**US Event Horse Futurity 2020 (Born in 2016)**

* **Understand that this is program that is organized and run by volunteers – mistakes will be made and we will all learn how to improve the program as it evolves**.

**Purpose**

* To develop a market for purpose bred /produced event horses through media exposure and publicity
* To develop and promote a pool of professionals who are willing and able to develop the young event horse to the top levels of the sport
* To develop and align a network of breeders, trainers and riders to develop the pool of young horse talent in the US
* To engage the general public into the world of young horses and Young Event Horse Training
* To develop a fan base for young horses and young horse trainers.

**Eligibility**

* Completion of the Application
* Open to horses eligible for the 4 year old Young Event Horse Championships of 2020
* US purpose bred only (no OTTB that have recorded works or starts)
* Age verification required with application -(proof of pedigree and date of birth) such as registration papers, stallion certificate, vet verification
* Commitment of riders/trainers to provide monthly training updates in the form of a blog and short video (3-5 minute clip) (Failure to provide two updates results in dropping from program and forfeiture of nomination fee). Vlog dates will be assigned ahead of time and the schedule must adhered to as assigned.
* Horse and rider to compete as a team.
* Horse and rider must be registered with the USEA
* Must be eligible and complete the requirements (including the qualification scores) for the YEH Championships to be considered for the final awards
* Must satisfy all USEF requirements (Safe Sport)
* Must sign a hold harmless agreement

**How:**

* Entries will submit an application form and a fee of $525 if accepted prior to Jan 1 and 750 prior to Jan 15 Once paid, the fee is not refundable in any case
* If oversubscribed, nominated entries submitted to the committee will be chosen based on adherence to the selection criteria and purpose of the Futurity
* The decision of the selection committee is final
* No refund of any monies will be given in cases, such as, but not limited to – illness, accident, injury of horse or rider or failure to qualify for the Championships
* A Facebook page (The US Event Horse Futurity) will chronicle each contestant monthly This page will develop a dialog on assessment of pedigrees, training of young horses with transparency, typical setbacks, etc so allowing those not familiar with young horses to understand the patience and skill required.

1. The 1st month blog/video will have a breeding focus, with the breeders to contribute information on why they picked this particular sire and dam, as well as bloodlines, etc
2. The second month will show groundwork or the starting of the horse under saddle, so as to expose the public to how young horses are started
3. Bi -Monthly blogs will then be required, with the understanding that this is a transparent process and setbacks are to be acknowledged
4. The committee will suggest curtain topics for discussion
   * Questions: can include the following
     + How much handling has the horse done prior to starting training?
     + Has he gone off the property to any in hand shows/inspections/schooling?
     + Barefoot or shod?
     + What is the Initial impression of the horse?
   * Monthly update questions:
     + How is it going with the young horse?
     + Tell us about the bridle and saddle you start the young horse with?
     + Progress, Set backs, Overall impression of suitability this month?
     + Tell us about the schedule? What does an average week look like? Hacking, vs. schooling, days off?
     + How are things going with shoeing, clipping, shipping?
     + What is your goal for the next month?
5. Transparency is to be encouraged. Not every horse will be mature enough to participate in the Championships, and not all training will go to plan. These setbacks are to be acknowledged and worked through in a visible manner. It is our hope that a trainer will develop a following, not only by winning the competition but also by developing the young horse to the best of their abilities.
6. 2 consecutive months of not posting will eliminate a contestant from the program - no refund will be given

**Awards to entrants**

Awards will be presented at the East Coast Young Event Horse Championships in October 2020 to the highest scoring Futurity Entrants. They do not have to be the overall winner, but must compete and finish the competition to be eligible for the prize money.

Monies collected will be distributed in the following manner after expenses are met (awards, face book costs)

* + 10% to the breeder of highest scoring Futurity entrant
  + 50% to the highest scoring Futurity entrant
  + 25 % to 2cd place Futurity entrant
  + 10% to 3rd place Futurity entrant
  + 5 % to 4th place Futurity entrant
  + Ribbons to the top 6 entrants
  + Ribbon/award to the fan favorite entrant (chosen by polling the week before the Championship)

**Awards to fans**

* There will then be a drawing of a winner from all those who correctly picked the highest scoring Futurity horse (prize to be determined) in the polling the week before the Championships
* Other special awards (most engaged, best insights, etc) may be awarded to fans as the program develops

Questions to [eventhorsefuturity@gmail.com](mailto:eventhorsefuturity@gmail.com)

Facebook - The US Event Horse Futurity