension from the MQHYA. Points are accumulated starting after the date the membership is paid continuing through November 30th of that year. Any member, eligible to earn a year-end award must obtain at least \$150 in sponsorships for the MQHYA Stampede.

RULE#2: All awards are counted on points won by one horse/one rider. If more than one horse is shown in an event, the points are separate for each horse. Purchasing an annual MQHA number is optional.

RULE#3: If a class has three (3) or more exhibitors, awards per age group will be given. A maximum of fifteen (15) shows will be counted for year-end awards. The best fifteen (15) for each event need not be from the same ten (10) shows. A minimum of ten (10) points earned is required to win year-end awards in a specific event. The MQHYA Board of Directors may vote to waive the minimum of ten (10) points required to win a year-end award.

RULE#4: High point categories are as follows: 13 and Under, 14-18, and Novice Youth. These awards will be given to the one horse/one rider combination that earned the most points in any three or more of the six AQHA performance categories. Halter points will be counted and halter is considered on the required categories. Three categories must have ten (10) points earned in each at six shows. After qualifying in three categories, additional points earned in all categories will also be counted. Points from the top fifteen (15) shows fifteen (15) in each class will be used. A reserve all around will be given subject to the same guidelines.

RULE#5: If a tie exists for a class champion, co-champions will be awarded and no reserve champion will be given for that class. The money allotted for the class champion and reserve champion will be combined and then divided in half for the awards for the class co-champions. If a tie exist for class reserve champion the MQHYA Executive Board will decide if they are financially able to award two reserve class champions. If the Executive Board decided to award only one reserve champion, then the tie will be broken by the method used to break ties for the AQHYA World Show Participants (refer to MQHYA team selection to the AQHYA world show).

POINT INFORMATION (YEAR-END AWARDS)

- Each exhibitor must purchase a show number from MQHA Point Keeper and supply the MQHA Point Keeper a photocopy of the horse's registration papers prior to points being counted
- Points from the top fifteen (15) shows during the calendar year will count toward a year-end award
- High Point and Reserve will be awarded if a class is offered at least six (6) times during the year
- If a class is not offered six (6) times during the year, only a high point award will be given, and its value will be equivalent to a reserve award. Horse need not qualify under the six-show rule. Horse with the highest number of points will be declared the winner.
- In the event a class is offered less than four (4) times, there will be no year-end award given for that class
- MQHA Rules and By Laws govern and supersede all point tabulations

MQHYA TEAM SELECTION
TO THE
AQHVA WORLD SHOW

Candidates must be members of the MQHYA, AQHYA and a resident of Montana. The youth who sign up as team members must have parental consent. If a youth who has signed up to attend the AQHYA World Show does not attend and the MQHYA has paid expenses (entries, stalls, fees, cattle charges, etc.) than that youth must reimburse the MQHYA for those expenses. If the youth can supply the Association with a veterinarian or doctor's certificate for that absence, no reimbursement of expenses will be required. Each youth must obtain least \$300 in sponsorships before they may attend the AQHYA World Show as a member of the MQHYA team. The sponsorships may also count toward the year-end award eligibility requirement. Each state is allowed two (2) exhibitors in each class over and above national qualifiers.

Qualifying points are earned in youth classes only.

BY-LAWS
OF THE
MONTANA QUARTER HORSE
YOUTH ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I
NAME, OBJECTIVE, AND LOCATION

SECTION 1: This association shall be known as the Montana Quarter Horse Youth Association (MQHYA), and shall at all times be operated and conducted as a non-profit association, in accordance with the laws of Montana.

SECTION 2: The principal objective of the Association will be to promote youth interest in the American Quarter Horse and participation in related activities.

SECTION 3: All purposes, policies, and activities of the Association shall be consistent with the purposes, policies, and activities of the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA).

ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: Membership in the Association shall be open to any youth 18 years and younger on January 1st of the current year, who is interested in the American Quarter Horse. Out-of-State residents may be members of the MQHYA, earn year-end awards (defined in the MQHYA Standing Rules), but may not hold an office in the MQHYA.

SECTION 2: The association shall have no initial membership fee, but shall access annual membership dues for each calendar year in such amount as the membership shall determine in advance. The fiscal year for the MQHYA ends November 30th of each year. A lifetime membership will be valid until the member reaches 19 on January 1st of any year.

SECTION 3: Any member of the Association may be suspended or expelled for sufficient cause by majority vote of the Executive Board which consists of: President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasure, Reporter, and Directors.

SECTION 4: In all matters governed by the vote of the members, each member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote. A member in good standing is one whose dues are current and is not on the suspended list.

ARTICLE III **MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

SECTION 1: The membership and/or the Executive Board will determine meeting dates, as often as deems necessary with at least one meeting held annual. Notice of the time and place of any regular or annual meeting of the membership shall be posted in the designated publication or by posting at the MQHA horse show offices or by mail to each member.

SECTION 2: An annual meeting of the MQHYA will be held each year. The annual meeting will be held to review the by-laws and standing rules of the MQHYA and for the election of officers for the year. Any other business items may be added to the addenda of the annual meeting by contracting any of the current MQHYA officers. The time for this annual meeting shall be decided upon and arranged by the MQHYA Board of Directors. The time and place shall be published in the regular newsletter(s) of the MQHYA at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled meeting time. Or a letter/email shall be sent to all members at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting stating the location and time.

SECTION 3: Special meeting of the members can be called by the President of the MQHYA or at least three (3) members of the MQHYA Board of Directors. Notice of any special meeting shall be mailed/email to all voting members ten (10) days prior to the meeting. The purpose, location, and time for any special meeting shall be stated in the notice to all members. The location of any special meeting shall be at a regular scheduled MQHA approved horse show or at a central Montana location. Any special meeting shall not be scheduled on or during regular school days or school hours for the convenience of all members. MQHYA Executive Board will also appoint an individual/group to keep record of your show points.

SECTION 4: No proxy votes shall be allowed at any MQHYA meeting without advanced notice to all the voting members of the MQHYA. Notice must be given in writing to all MQHYA members fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled meeting to allow all interested MQHYA members time to respond. If proxy votes are used they must be individual and signed by the MQHYA member and mailed or given to the current MQHYA secretary for recording. No verbal proxies shall be allowed.

ARTICLE IV **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

SECTION 1: The officers of the Association shall consist of President, 1st Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, and District Chairs. All shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting. Each shall hold an office of at least one year. The Present and Vice-President may not succeed themselves for more than two (2) consecutive terms.

SECTION 2: Duties of the President: The President shall be a member exofficio of all Association committees, shall prepare an agenda for meetings, shall preside at all regular meetings, shall appoint committees with approval of the Board, and shall perform all duties as usually attached to that office. The President is encouraged to attend the MQHA Board of Directors meetings, as a guest, when possible.

SECTION 3: Duties of the 1st Vice-President. The 1st Vice President shall assume all the duties of the President when the latter is absent, for some other reason, unable to act. The 1st Vice-President shall chair the Ways and Means Committee. The 1st Vice-President shall be responsible for the production of the annual calendar if a decision is made to use calendars as a fund raising project.

SECTION 4: Duties of the 2nd Vice-President. The 2nd Vice-President shall assume all the duties when the President or 1st Vice-President is absent, or for some other reason, unable to act. The 2nd Vice-President shall be designated the Sales Director for the Annual MQHYA Calendar if a decision is made to sell calendars as a fund-raising project.

SECTION 5: Duties of the Secretary-Treasurer: The Secretary-Treasurer shall take minutes of all meetings; keeping records of the Association on file; send out notification either directly or through the reporter, of the meetings; handle all correspondence; and keep the records of the Association finances. He/She shall be prepared to report the financial standing of the Association whenever requested to do so and shall make a full financial report to the Association at each meeting.

SECTION 6: Duties of the Reporter: The Reporter shall arrange a page in the designated publications and will utilize the page monthly with the information about meetings, issues, youth news, and etc. The Reporter will also submit news worthy information to the youth section of the Quarter Horse Journal of the AQHA.

SECTION 7: Duties of the Directors: Directors shall be required to attend the annual meetings of the Association and as many regular meetings as possible. They shall act as a liaison between the MQHYA members in their respective districts. The Directors will act as regional sales directors to do calendars as a fund raising project. They will be responsible to help distribute and collect money from calendar sales. The districts will be defined as follows:

WEST

- Missoula, Lincoln, Flathead, Granite, Ravalli, Deer Lodge, Sanders, Lake, Powell

SOUTH

- Beaverhead, Madison, Park, Broadwater, Silver Bow, Sweet Grass, Carbon, Jefferson, Gallatin, Stillwater

NORTH

- Glacier, Toole, Liberty, Hill, Blaine, Chouteau, Teton, Lewis & Clark, Cascade, Fergus, Judith Basin, Meagher, Wheatland, Golden Valley, Pondera

EAST

- Phillips, Valley, Daniels, Sheridan, Roosevelt, Garfield, McCone, Richland, Dawson, Prairie, Wibaux, Musselshell, Yellowstone, Big Horn, Treasure, Custer, Powder River, Carter, Fallon, Petroleum

ARTICLE V **COMMITTEES**

SECTION 1: The President with the approval of the Executive Board, may appoint as many committees as deemed necessary, but to include the committees; Ways and Means, Memberships, and Year-End Awards. The MQHYA Executive Board will also appoint an individual/group to keep a record of youth show points.

ARTICLE VI **BY-LAWS**

SECTION 1: These By-Laws may be replaced, modified, or amended at any annual meeting of the association by a majority vote of all voting members present.

ARTICLE VII **COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS**

SECTION 1: In compliance with the AQHA, all youth competing in youth classes in AQHA approved shows must exhibit a registered Quarter Horse and be a member of the AQHYA. The registered horse exhibited must meet all AQHA ownership requirements. See official, current AQHA Handbook.

ARTICLE VIII **YOUTH ADVISOR OR YOUTH ADVISORS**

SECTION 1: Youth Association member shall select a Youth Advisor or Youth Advisors at the annual meeting. The purpose of the Youth Advisor or Youth Advisors will be to advise, help, and promote the youth organization in any way as may be appreciated. The Youth Advisor or Youth Advisors should accompany the MQHYA Youth Team to the AQHYA World Show.

YOUTH ADVISOR

Nancy Ostle
3600 Whiteway Blvd
Butte, MT 59701
Phone (406) 799-3452
E-Mail nostle@mt.gov

CO YOUTH ADVISOR

Lisa Lenhardt
1643 24th Street West
Billings, MT 59102
Phone (406) 652-5743

OFFICERS OF THE MQHYA

PRESIDENT

Samantha Lenhardt
1643 24th Street West
Billings, MT 59102
Phone (406) 652-5743

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Hunter Burnham
2843 Canyon Ferry
Helena, MT 59602
Phone (406) 227-8521

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Ciera Watkins
2956 Aspen Way Dr
Helena, MT 59601
Phone (406) 495-8937

SECRETARY

Suni Hecht
1102 W. Boulevard
Lewistown, MT 59457
Phone (406) 538-8275

REPORTER

Samantha Lenhardt
1643 24th Street West
Billings, MT 59102
Phone (406) 652-5743

TREASURER

Peri Suenram
4250 Highway 91 North
Dillon, MT 59725
Phone (406) 683-4621

DIRECTORS OF THE MQHYA

WEST – Sierra Scott
SOUTH – Kansas Suenram
NORTH – Kylie Miller
EAST – Sam Lenhardt