

AQHA PROGRAMS

ADEQUAN SELECT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW - Held in late August/early September, the Adequan Select World Championship Show is the world's largest, single-breed world championship horse show open exclusively to amateur exhibitors age 50 and older. This is the pinnacle event for amateur Select competitors around the world who must qualify for the event by earning a predetermined number of points to secure a spot in each of the more than 40 classes, representing English, western and halter disciplines. Specific rules for the Select can be found at aqha.com.

AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE FOUNDATION - The American Quarter Horse Foundation, the related philanthropic organization of AQHA, seeks to advance the American Quarter Horse and the horse/human partnership primarily through the development of funds and programs designed to preserve and interpret the history and modern uses of the breed; support the educational advancement of the industry's youth; protect and enhance the physical well-being of all equines; and promote the American Quarter Horse's capacity to provide physical and emotional benefits to individuals in need.

BANK OF AMERICA RACING CHALLENGE - Debuting in 1993, the Bank of America Racing Challenge is the richest and most successful program in American Quarter Horse racing today -- a championship series developed for the "World's Fastest Horse." The Bank of America Racing Challenge program provides racing opportunities and lucrative purses for American Quarter Horses throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and South America. The general rules and conditions for the Bank of America Racing Challenge are contained in the Official AQHA Bank of America Racing Challenge Condition Book applicable to the year in which the Challenge races are conducted. The Official Challenge Condition Book is published on AQHA's website and is available by mail.

BREEDER REFERRAL PROGRAM - The Breeder Referral Program brings together the horse industry's most reputable breeders for people who are interested in horse ownership. Members recognize the need to conduct business in a reputable, professional manner and to deal with the public and colleagues with the highest degree of integrity. The Breeder Referral Program also can help horse owners find stallion services and embryo transfer and shipped semen services as well as stabling, mare care and foaling services.

BUILT FORD TOUGH AQHYA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW - The Built Ford Tough AQHYA World Championship Show is the pinnacle event for American Quarter Horse exhibitors, ages 18 and under, around the world. Participants must qualify for the event by earning a predetermined number of points, or through their respective AQHYA Affiliate, to compete in one of the 34 classes representing halter, English and western disciplines. Specific rules for the AQHYA World Championship can be found at aqha.com.

EUROPEAN AND LATIN AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS - AQHA approves championship events in Europe and Latin America that provide opportunities for AQHA members and their American Quarter Horses to compete at championship-level events without having to travel across continents. With the European Championships in Germany and Latin American Championships in Brazil, the shows offer halter, English and western disciplines.

FULL CIRCLE - Full Circle is an AQHA program that provides "forever homes" for any breed of horse. AQHA members have the opportunity to enroll a horse in Full Circle and should that horse ever become unwanted or ready for retirement, you could be contacted to help. The current owner of the horse will have the ability to view the contact information you've provided and you and the current owner can discuss ways you might help - from taking the horse back to recommending retirement homes you know about or providing funds to help take care of the horse, if you so choose. The options are numerous and completely up to you and the current owner. If your situa-

tion has changed and you can't help, there's no cost for the service and no obligation to the original horse owner.

HORSEBACK RIDING PROGRAM - The Horseback Riding Program provides a platform for all AQHA members to simply log the hours spent riding an American Quarter Horse - or any other breed through the All Breeds division. As riders progress through 15 levels - from 25 to 5,000 hours - they earn attractive awards and the opportunity to purchase jackets reserved exclusively for higher-hour award recipients. The awards series culminates at 5,000 hours, with a Montana Silversmiths silver buckle customized for the Horseback Riding Program.

INCENTIVE FUND - The AQHA Incentive Fund is a multimillion-dollar program involving stallion and foal nominations with paybacks to the stallion nominators, foal nominators and owners of the competing horses. The Incentive Fund utilizes the most familiar and proven concept in the American Quarter Horse show industry-- points won at AQHA shows. Each point earned at an AQHA-approved show in the open and/or amateur division by an Incentive Fund-nominated horse will be worth a specific amount. The exact amount will depend on total money in the fund for that show year and the total number of points earned in that year by Incentive Fund-nominated horses. The program is owned, managed and operated by AQHA. Horses must have their Incentive Fund licenses each year in order to earn Incentive Fund money.

LEVEL I (NOVICE) CHAMPIONSHIPS - The SmartPak AQHA West Level I (Novice) and Nutrena AQHA East Level I (Novice) championship shows provide competitors the chance to participate in a new championship level show for Level I (Novice) exhibitors. To qualify for the SmartPak West or Nutrena East Level I (Novice) championship shows, competitors go through a national or state qualifying system. Qualifying for the Level I (Novice) championship shows is tied to the horse/rider combination. The Zoetis Cattle Level I (Novice) Championship will debut in April of 2014. Specific rules apply to eligibility and can be found at aqha.com/novicechampionships.

ZOETIS VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE AND AQHA COWBOY MOUNTED SHOOTING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW - The Versatility Ranch Horse competition promotes the athletic ability and versatility of the horse demonstrated in five categories: ranch riding, ranch trail, ranch cutting, working ranch horse and ranch conformation. There are divisions for open, amateur, Level I (Novice) amateur and youth. Exhibitors who qualify can earn an invitation to the Pfizer Versatility Ranch Horse World Championship Show. That event is held in conjunction with the AQHA Cowboy Mounted Shooting World Championships Show for riders in that fast-growing sport.

AQHA PROFESSIONAL HORSEMEN - The American Quarter Horse Association of Professional Horsemen comprises caring, trustworthy horse experts ready to help you with your riding needs. These screened and approved pros are qualified trainers who can help you and your horse establish a productive relationship with each other. These AQHA member trainers specialize in preparing you for entering your horse into competitions and specialize in a wide array of disciplines.

RANCHING HERITAGE - The AQHA Ranching Heritage Challenge highlights the versatility, soundness and willing attitude of American Quarter Horses that are ranch-born and-raised. First, the goal of the AQHA Ranching Heritage Breeders Program is to recognize AQHA's ranching members who have steadfastly continued to maintain the ranching tradition by raising American Quarter Horses for use in working cattle. Second, through a series of ranch horse competitions and trail trials, the AQHA Ranching Heritage Challenge is intended to increase demand for ranch horses by providing an opportunity for ranches and horse owners to compete in a unique ranch horse competition or set of trail trials for a significant purse.

The general rules and conditions for Ranching Heritage Challenge are contained in the Official AQHA Ranching Heritage Challenge Rules and Regulations.

AQHA YOUNG HORSE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM gives older AQHYA members the chance to participate in a hands-on horse training opportunity that teaches the fundamentals of horsemanship. Selected youth will have the chance to showcase their skills and knowledge acquired at designated events where they can earn scholarships and prizes. Horsemen participating in AQHA's Ranching Heritage Program provide guidance and teach young people the ranching way of life.

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - Regional championships are shows held in some regions of the country for exhibitors of various levels of ability. Where these shows are offered, they feature prizes and awards, combine competition, education and entertainment to introduce more people to AQHA or affiliate competition.

STEP - Stewards for Trails, Education and Partnerships promotes equestrian involvement in the restoration, repair and establishment of trails. STEP works to unify horseback riders and other trail users in an effort to build and strengthen relationships between local equestrian communities, the forest service and other land managers for the long-term stewardship of trails. Thanks to a partnership with Tractor Supply Co., AQHA funds groups or organizations to develop community involvement and maintain trails.

TEAM WRANGLER - Thirty-six AQHA Professional Horsemen participate annually in Team Wrangler. Selection is based on number of points earned for show-industry professionals, or money earned in racing competition for racing-industry professionals, in AQHA events during the previous competition year. The 36 competitors are divided into three teams - Team Retro, Team 20X and Team Cowboy Cut. The three 12-member teams compete for points between September 1 through August 31 in AQHA's competition categories.

TRAIL CHALLENGE - A Trail Challenge is a judged course that tests a horse and rider's ability to work as a team and navigate through natural obstacles they might experience on a trail. There are generally six to 16 obstacles in any given Trail Challenge, depending on the land and terrain of the host location. A judge or judges (determined by the amount of obstacles) are located throughout the course, evaluating a rider's skills to maneuver his horse through the obstacle. Trail Challenge is a fun way to participate in low-key competition out on the trail or in an arena.

TRAIL RIDES - The Ride Program is for horse enthusiasts who enjoy trail riding and meeting other recreational riders. Each year, more than 80 AQHA rides are held across the United States and around the world. All riders are welcome to take part in exploring great trails and forming new friendships. Each year, the rider who attends the most trail rides within that year receives a Tex Tan saddle.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW - Held in November, the AQHA World Championship Show is the pinnacle event for American Quarter Horse amateur and open exhibitors around the world, who must qualify for the event by earning a predetermined number of points to compete in each of the classes representing halter, English and western disciplines. The AQHA World Championship Show is the largest single-breed championship show anywhere, offering nearly 100 classes of competition. Specific rules can be found at aqha.com.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT - AQHA provides multiple opportunities for young people to learn about and become involved with horses. AQHA promotes the benefits of healthy living, character development and education through programs like the American Quarter Horse Youth Association, Junior Master Horseman and the development of a comprehensive program called Take Me Riding designed to strengthen the bonds young children have with horses through games and activities, while educating parents about all the health and character benefits of horses.