Frequently Asked Questions

Does my horse need to have AQHA registration papers?

Yes, you must have a copy of their registration papers to compete in the AQHA classes, Invitational or Side Pot. If you do not have a copy of the paper the AQHA show secretary may be able to assist you in proving the horse's registration. You do not need originals, just a copy of the registration papers.

Does the owner need to be a current AQHA member?

Yes, the owner needs to be a current member of AQHA for the horse to compete in the AQHA classes and invitational. They do not need to be in order to compete for the side pot.

Does the barrel racer need to be a current AQHA member?

Yes, the barrel racer needs to be a current member of AQHA to compete in the AQHA classes, Invitational and Side Pot.

What type of membership do I need to compete in the respective divisions: Open, Youth or Amateur?

Open – you need to have either an Amateur, Open or Youth membership Amateur / Amateur Select – you need to have an Amateur Membership Youth – you need to have a Youth membership

If I have an open membership, can I upgrade to a youth or amateur membership?

Yes, you can by going to AQHA.com and MyAQHA and you can upgrade for as little as \$10 or by contacting AQHA directly at 806-376-4811 and asking for the membership department.

Can a youth or amateur barrel racer race someone else's horse?

In the AQHA classes and the invitational a youth or amateur can only race a horse that is owned by either themselves, an immediate family member, a joint ownership that they are apart of or through a lease agreement that is on file with AQHA. For the AQHA Side Pot they do not need to own the horse.

If I have not transferred my papers into my name yet, is there still time to get them transferred?

Yes, AQHA has transferring times of one week and the international department will help us expedite transferring services. If you need help, please contact Eryn Butterfield and she will assist you, but this process needs to be started right away.

What is a junior horse?

A horse 5 years of age and under as of January 1 of the current calendar year

What is a senior horse?

A horse 6 years of age or older as of January 1 of the calendar year

What is an Amateur?

A person who is 19 year of age and older as of January 1 of the current calendar year and for three years from the date of the last incident an amateur may not have:

shown, judged, trained or assisted in training a horse for remuneration, monetary or otherwise, either directly or indirectly. Instructed another person in riding, driving, training or showing a horse for remuneration, monetary or otherwise, either directly or indirectly; shown, trained or assisted in the training of a horse for which an immediate family member accepts remuneration, monetary or otherwise, either directly or indirectly, for such services; held

credentials of horse show judge for AQHA or any other equine organization; been a member of the American Quarter Horse Association of Professional Horsemen; or held membership accreditation with the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, Women's Professional Rodeo Association (Barrel Race & Breakaway Roping), International Professional Rodeo Association, or have been rated as a #7 or above in the Ranch Sorting National Championships or a #7 in the United State Team Penning Association.

What is a Select Amateur?

See definition above and has reached their 50th birthday

Can I compete in Amateur and Select Amateur?

No, you must pick one or the other.

What is a Youth?

A youth is someone who is 18 years of age and younger as of January 1 of the current calendar year.

Can a Youth or Amateur compete in Open?

Yes, a Youth or Amateur can compete in the open classes.

Is there an entry fee for the AQHA classes?

Yes, there is a \$35 entry fee, and this covers all classes that you would like to enter.

Is there an entry fee for the Invitational?

No, this is open to all AQHA members and AQHA registered horses, meeting all AQHA rules.

Is there an entry fee for the AQHA Side Pot?

Yes, the entry fee is \$15 with 100% of the entry fee going back to the pot. It is open to any current AQHA member riding a registered AQHA horse.

What is the payout format for the AQHA Side Pot?

It will be a 3D full second split, equal pay in each division, number of holes paid dependent on # entries.